



# IMMACULATE HEART OF *M*ARY

— Parish Mission + Mision Parroquial —

*With Mary, we seek to know Christ better and to make him better known through our words and actions.  
Con María, deseamos conocer mejor a Cristo y darlo a conocer por medio de nuestras acciones y palabras.*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 24, 2023



500 Fairview Avenue • Brentwood, CA 94513 • (925) 634-4154 • FAX (925) 516-9340

Website: [www.ihmbrentwood.com](http://www.ihmbrentwood.com) — E-Mail: [ihmchurch@ihmbrentwood.com](mailto:ihmchurch@ihmbrentwood.com)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-4:00 pm



## The Pastor's Page/Página del Pastor

**Bishop of the Diocese of Oakland**  
The Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ

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**Parish Office: (925) 634-4154**

Mon-Fri Office Hours: **9 AM - 4 PM**

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### Office Staff

*Office Manager*

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### Pastoral Staff

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*Missionary Sisters - (925) 513-8154*

Sr. **Januaría Beleño**, MSS

Sr. **Guadalupe Grande**, MSS

Sr. **Ana Gabriela Valle Rodriguez**, MSS

*Permanent Deacons*

Deacon **John Kortuem**

(925) 698-6362 - jolin1040@sbcglobal.net

Deacon **Paul Abenoja**

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Deacon **Leland DeFrates**

ldefrates@yahoo.com

Deacon **Ron Horan** (Retired)

*Priests*

Fr. **Quang Dong**, Pastor

x102 - frquang@ihmbrentwood.com

Fr. **Candelario Jimenez**, Parochial Vicar

x103 - frjimenez@ihmbrentwood.com

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Pastoral Council Chair

**Jey Navat**

JNavat.IHM@gmail.com

Dear families of the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

In today's gospel reading, Gabriel's message to Mary is that God now takes up residence in human flesh. While there is a place for magnificent temples and churches where we can gather as a people to glorify God, the Holy One would have us first recognize that divinity walks around in our midst in human skin.

While not spelling out how, Gabriel reassures Mary that in the midst of this messy situation, God will bring forth blessings, holiness and salvation for all. Twice God's Messenger assures her that she is grace-filled and is favored in God's sight, even if others will question this. He also assures her that she is not alone. Her relative, Elizabeth, will help mentor and support her. Without knowing how God will accomplish all this, Mary opens a space for God to dwell within her, enabling the divine to make a new home within all Humankind.

We have arrived. Tonight, we begin the Christmas Masses and all day tomorrow. As the IHM Staff we wish you and your families a Very Merry and Blessed Christmas.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

Fr. Quang

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Queridas familias del Corazón Inmaculado de María:

En la lectura del Evangelio de hoy, el mensaje de Gabriel a María es que Dios se ha hecho carne humana. Aunque hay lugar para magníficos templos e iglesias donde podemos reunirnos como pueblo para glorificar a Dios, el Santo quiere que reconozcamos primero que la divinidad camina entre nosotros en piel humana,

Aunque no explica cómo, Gabriel asegura a María que, en medio de esta confusa situación, Dios traerá bendición, santidad y salvación para todos. Por dos veces, el Mensajero de Dios le asegura que está llena de gracia y es favorecida a los ojos de Dios, aunque otros lo cuestionen. También le asegura que no está sola. Su pariente Isabel la ayudará y la apoyará. Sin saber cómo Dios hará todo esto, María abre un espacio para que Dios habite en ella, permitiendo que lo divino haga un nuevo hogar en toda la Humanidad.

Ya hemos llegado. Esta noche comienzan las Misas de Navidad y también todo el día de mañana. El P. Candelario y yo al igual que todo el personal de ICM les deseamos a ustedes y a sus familias una muy feliz y bendita Navidad!

Inmaculado Corazón de María, ruega por nosotros.

Padre Quang

**Regular  
Mass  
Schedule.  
Holiday and  
Feast Days  
may be  
different.**

### Weekday Masses/Misas Diarias

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00AM (English) - Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 8:00AM (Bilingual)

### Saturday Vigil Mass

5:00PM (English)

### Sunday Mass/Domingo Misa

7:30AM (English) - 9:00AM (English) - 10:45AM (Español) - 12:30PM (English) - 2:00PM (Español)  
5:00PM - Traditional Roman Rite (Latin)

### Confessions

Tuesdays 6:00PM - 7:00PM & Saturdays 3:30PM - 4:30PM

## Prayers & Weekly Scriptures/Oraciones y Lecturas de la Semana

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK INTENCIONES PARA MISAS DE LA SEMANA

#### Saturday December 23rd

6:00 am Jency Charles - Birthday  
8:00 am † Valdemar Solorio  
5:00 pm † Luz Castillo

#### Sunday December 24th

6:00 am Christina Alvidrez - Health  
7:30 am † Manuel and Catarina Soite  
9:00 am Levi Luke Abao - Thanksgiving  
10:45 am IHM Parishioners  
12:30 pm † Fernando Ding Santos  
2:00 pm Randy Gonzalez - Birthday  
5:00 pm † Robert Sr. and Robert Jr. Baker  
7:00 pm † IHM Parishioners  
9:00 pm † IHM Parishioners  
11:55 pm † IHM Parishioners

#### Monday December 25th

7:30 am † IHM Parishioners  
9:00 am † IHM Parishioners  
10:45 am † IHM Parishioners  
12:30 pm † IHM Parishioners  
2:00 pm † IHM Parishioners  
5:00 pm † IHM Parishioners

#### Tuesday December 26th

8:00 am † Souls in Purgatory

#### Wednesday December 27th

8:00 am Juan Ignacio Rojo - Birthday

#### Thursday December 28th

8:00 am † Miguel y Teofila Onofre

#### Friday December 29th

8:00 am † Roger Devera

#### Saturday December 30th

8:00 am † Eulogio Oseguera

### NOTICES

We will not have **CONFESSIONS** on December 26th.

We will not have **ADORATION** on December 29th.

Parish office will be **closed** on December 25, 26, 29 and January 1.

### ANUNCIOS

No habrán **CONFESIONES** el 26 de diciembre.

No tendremos **ADORACION** el 29 de diciembre.

La oficina de la parroquia estará cerrada el 25, 26, 29 de diciembre y el Primeo de enero.

### Sick Relatives & Friends Parientes y Amigos Enfermos

Lyndsey Burrow, Ryan McLeod, Ramon Antonio Toledo, Giselle Honore, Clarence Cichon, Marion Cichon, Joseph Oliver, Trevor Rogers, Carlos Arias, Dennis and Teresa Saunders, Sergei, Susan and Galina, John Lee and Family, Bohakel Family, Shields Family, Cyrina Salem, Ponticelli Family, Salem Family, Marge and Larry Cragle, Michael Smith, Juan Antonio Sandoval, Tammy Tomasa, John Dykman, Alfred L. Lutz, Britany Gooch, Angelica Lowen, Steve Klovee, Patrocinio Chavez \*\*\* The Barreto Family, Shannon Morton, Carol Williams, Solange Patino-Patroni, Nicole Patino-Patroni, Gloria Almeida, Brandon Diaz, Inga Stevie, Ana Laura Urrutia Prugua, Bertie McGraw, Cody James, Paul Dunavant, Dr. Bruce R. Carlton, Nancy Lizarbe, Sydney Reed, Joe Del Chiaro, Suzanne Mowry, Kathy Childs, Crystal Valladares, Gerald and Carmen Rogers, Jessica Shaw, Efen Halol, Jorio Amaral, Nicole King, Ryan, Martha Martinez, Antonia Martinez, Marlene Tabkey, Ricardo Oseguera, Kyle and Chelsea Brown, Maria Teresa Farvall, Ricardo Guzman, Diana Mendoza, Carmen Valle, Jordan Wingate, Kathy Jackson, Noreen Pitta, Joe Atilano, Adolfo Zuñiga Velasquez, Jorge Sidhu, Jose N. Martinez, Samie Sahin, Larry North, Billie Cole, Jodi Waters, Jill Vance, Andres Donett, Jun Ongkeko, Elizabeth Hernandez, MaryAnn Smith, Emily Solorzano, Donna Heaney, Linda Rogers, Maria Rick Pecoraro, Jr., Antonio Jimenez, Isabel Ortiz, Frieda Plake, Steve Turner, Teresita Talo, Margarita Sanchez, Merilee Ah Lan, David Waldman, Jesus Flores, Alberto Matias, Nestor and Graciela Palumbo, Gonzalo Lanatta, Syed Afceel, Arshaad A, Ali A, Elizabeth Cabico, Eric Fresquez, George Zanarini, Hilario Agbayani, Iluminada Cuevas, Cu Tikalsky, Manuel Tellez, Michael Megy, Salvador Gomez, Juan Gutierrez, Esmeralda Ochoa, Ralph Trent, Elovie Sanchez, Lois Belmessieri, Norma Blight, Virginia Morton, George Drummond, Evelin Ferrara, Christopher Hannan, Nancy Chrisenberry, Virna Fresquez, Rafael Ibarra Cruz, Linda Rogers., Nestor Silvio Palumbo, Anthony David, Jason Castro, Harvey Lopez, Peggy Scalise, Manuel Pastor, Janet Heitzmann, Maria Balzano.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Monday: 16: Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6  
Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday: 696: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4,  
6, 8ab, 16bc-17 Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 697: 1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 698: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2 Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8  
Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 202: 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6  
Lk 2:22-35

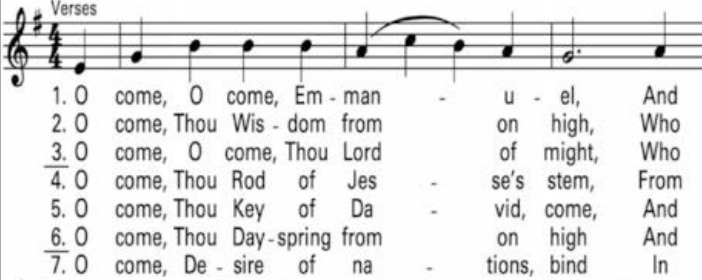
Saturday: 203: 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-10  
Lk 2:36-40

Sunday: 17: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Ps 105:1-6, 8-9  
Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19  
Luke 2:22-40

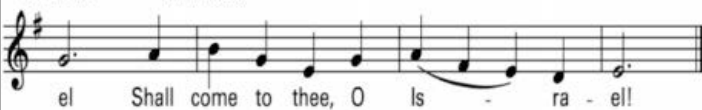
## Entrance Hymn

## O Come, O Come Emmanuel VENI VENI EMMANUEL

Verses



Refrain



## Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 89 • Jerome Cuenco



1. I will sing forever of your mercies, O Lord,  
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your fidelity.  
I have declared your mercy is established forever,  
your fidelity stands firm as the heavens.
2. With your chosen one you have made a covenant:  
"I have sworn to David my servant.  
I will establish your descendants forever,  
and set up your throne through all ages."

3. He will call out to you, "You are my father,  
my God, my God, the rock of my salvation!"  
You will keep your faithful love for him always;  
with him your covenant stands firm.
4. For you are the glory, the glory of their strength,  
by your favor it is that our might is exalted.  
Behold the Lord, the Lord is your shield  
and the Holy One of Israel, your King.

## Gospel Acclamation

Mass of Wisdom



*Behold, I am the handmaiden of the Lord /  
be it done to me according to your word R.*

## Preparation of the Gifts As A Star on Cloudless Evenings Skinner Chavez-Melo

As a star on cloudless evenings  
will with greater brilliance shine,  
so resplendent was the maiden  
chosen for the Lord's design:  
Fairest rose in all earth's garden,  
blooming on a thorny vine,  
Virgin Mother, pure of spirit,  
sprung from David's royal line.

When the angel spoke to Mary,  
his good news brought great delight  
He foretold the light's appearance  
when but halfspend was the night.  
It was God's only begotten,  
the Creator's gift supreme:  
Jesus Christ, the Word Incarnate,  
sent to comfort and redeem.

From the stable to the hillside,  
Mary's faith would never dim,  
in her tears and in her laughter,  
she had pledged her life to Him.  
As we celebrate her gladness,  
we recall her deepest pain,  
tender and unselfish mother  
of the world's most precious gain.

To the Father, Son, and Spirit,  
glory, honor, thanks, and praise,  
as it was in the beginning  
and shall be for endless days.  
Let our prayers rise up like incense  
to the triune God adored,  
joining with the song of Mary  
as we magnify the Lord.

## Holy, Holy, Holy

Mass of Wisdom

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

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## Memorial Acclamation

Mass of Wisdom

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection  
until you come again.

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## Great Amen

Mass of Wisdom

Amen, Amen, Amen.  
Amen, Amen, Amen.

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## Lamb of God

Mass of Wisdom

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.

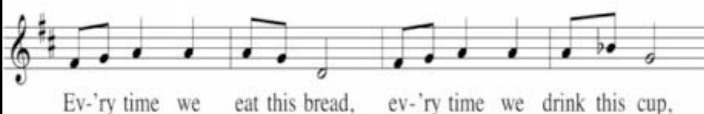
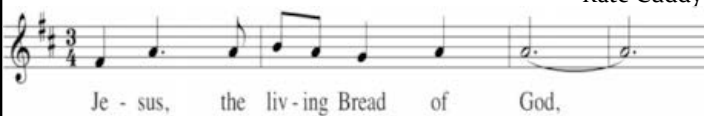
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.

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## Communion Hymn

## The Living Bread of God

Kate Cuddy



1. You are the bread of life.  
If we come to you, we will never be in need.  
If we believe in you, we will never thirst, and we will live for ever.
2. You are the life of the world.  
If we come to you, we will never know death.  
If we eat of this bread, we will be renewed, and we will live for ever.
3. You are the living bread,  
our bread from heaven, our food from above.  
If we eat and drink, we will be like you, and we will live for ever.

## 4. You are the living Christ.

If we follow you, we will see the face of God.

If we die with you, we will rise again, and we will live for ever.

## Holy Mary, Revealing Your Son

Ricky Manalo, CSP

1. For the gift of courage, *blessed are you.*  
For the gift of faith, *blessed are you.*  
When the angel called you, announcing God's plan,  
With courage your journey began.
2. When you saw Elizabeth, *blessed are you.*  
She acclaimed aloud: *blessed are you.*  
Let us now join you, proclaiming aloud,  
"Our spirit rejoices in God!"
3. In that night of wonder, *blessed are you.*  
You gave birth to Jesus, *blessed are you.*  
Joining with the angels and shepherds, proclaim:  
"To God give all glory and praise!"
4. For your child of wonder, *blessed are you.*  
For your tender care, *blessed are you.*  
Learning how to trust in God from the start,  
We treasure these things in our hearts.



## Recessional Hymn

## Immaculate Mary

LOURDES HYMN

1. Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing;  
You reign now in splendor with Jesus our King.
2. Predestined for Christ by eternal decree,  
God willed you both virgin and mother to be.
3. To you by an angel, the Lord God made known  
The grace of the Spirit, the gift of the Son.



**Entrada****Oh Ven, Oh Ven Emmanuel**  
Tradicional de Francia

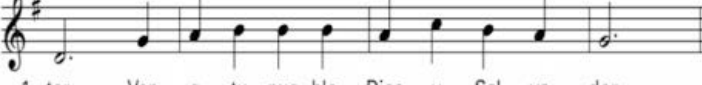
Estrofas



1. Oh ven, oh ven, Em - ma - nu - el, Que das la ley y
2. Oh ven, Sa - bi - du - ri - a de Dios, Sa - li - da de la
3. Oh ven, Se - ñor del pue - blo de Is - ra - el, Que en zar - za ar - dien - te ha -
4. Oh ven, Ra - iz del Tron - co de Je - sè, Al - za - do co - mo
5. Oh ven, oh ven, oh Lla - ve de Da - vid Y ce - tro de la
6. Oh ven, O - rien - te, luz y res - plan - dor, Sol de jus - ti - cia
7. Oh ven, de las na - cio - nes tú e - res Rey, Y de la I - gle - sia,



1. e - res nues - tro Rey. Ven, Es - pe - ra - do, ven, — Re - den -
2. bo - ca del Se - ñor, Que or - de - nas con fir - me - za y sua - vi -
3. blas - te con Moi - sés, Y en Si - na - i le dis - te la
4. sig - no sal - va - dor. A Ti los pue - blos cla - man, Se -
5. ca - sa de Is - ra - el. De las ti - nie - blas y es - cla - vi -
6. e - res tú, Se - ñor. Ven e - li - lu - mi - na la os - cu - ri -
7. Pie - dra an - gu - lar. Del ba - rro nos for - mas - te u - na



1. tor, Ven a tu pue - blo, Dios y Sal - va - dor.
2. dad, Y con pru - den - cia gui - as nues - tro an - dar.
3. ley. Oh, ven y li - bra - nos con tu pó - der.
4. ñor. Ven a li - brar - nos, ya no tar - des más.
5. tud Li - be - ra a los cau - ti - vos con tu luz.
6. dad. Li - bé - ra - nos de la som - bra mor - tal.
7. vez. Oh, ven a res - ca - tar la hu - ma - ni - dad.

Estribillo



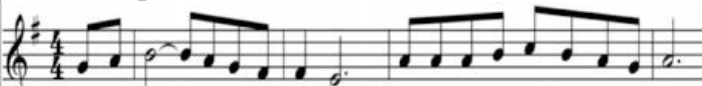
¡A - lé - gra - te, oh Is - ra -



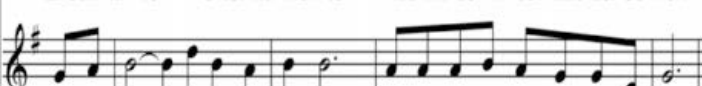
el! ¡Ven - drá, ven - drá Em - ma - nu - el!

**Salmo Responsorial**

Salmo 89 • Mary Reza



R. Can - ta - ré e - ter - na - men - te las mi - se - ri - cor - dias del Se - ñor.

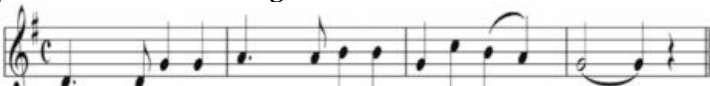


Can - ta - ré e - ter - na - men - te las mi - se - ri - cor - dias del Se - ñor.

1. Cantaré eternamente las misericordias del Señor, anunciaré tu fidelidad por todas las edades. Porque dije: "Tu misericordia es un edificio eterno, más que el Cielo has afianzado tu fidelidad"
2. Sellé una alianza con mi elegido, jurando a David, mi siervo: "Te fundaré un linaje perpetuo, edificaré tu trono para todas las edades"
3. Él me invocará: "Tú eres mi padre, mi Dios, mi roca salvadora" le mantendré eternamente mi favor, y mi alianza con él será estable

**Aclamación del Evangelio**

Misa Alrededor de Tu Mesa



A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.

*Yo soy la esclava del Señor /  
que se cumpla en mí lo que me has dicho* **R.**

**Preparación de las Ofrendas****La Virgen Sueña Caminos**  
Carmelo Erdozain

Estrofas



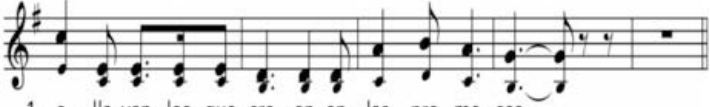
1. La Vir - gen sue - ña ca - mi - nos, es - tá a la es - pe - ra; la
2. En es - tos dí - as del a - ño el pue - blo es - pe - ra que
3. La tar - de ya lo sos - pe - cha: es - tá a - ler - ta. El



1. Vir - gen sa - be que el Ni - ño es - tá muy cer - ca.
2. ven - ga pron - to el Me - si - as a nues - tra tie - rra.
3. sol le di - ce a la lu - na que no se duer - ma.



1. De Na - za - ret a Be - lén hay u - na sen - da; por
2. En la ciu - dad de Be - lén lla - ma a las puer - tas, pre -
3. A la ciu - dad de Be - lén ven - drá u - na es - tre - lla, ven -

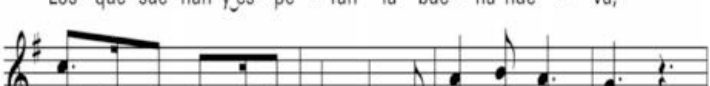


1. e - lla van los que cre - en en las pro - me - sas.
2. gun - ta en las po - sa - das y no hay res - pues - ta.
3. drá con to - do el que quie - ra cru - zar fron - te - ras.

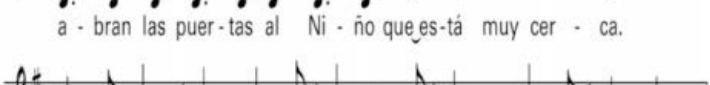
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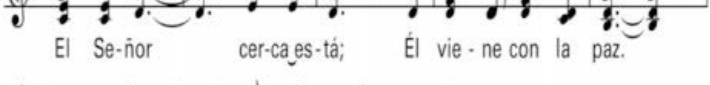
Los que sue - ñan y es - pe - ran la bue - na nue - va,



a - bran las puer - tas al Ni - ño que es - tá muy cer - ca.



El Se - ñor cer - ca es - tá; Él vie - ne con la paz.



El Se - ñor cer - ca es - tá; Él tra - e la ver - dad.

**6**



## Santo

Misa Alrededor de Tu Mesa

Santo, Santo, Santo  
Santo es el Señor, Dios del universo.  
Llenos están el cielo y la tierra de tu gloria.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna en el cielo.  
Bendito el que viene en nombre del Señor,  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna en el cielo.

Música: Misa Alrededor de Tu Mesa, Francisco Palazón © 2001. OCP Publications, Inc.

## Aclamación Conmemorativa

Misa Alrededor de Tu Mesa

Anunciamos tu muerte, proclamamos tu resurrección.  
Ven, Señor Jesús.

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## Gran Amén

Misa Alrededor de Tu Mesa

Amén, Amén, Amén.

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## Cordero de Dios

Misa Alrededor de Tu Mesa

Cordero de Dios, que quitas el pecado del mundo,  
ten piedad de nosotros.

Cordero de Dios, que quitas el pecado del mundo,  
ten piedad de nosotros.

Cordero de Dios, que quitas el pecado del mundo,  
danos la paz, danos la paz.

Música: Misa Alrededor de Tu Mesa, Francisco Palazón © 2001. OCP Publications, Inc.

## Comunión

Emmanuel, Oh Rey de Gloria

Juan Sosa

1. Pastor de la casa de Israel,  
oh Sol, resplandor, Luz de lo alto,  
oh Llave de David, oh Rey de las naciones,  
Renuevo del Tronco de Jesé.

### Estrillo

Emmanuel, oh Rey de Gloria,  
ven a salvarnos, no tardes más.  
Emmanuel, oh Rey de Gloria,  
ven a salvarnos, no tardes más.

2. Brotaste de los labios del Altísimo.  
Brillaste con tu luz entre las sombras.  
Ven, salva al que formaste de la tierra.  
Libera a los que viven en tinieblas.
3. Buscando posada te encontramos  
en rostros que esperan tu llegada.  
No son extranjeros, sino hermanos,  
que buscan en ti, Señor, la paz.
4. En cada corazón hay esperanza  
cuando Dios renace entre nosotros.  
Y acoge entre sus brazos a un mundo dividido,  
uniéndolo en su amor, justicia y paz.

Letra: Estrillo y Estrofas 1 y 2, basada en las Antifonas 'O'. Letra y música © 2017, Juan J. Sosa, Pbro.  
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## Como Estrella en Claro Cielo

Skinner Chavez-Melo

1. Co-mo es - tre - lla en cla - ro cie - lo de ful -  
2. Fue un án - gel quien le die - ra be - llas  
3. De la pa - ja al ma - de - ro fue a su  
4. Glo - ri - a al Pa - dre y al Hi - jo, y al Es -

1. gen - te res - plan - dor, es - co - gi - da fue Ma - rí - a  
2. nue - vas de sa - lud, y a me - dia - dos de u - na no - che  
3. hi - jo siem - pre fiel y en - tre lá - gri - mas y ri - sas  
4. pí - ri - tu en ver - dad, co - mo e - ra al prin - ci - pio,

1. por de - sig - nio del Se - ñor. Es cual ro - sa que flo -  
2. Dios al mun - do en - vió la luz. Es su fru - to en - gen -  
3. con - sa - gró su vi - da a Él. Hoy ce - le - bro su a - le -  
4. es a - ho - ra y se - rá. Mi a - la - ban - za a Dios se e -

1. re - ce en - tre car - dos de un jar - dín; es don -  
2. dra - do, del Crea - dor, su - pre - mo don; es Je -  
3. grí - a, hoy ce - le - bro su do - lor, ma - dre  
4. le - va co - mo in - cien - so en el al - tar; yo tam -

1. ce - lla, vir - gen pu - ra, del li - na - je de Da - vid.  
2. sús, Ver - bo En - car - na - do, del hu - ma - no, re - den - ción.  
3. tier - na y ab - ne - ga - da del ben - di - to Sal - va - dor.  
4. bién, co - mo Ma - rí - a, can - to mi Mag - ni - fi - cat.

## Salida

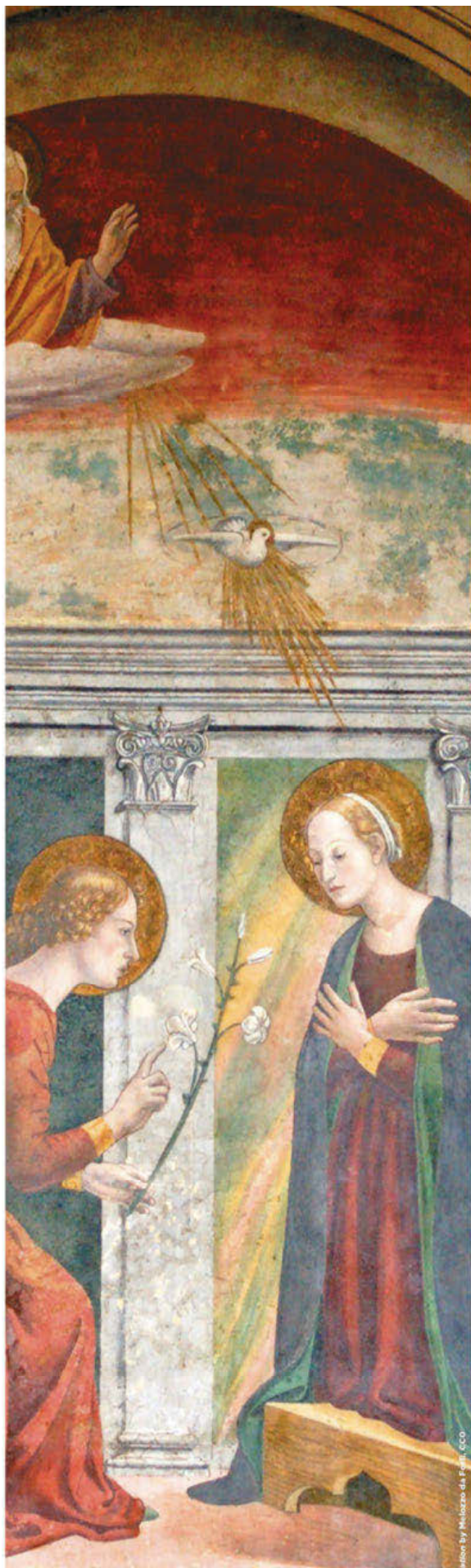
Del Cielo Ha Bajado

Tradicional de Francia

1. Del cie - lo ha ba - ja - do la Ma - dre de Dios. Can -  
2. Del ver - bo di - vi - no, de Cris - to Je - sús, San -  
3. Oh Vir - gen sin man - cha, oh Ma - dre de a - mor, El  
4. Tú e - res el or - gu - llo de Dios cre - a - dor, Y el  
5. Las gra - cias e - ma - nan del tro - no de Dios, Y  
6. La lu - na hu - mi - lla - da tus plan - tas be - só, Y el  
7. Pues so - mos tus hi - jos, o - ye nues - tra voz; De -

1. te - mos el A - ve a su con - cep - ción. A - ve, a -  
2. tí - si - ma Ma - dre, Ma - rí - a, e - res tú.  
3. án - gel te o - frez - ca mi sa - lu - ta - ción.  
4. fru - to más dig - no de la re - den - ción.  
5. to - das con - flu - yen en tu co - ra - zón.  
6. mun - do te a - do - ra ves - ti - da del sol.  
7. fién - de - nos siem - pre en la ten - ta - ción.

ve, a - ve Ma - rí - a. A - ve, a - ve, a - ve Ma - rí - a.



December 24, 2023

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 | Rom 16:25-27 | Lk 1:26-38

### **GROW** AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." The angel Gabriel announces this in the Gospel today, and it is a phrase with which we are all familiar thanks to our recitation of the Hail Mary prayer. Although some may be comforted by such a message and its angelic messenger, it is troubling to Mary because the angel goes on to tell her she will conceive and bear the Son of God. Thinking practically, Mary is being told the impossible will happen – who wouldn't be troubled? And yet Mary offers herself: "I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Despite her fear and trepidation, Mary went on to answer God's call and do his will. Our Blessed Mother became a great example of fortitude at that moment, as she exemplified what it means to step outside of our own uncertainty and trust God completely. Although doing God's will can be difficult at times, St. Paul reminds us in his Letter to the Romans that we can ask God for the strength to say "yes" in spite of our fears.

### **GO** EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Up until today, December has probably been a whirlwind. Trees and lights, ornaments, parties and presents – all these things help to kick off "the most wonderful time of year" beginning soon after Thanksgiving. Come Dec. 26, however, for many, the decorations become a nuisance and Christmas trees are out on the curb for pickup. Thank goodness for our Catholic faith because for us, Christmas is just beginning! Mary didn't say "may it be done to me" only to forget about it the next day. No, in the coming months, the Blessed Mother nurtured the baby Jesus in her womb, anticipating the arrival of her firstborn and the Son of God. And on that blessed Christmas night, her work as the Mother of God was only just beginning. So, as we anticipate the arrival of the Christ Child, we are joyful that *our* Christmas season continues until we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord on January 8. Let us use this time to draw closer to God and make every effort in the new year to do his will.

**SING** *Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.*



## Advent – Part 4

This week, continuing with St. Bernard of Clairvaux's sermon on God's three comings, we will explore the intermediate coming, the hidden one. He describes it as a road we travel from His first coming to His last.

Jesus said, "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, **and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.**" (John 14:23). St. Bernard points out that we keep God's word in our hearts. He then instructs us, "Let it enter into your very being; let it take possession of your desires and your whole way of life. Feed on goodness, and your soul will delight in its richness. Remember to eat your bread, or your heart will wither away. Fill your soul with richness and strength."

God is present in every moment of our lives. In whatever event or moment we find ourselves in, God is there. What God wills for us in that moment is for us to do the best possible good. That is what St. Bernard means when he says, "Feed on goodness." When we do the best possible good in each moment, we make God's presence manifest. Jean Pierre de Caussade's classic *Abandonment to Divine Providence* is an excellent guide for this.

May Christ's peace, hope, and love be with you all this Christmas. Please pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, and Holy Matrimony. Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us!

## Adviento - Cuarta parte

Esta semana, continuando con el sermón de San Bernardo de Claraval sobre las tres venidas de Dios, exploraremos la venida intermedia, la oculta. La describe como un camino que recorreremos desde su primera venida hasta la última.

Jesús dijo: "El que me ama guardará mi palabra, y mi Padre le amará, y vendremos a él y haremos morada con él". (Juan 14, 23). San Bernardo señala que guardemos la palabra de Dios en nuestro corazón. Y nos dice: "Deja que entre en tu ser, que se apodere de tus deseos y de toda tu vida. Aliméntate de bondad, y tu alma se deleitará en su riqueza. Acuérdate de comer tu pan, o tu corazón se marchitará. Llena tu alma de riqueza y fuerza".

Dios está presente en cada momento de nuestra vida. En cualquier acontecimiento o momento en que nos encontremos, Dios está allí. Lo que Dios quiere para nosotros en ese momento es que hagamos el mayor bien posible. A eso se refiere San Bernardo cuando dice: "Alimentaos de bondad". Cuando hacemos el mejor bien posible en cada momento, manifestamos la presencia de Dios. El clásico de Jean Pierre de Caussade *Abandono en la Divina Providencia* es una excelente guía para ello.

Que la paz, la esperanza y el amor de Cristo os acompañen a todos en esta Navidad. Rezad por las vocaciones al sacerdocio, al diaconado, a la vida religiosa y al Santo Matrimonio. Inmaculado Corazón de María, ruega por nosotros.

## Information/Información

### St. Vincent de Paul for Friday's Food Pantry

For the weekend of December 31, please bring canned vegetables. THANK YOU!

+++

Para el fin de semana del 31 de diciembre, por favor traigan vegetales enlatados. GRACIAS!

### SCHEDULE OF SECOND COLLECTIONS

December 31 - St. Vincent de Paul  
January 7 - Facility Improvement

+++

### FECHAS DE SEGUNDAS COLECTAS

31 de diciembre - San Vicente de Paul  
7 de enero - Fondo del Mejoramiento



The office of the parish will be closed on December 25, 26, 29, and January 1 for the holidays.

La oficina de la parroquia estará cerrada 25, 26, y 29 de diciembre y 1 el enero por los días de fiesta.



Carondelet and De La Salle High School's 23-24 Admissions Season is open! The application deadline for both high schools is December 8. If you are interested in applying for financial Aid applications open on December 1.

To find out more about Carondelet or De La Salle, and apply, visit [carondeleths.org](http://carondeleths.org) and [dlsHS.org](http://dlsHS.org).



### St. Vincent de Paul Message

It's the Holiday Season and things can get hectic. Life is often hectic all year long for the families St. Vincent de Paul serves, but even more so during the Holidays. On the last Friday before Thanksgiving, we gave food and food gift cards to 111 families in our area. That's about 477 people. We only pray it made their Thanksgiving a little better.

Now we are coming up to the 5th Sunday in December collection (December 31st) and can only hope the parishioners of Immaculate Heart of Mary will be as generous as usual to help pay for the food and other items we plan to give to the low-income families we serve this Christmas Season. From the members of St. Vincent de Paul at Immaculate Heart of Mary we wish you all a **Blessed Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year!**

### Next study for the new year, Symbolon:

The Catholic Faith Explained, opens up the "big picture" of the Catholic Faith that helps us to know it, live it and articulate it to others. Through beautifully crafted teaching in video, author, speaker and theologian, Dr. Sri leads a team of dynamic teachers who provide a clear and comprehensive explanation of the Catholic Faith, filmed on location in Rome, the Holy Land, and the studios in Denver, CO.

Program is 10 weeks, beginning January 11, 2024. Thursdays in the Library 10-11:30am. [AugustineInstitute.org](http://AugustineInstitute.org).

**Questions call:** Ethel Reber. 925-626-8981.



# CHRISTMAS 2023 MASS SCHEDULE

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

4th Sunday of Advent:

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 6:00am Mass  | (Simbàng Gabî) |
| 7:30am Mass  | (English)      |
| 9:00am Mass  | (English)      |
| 10:45am Mass | (Spanish)      |
| 12:30pm Mass | (English)      |
| 2:00pm Mass  | (Spanish)      |
| 5:00pm Mass  | (Latin)        |

Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord:

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| 7:00pm Mass           | (English)   |
| 9:00pm Mass           | (Spanish)   |
| 12:00am Midnight Mass | (Bilingual) |

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

The Nativity of the Lord:

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| 7:30am Mass  | (English) |
| 9:00am Mass  | (English) |
| 10:45am Mass | (Spanish) |
| 12:30pm Mass | (English) |
| 2:00pm Mass  | (Spanish) |
| 5:00pm Mass  | (Latin)   |



IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH  
Brentwood, California



The background of the entire image is a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, twinkling stars. A single, exceptionally bright star with a long, vertical tail of light dominates the upper center of the frame. Below the sky, a silhouette of a city with several lit-up windows is visible on a hill. In the foreground, a dark, simple manger structure sits on a patch of ground. Inside the manger, a figure of the Virgin Mary is seated, holding the infant Jesus, who is glowing with a soft, golden light. To the right of the manger, a single palm tree stands against the night sky.

Que la bendición  
de la alegría habite  
en tí;

Que la bendición  
de la Paz descanse  
sobre tí;

Que la bendición  
del amor fluya a  
través de tí;

Que todas las

bendiciones del  
Señor sean tuyas  
en la Navidad y en  
el Año Nuevo.

Amen.

May the blessing  
of joy abide  
within you;  
May the blessing  
of peace rest upon  
you;  
May the blessing  
of love flow out  
through you;  
May all the  
blessings of the  
Lord be yours at  
Christmas and in  
the New Year.  
Amen.

## Ministry Meetings/Reuniones de Ministerios

+

### Confessions / Confesiones

Tuesday/Martes: 6:00 - 7:00PM  
Saturday/Sabado: 3:30 - 4:30PM

### Devotions/Devociones

Monday to Friday/Lunes a Viernes  
7:30AM

### **Holy Rosary/Santo Rosario**

+

Wednesday/Miércoles  
8:00AM Mass then 8:30AM

### **Mother of Perpetual Help Novena Novena Madre del Perpetuo Socorro**

+

Thursday/Jueves and Friday/Viernes  
8:00AM Mass then 8:30AM

### **Divine Mercy Chaplet Novena Coronilla a la Divina Misericordia**

### Anointing of the Sick Unción de los Enfermos

### Home Communion Comunión a los Enfermos

Contact a priest / llame a un sacerdote

+

### Marriage/Matrimonios

Requires at least six month preparation  
Requiere por lo menos 6 meses de preparación

### Baptism/Bautismos

634-4154

+

### Funerals/Funerales

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## WEEKLY CALENDAR/CALENDARIO SEMANAL

### Sun. Dec. 24th

6:00am Fil-Am—Misa de Gallo Church  
Hall A/B/C

### Mon. Dec. 25th

### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

### Tues. Dec. 26th

12:00pm Parish Office Closed  
6:00pm Food Bank Parking Lot  
Legion of Mary/Sp Chapel  
**NO Confessions**

### Wed. Dec. 27th

### Thurs. Dec. 28th

7:00pm Emmaus Men/Sp. Luke

### Fri. Dec. 29th

8:30am Parish Office Closed  
St. Vincent de Paul Hall A/B/C

### Sat. Dec. 30th

3:30pm Confessions



### Banns of Marriage

Ines Rosales Barragan and Cesar Ayala  
are planning to get married on February 4, 2024 at the  
Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, Del Fresno 1a.,  
Destiladora Refugio, 45368 Huaxtla, Jalisco, Mexico.

If you know of any reasons why this marriage should  
not take place contact the Parish office as soon as  
possible. Thank You!

-

### Amonestaciones

Ines Rosales Barragan y Cesar Ayala están planeando  
casarse el día 4 de febrero del 2024 en la Parroquia del  
Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, Del Fresno 1a., Destiladora  
Refugio, 45368 Huaxtla, Jalisco, Mexico.

Si usted sabe de alguna razón por la cuál este  
matrimonio no debe llevarse a cabo, por favor póngase en  
contacto con la oficina parroquial lo más pronto posible.  
¡Gracias!



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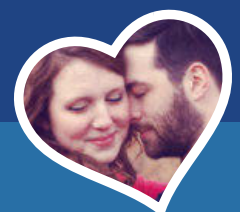
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