

Welcome to St. Barnabas and St. Joseph Basilica Parishes

We, the family of St. Joseph Basilica and St. Barnabas, invite all people into our spiritual home to encounter Jesus Christ through an authentically Catholic experience of worship, learning, gathering, and service.

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: July 12, 2026



Feast of St. Barnabas Celebration (June 28): Thank you volunteers and food donors for the wonderful hospitality!

For more pictures, visit St. Barnabas' Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/barnabasinalameda/>

St. Barnabas

1427 Sixth Street, Alameda, CA 94501

Phone: 510.522.8933

email: sbparishoffice@comcast.net

Website: sbarnabas.weebly.com

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/barnabasinalameda/>

Office Hours: Wednesday through Friday

9 am - 4 pm (closed for lunch 12 - 1 pm)

Church Hours: 9 am - 5 pm

Mass Schedule

Weekdays: 12:10 pm

First Friday: 7 pm

Saturday: 4:30 pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 9 am, 11 am & 7 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

First Friday Reconciliation: 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Saturday, 3:30 - 4 pm

St. Joseph Basilica

1109 Chestnut Street, Alameda, CA 94501

Phone: 510.522.0181

email: parish@sjbalameda.org

Website: sjbalameda.org

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/sjbalameda/>

Office Hours: Monday through Friday

9 am - 4 pm (closed for lunch 1 - 2 pm)

Basilica Hours: Closed during renovations

Mass Schedule

Weekdays: 8 am, Notre Dame Hall (subject to change)

Saturday: 8 am, Notre Dame Hall

Sunday: 10 am ONLY, High School Quad



The Church's beautiful teaching on artificial contraception...

Dear Family,

If you were to ask a priest what his favorite part is about being a priest, he will likely say celebrating the Sacraments, most especially Confession and Mass. In Confession, I've seen people leave transformed after hearing the words, "I absolve you from your sins." Similarly, in the Mass, priests are charged with speaking those most sacred words of Jesus, "this is my body...this is my blood." It is a blessing to be able to do this.

One part of the ministry priests might not be so quick to say is their favorite is marriage preparation. This is because the words we need to speak to couples during preparation aren't always as clear as in the ceremonies; each couple is different and has their own needs. Oftentimes, however, one thing that is similar is that the engaged couple is living and sleeping together, while using contraception. Having conversations about the Church's teaching on sex is not easy, but couples deserve to hear what the Church's has in mind for them since it is true, good, and beautiful.

I bring this up (again!) because this week the Church recognizes Natural Family Planning Awareness week. Natural Family Planning, or NFP, is the Church's prescribed means for married couples to regulate pregnancies and fully experience the beauty and depth of lovemaking. This teaching, put forth by the Church in many documents, but most especially in *Humana Vitae* of 1968, is hotly contested, and oftentimes ignored. In short, *Humana Vitae* taught that the use of contraception is wrong, not because the Church hates sex, but because it reveres it so highly.

Lovemaking between husband and wife is like a sacrament, which means that it is a sign, communicating a message without words. In our seven Sacraments, visible signs are used (e.g., water, oil, bread, wine, etc.) to show forth some invisible reality (e.g., the Holy Spirit cleansing us from sin in Baptism, or Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist). The same is true when married couples make love. I will often explain it as a "body-language." Just as a handshake communicates good-will or agreement without speaking, or a hug communicates friendship or compassion without words, so does lovemaking. And what does it say, what invisible reality does it make visible? It makes visible the marriage vows, which are a participation in God's covenant love with humanity, and most especially Jesus' union with His bride, the Church. Let's look at this more deeply.

The Church says that God's love for humanity is free, total, faithful, and fruitful. We are called to participate in this love, manifesting it to the world. God loves us **freely**; he wasn't forced to create us and isn't forced to love us. He wasn't forced to send His Son, and He wasn't forced to lay down His life for us. He chose to. Similarly, married couples aren't forced to marry the other, but freely choose their spouse without pressure, and freely give themselves to each other on their wedding day totally. God loves us **totally**, holding nothing back from us. He shows this most fully in sending us His Son, Jesus, who in turn gives us His Body and Blood in the Eucharist; He can give nothing more. Married couples commit to a love that is total, giving all of themselves and accepting everything from the other, in good times and in bad as the vows say, sins and all. In the marital act, they also give totally, holding nothing back, including their fertility. In doing so, married couples agree to be **fruitful**, open to life, as God is the fruitful creator and "giver of life," as we say in the Creed. Married couples consent to being fruitful each time they come together, placing no artificial barrier between them. Lastly, married couples are **faithful** as God is faithful to us. God asks for fidelity to Him, that we do not have "other Gods," that we follow Him. In turn, He will be faithful to us, even if we sin against Him. Similarly, married couples commit that what they do together, especially in the bedroom, they will never do with another.

Thus, the physical act of making love is a kind of sacrament, a consummation of the wedding vows, a communication of the commitment to participate in the love of God Himself, in the love of Jesus Christ, the "bridegroom" of the Church. Hence, every act of lovemaking is like a renewal of the wedding vows, which is why the Church teaches that, before marriage, couples should not say with their bodies what they have not said with their souls. It is also why the Church teaches that married couples should not exclude the essential element of fruitfulness from their lovemaking, because when that happens, an entirely different reality is communicated. When contraception is introduced into a marriage, what is communicated is "instead of giving all of me, I will give a portion of me; instead of receiving all of you, I will receive a portion of you." **What NFP helps couples to communicate is, "I am making a free, total, faithful, and fruitful gift to you, as God has made to us."** Which would you rather say?

Sharing this with couples can be awkward, but it is a gift that couples deserve to know because it sets them free to experience and enjoy the depth of God's plan for lovemaking. The Church is not a prude. The Church understands the marital act and wants married couples to experience and enjoy it more fully. If you would like to learn more about NFP and how it can enhance your marriage, please do not hesitate to ask me. I am on the Board of the California Association of Natural Family Planning (CANFP) and have resources available for you.

With much love,
Fr. Mario

Upcoming Events

This Week at St. Barnabas & St. Joseph

- **July 13:** Men's Power Hour, Rosary at 6:00 pm followed by Lectio, St. Barnabas
- **July 14:** Summer Enrichment - "Catholicism" video series 7pm in Notre Dame Hall. "Peter, Paul & the Missionary Adventure."
- **July 14:** There will be no Centering Prayer group at St. Barnabas in July; Centering Prayer will resume as usual the second Tuesday of August 11
- **July 15:** Young Adults Group, 6:30 pm, St. Joseph Parish Center (1119 Lafayette Street, Alameda)
- **July 16:** Thursday Scripture Reflection, 10:30 -11:30 am weekly online reflection and sharing on upcoming Sunday's readings through Dialpad Meetings (<https://meetings.dialpad.com/room/stjosephbasilica/4b84nr6g6y>)
- **July 16:** Thursday Women's Rosary, 6:00 pm, St. Barnabas
- For a complete listing of Basilica scheduled events, please visit Parish website: <https://sjbalameda.org/events-1>

Celebration of Our Lady of Fatima Continues on Zoom: July 13

Join St. Joseph's Legion of Mary for a prayer session to Our Lady on Zoom. Being part of this session will create a powerful and uplifting experience with Our Lady of Fatima.

The meeting will start at 6:00 pm each month except for September 13 where it will start at 1:30 pm. Please mark your calendar if you plan to participate. All are welcome!

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87263434680?pwd=sazuMBnaXMiUNT2HCKME3QjCBOjOVb.1>

Meeting ID: 827 6343 4680, passcode: 546618.

Contact Teresita Dean for more details:

thewellnesscenter2017@gmail.com

SENSORY FRIENDLY MASS



Alameda Deanery Sensory Friendly Mass
Saturday, July 18, 4:30 pm Vigil Mass,
St. Barnabas Church (3rd Saturday)

The Mass will be "sensory friendly" with quieter music to offer a sacred space more welcoming to those for whom "less is more."

For more information contact:

specialneeds@sjbalameda.org

Looking for Something More?

Many people today carry questions that rarely get asked out loud:

- *Is there more to life than what I'm currently living?*
- *Where is God in the midst of everything?*
- *How can I grow in my faith?*
- *What am I truly searching for?*

This fall, St. Joseph Basilica will once again offer Alpha—a place to explore life's biggest questions, encounter Jesus Christ, and build meaningful friendships in a welcoming and relaxed environment.

No pressure. No prerequisites. No cost.

Just good food, honest conversation, and an opportunity to discover—or rediscover—the heart of the Christian faith.

This September, we will be launching our fourth Alpha. Over the coming weeks, we will share more details about registration and participation.

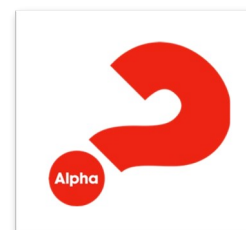
In the meantime, we invite you to pray about one person in your life who might benefit from Alpha—a family member, friend, coworker, neighbor, or perhaps even yourself.

Come and see.

"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." (John 10:10)

For more information, contact: Jimmy Jimenez-Garcia, Pastoral

Associate: jjimenez@sjbalameda.org



St. Joseph Basilica Annual School Supply Drive July 12 – July 26, 2026

It is time to help elementary school children prepare for the new school year. We are now collecting school supplies for neighborhood families facing financial hardship.

Below is a list of **school supplies** needed for children ages 6 to 13.

Thank you for your generous support.



New Backpacks
 New Binders
 Subject Dividers
 Spiral Notebooks
 Composition Books
 Binder Paper
 Index Cards

Folders with Pockets
 Highlighters
 Washable Markers
 Calculators
 Rulers
 Rounded Scissors
 School Scissors
 Glue Sticks

#2 Pencils
 Colored Pencils
 Mechanical Pencils
 Pencil Sharpeners
 Pencil Cases
 Pink Erasers
 Crayons
 Pens

Please leave your donation on the Parish Rectory porch during parish business hours.

The **St. Vincent de Paul Ministry** is coordinating our annual **Back-to-School** supply drive.

If you have questions or would like to help, please contact Katelyn Johnson at

katelyn@spiritrun.net.

Monetary donations welcome and please mail your check to,

St. Vincent de Paul Society c/o St. Joseph Basilica

1109 Chestnut Street, Alameda, CA 94501

Praying Together

When you approach the Tabernacle remember that He has been waiting for you for twenty centuries. —St. Josemaria Escriva

Devotions

Note: Changes to events due to closure of the Basilica for renovations, starting May 18—November (subject to change)

Daily Rosary: St. Joseph at Notre Dame Hall,
Monday - Saturday, 7:30 am
St. Barnabas, Monday - Friday, 11:30 am

Men's Power Hour: St. Barnabas,
Mondays, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

First Monday Eucharistic Adoration in Vietnamese
- canceled during renovations

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wednesday - St. Barnabas, following the 12:10 pm Mass
Saturday - St. Joseph, following the 8 am Mass

Thursday Women's Rosary
St. Barnabas, 6:00 - 6:45 pm

First Friday Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus at St. Barnabas:

- 11:30 am, Rosary
- Reconciliation: 5:30 - 6:30 pm & Mass: 7:00 pm

Eucharistic Adoration: St. Barnabas, Fridays, 1:00 - 7:00 pm

Chaplet of Divine Mercy Prayer: St. Barnabas, last Friday of the month, 3:00 - 3:45 pm

The Communal First Saturdays, 7:15 am, Notre Dame Hall

Mass Intentions: St. Joseph

	<u>Saturday, July 11</u>
8:00 am	+Luisa Urtega & +Felicita Valdivia
	<u>Sunday, July 12</u>
10:00 am	+Tamara Centeno - Death Anniversary +Lucita Paradiang - Death Anniversary Rosalinda Ramirez - Birthday
	<u>Monday, July 13</u>
8:00 am	+Fred Corcaran
	<u>Tuesday, July 14</u>
8:00 am	+Roberto Posadas - Death Anniversary
	<u>Wednesday, July 15</u>
8:00 am	+Megan McEntee
	<u>Thursday, July 16</u>
8:00 am	+Romeo L. Malan
	<u>Friday, July 17</u>
8:00 am	+Romeo L. Malan
	<u>Saturday, July 18</u>
8:00 am	+Vernon & Allie Haik - Death Anniversary
	<u>Sunday, July 19</u>
10:00 am	+Jose Lim - Birthday Remembrance +George A. Naclerio, Sr.



Please Pray For The Sick & The Suffering In Our Communities

Nemi Garcia Andres, Narciso Ayran, Romelita Bautista, Ruby Bautista Cabonce, Kwame Cunningham, Bob & Anna Heimbichner, Madelen Lontiong, Nora Petersen, Nory Antonette Reyes, Erica Rivard, Edita Supremo, Ramon Normandy Tirona, Rina Tobis, Femy Visperas & Jason Uehara.

The List is refreshed monthly. If you would like a name to be added or removed from the Sick List, please email: secretary@sjbalameda.org.

Estate Plan up to date? Please consider including a bequest to your parish.

Need Anointing of the Sick?

If a member of your family is ill or if you learn that a parishioner is sick or hospitalized and in need of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, or a pastoral visit from a priest or Communion Minister, please contact any of our Deanery Parish offices to notify them:

- St. Barnabas: 510.995.9401
- St. Joseph: 510.522.0181
- St. Philip Neri-St. Albert the Great: 510.373.5215

Mass Intentions: St. Barnabas

	<u>Saturday, July 11</u>
4:30 pm	Mariflo Visperas
	<u>Sunday, July 12</u>
9:00 am	+Leon Bruce Johnston
11:00 am	People of the Parish
7:00 pm	+Chigozie Ngama
	<u>Monday, July 13</u>
12:10 pm	Christian Castillo (Birthday)
	<u>Tuesday, July 14</u>
12:10 pm	Nathaniel Ciceron
	<u>Wednesday, July 15</u>
12:10 pm	Antonio Maxie (Birthday)
	<u>Thursday, July 16</u>
12:10 pm	+Rogelio Dio
	<u>Friday, July 17</u>
12:10 pm	Rose Wong (Birthday)
	<u>Saturday, July 18</u>
4:30 pm	+Gertrudes Nava
	<u>Sunday, July 19</u>
9:00 am	People of the Parish
11:00 am	+Janine R. Carr
7:00 pm	Linda & David Oronos

Other News

Youth Confirmation Registration

Registration for the 2026–2027 Youth Confirmation Program is now open!

We are excited to welcome teens as they continue their journey of faith and prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Through prayer, formation, community, and service, participants will grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church.

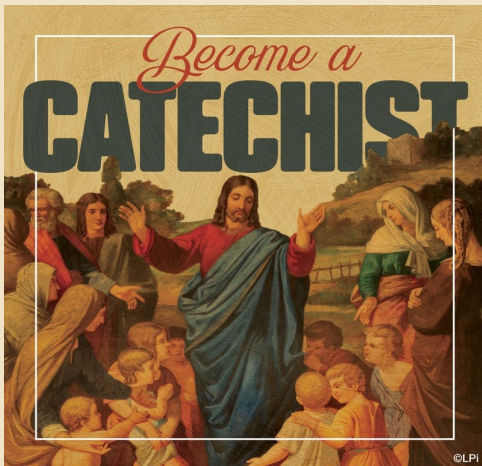
This year, the program is offered in partnership between St. Joseph Basilica, St. Barnabas, and St. Philip Neri-St. Albert the Great, bringing together the strengths of all parishes to support our young people in their faith formation.

For registration information and program details, please visit the parish website, <https://sjbalameda.org/youth-confirmation>, or contact Jimmy Jimenez-Garcia Pastoral Associate Email: jjimenez@sjbalameda.org

Faith Formation – Are You Being Called?

“The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.”

This week's readings speak of God's word bearing fruit. Please consider whether you can help with its planting. We are gearing up for our children's classes this fall and find ourselves **in need of a few more catechists** to work with our youngsters as well as our middle schoolers. Catechists lead 60 minute classes at 8:45 on Sunday mornings, assisted by parents. A brief program overview video is available at https://youtu.be/JUc-ul_mzh0?si=rvK4tRSt0Xwi2K_V. Please contact Anne Marie at 510-995-9409 if interested in learning more.



Parish Information

While our Basilica undergoes renovations, our parish mission and operations remain steadfast. We invite you to participate in electronic giving to support our community. Thank you!



Online Giving



Capital Campaign

Clergy Contacts:

Rev. Mario Rizzo, Parochial Administrator

Phone: 510.995.9421 / email: frmario@sjbalameda.org

Rev. Kenneth Nobrega, Parochial Vicar

Phone: 510.995.9406 / email: fatherkennethnobrega@icloud.com

Rev. Alvaro Santamaria, Parochial Vicar (*contact TBA*)

Staff Contacts

St. Joseph:

Jimmy Jimenez-Garcia - Pastoral Associate,
510.994.0599 / email: jjimenez@sjbalameda.org

Anne Marie Foure - Director of Faith Formation,
510.995.9409 / email: afoure@sjbalameda.org

Stan Schonberg - Business Manager, 510.995.9411 /
email: business@sjbalameda.org

Sherley Lim - Parish Secretary, 510.995.9420 / email:
secretary@sjbalameda.org

Dr. Cyril Deaconoff - Music Director, 510.995.9403 / email:
cdeaconoff@sjbalameda.org

Michael Chinnvaso - 7:00pm Music Coordinator,
mchinnvaso@sjbalameda.org

St. Barnabas

Gloria Maldonado - Parish Secretary, 510.995.9401 / email:
gmaldonado@sjbalameda.org

Agatha Leong - Faith Formation, 510.748.9537 / email:
stbarnabasfaithformation@gmail.com

Bernadette Baria - Music Director, 510.522.8933

St. Vincent de Paul Hotlines:

St. Barnabas: 510.995.9475 / St. Joseph: 510.995.9471

Bulletin Submission Deadline: Please email short blurb for the bulletin **two weeks before the event**. Event is subject to Parish approval. Thank you.



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**Terecita L Dean
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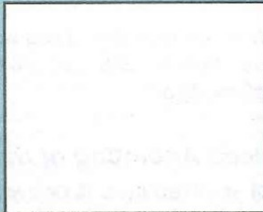
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