

# 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.

November 30, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT

Let us walk  
in the light  
of the Lord

OLPI



Thank you All for welcoming the Unbound priests and answering the call to sponsorship of their program on the weekend of November 15 - 16.

## St. Barnabas

1427 Sixth Street, Alameda, CA 94501

Phone: 510.522.8933

email: [sbparishoffice@comcast.net](mailto:sbparishoffice@comcast.net)

Website: [sbarnabas.weebly.com](http://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)

Available remotely through email & voicemail

**Church Hours: 9 am - 5 pm**

### Mass Schedule

Weekdays: 12:10 pm

Saturday: 4:30 pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 9 am & 11 am

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 3:30 - 4 pm

## St. Joseph Basilica

1109 Chestnut Street, Alameda, CA 94501

Phone: 510.522.0181

email: [parish@sjbalameda.org](mailto:parish@sjbalameda.org)

Website: [sjbalameda.org](http://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: 8:00 am - 7:00 pm**

### Mass Schedule

Weekdays: 8 am / First Friday: 7:00 pm

Saturday: 8 am & 5 pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 12 pm & 7 pm

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

First Friday: 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Saturday: Following Morning Mass, ending at 9 am,  
and 3:30 - 4:30 pm

## Clergy Corner

Dear Family,

As we begin the Advent season, I feel inspired to write to you about the liturgy. Advent marks the beginning of a new season of the “liturgical calendar.” In coming weeks, I hope to highlight some fundamental points about the liturgy.

Why the liturgy; why now? Recently, Pope Leo met with attendees of a diocesan course on the liturgy. During that meeting, [he spoke to them](#) about the importance of the liturgy and his desire for pastoral workers to engage their people in liturgical formation, and to foster liturgies that are “sober in [their] solemnity.”

I also think the beginning of a new year (albeit a liturgical year) is a good time to discuss this because it causes us to take account of the many aspects of our lives and to reprioritize them. Some aspects demand more attention, while others demand less. So it is with our spiritual lives, it demands that we take constant inventory – what’s working, what’s not? If we look closely at the liturgy and the place this holds in our lives, what will we notice? If the liturgy is not the number one thing, I would argue, something is off. Why is this?

To quote the Second Vatican Council, the liturgy “*is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is the font from which all her power flows*” (*Sacrosanctum Concilium* no. 10). The liturgy is the source - the beginning - and the summit - the end goal - of all that we as Catholics do, and why? Because it is not so much something the Church does, but something God does. As the Second Vatican Council explained, “*the liturgy is considered as an exercise of the priestly office of Jesus Christ (SC 7)...From the liturgy, therefore, and especially from the Eucharist, as from a font, **grace is poured forth upon us; and the sanctification of men in Christ and the glorification of God, to which all other activities of the Church are directed as toward their end, is achieved in the most efficacious possible way***” (SC 10). The liturgy is our participation in God’s action, and by our participation in it, we encounter Him and are transformed.

If one wants to have a right understanding of, and appreciation for, the liturgy, we must understand this: the liturgy is the center of what we do as Catholics because it is essential to God’s plan. It is the reason why the Son of God was incarnate and born; why he died and rose. Some people say, “Jesus didn’t come to establish a church.” Nonsense. He most certainly did. Not only did He establish a Church, but He gave Her a liturgy, which we might summarize as our participation in the representation of His saving action of the Paschal Mystery. This is why the first document issued by the Second Vatican Council was the document on the Liturgy, the one quoted above, because as the Council Fathers sought to renew our self-understanding as a Church in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, they knew that the defining characteristic was not what we do for God, but what He did for us, and continues to do in the Church’s prayer, worship, liturgy.

This is why, for the past six years I have been at St. Joseph’s and the past three and a half or so at St. Barnabas, I have tried to move our liturgies to align more with the instructions of the Second Vatican Council. This means reinstituting essential elements to the liturgy, like Latin in our Advent and Lenten Mass settings, and even experimenting with alternative postures like *ad orientem* (when the priest faces the same direction as the people during the Eucharistic Prayer). All of this is at the service of what the Council referred to as “full, active, conscious participation” (cf. SC 14). As I have written before, this does not mean that everyone is meant to carry out some liturgical function or ministry like lector, but that each person, even if in the last pew of the church, is engaged in their priestly office, received at baptism. This means that we may not all voice the prayers of the priest, but we are nonetheless offering them with him.

The liturgy is awesome and I am always looking for ways to make it more sacred. If you come to St. Joseph during Advent, you will notice a new hymnal called “Source and Summit”, a title taken from that principle of the Second Vatican Council. The hymnal is meant to engage our priestly identity from a different angle, by offering hymnody that is “sober in its solemnity.” The hymnal also offers the antiphons that accompany Mass, something that was largely abandoned after Vatican II. Although you may not like all the hymns, my hope is that this new hymnal will lead you to understand, at least, my desire to offer you new ways to approach, admire, and participate in, the liturgy.

As we enter the Advent season, a season of joyful expectation for the coming of Christ, may you always find Him present in His Church’s liturgy.

With much love,  
Fr. Mario

## Upcoming Events



### The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Monday, December 8 Holy Day of Obligation

#### Mass Times:

St. Joseph: 8:00 am & \*7:00 pm (\*incense)  
St. Barnabas: 12:10 pm & \*6:30 pm (\*incense)

#### This Week at St. Joseph & St. Barnabas

- **December 1:** Men's Power Hour, Rosary at 6:00 pm/6:30 pm Lectio, Basilica
- **December 4:** 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>)
- **December 4:** Thursday Women's Rosary, 6:00 pm, Basilica
- **December 6:** St. Joseph Notre Dame High School's One Voice Concert, 7:30 pm, Basilica. All welcome!

#### Novena (Bi-lingual) to Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Joseph, December 3 - 11

##### Novena Schedule:

Dec 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10 & 11 at 7 pm, Basilic/or Grotto)  
Dec 6: following 5 pm Mass  
Dec 7 following 12 pm Mass

Please see flyer posted on Church doors/bulletin board for more details.



#### First Friday Devotion in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus December 5, Basilica

**Confession:** 5:30-6:30pm  
**Mass:** 7:00pm

ST. JOSEPH'S PANCAKE  
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA &  
CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE SALE/FUNdraiser  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, NOTRE DAME HALL  
AFTER THE THREE DAYTIME MASSES

(Hosted by St. Joseph Knights of  
Columbus. Free-will donation appreciated)



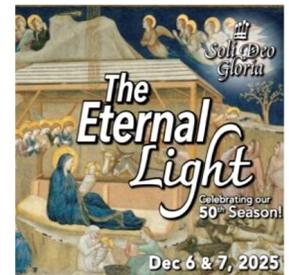
#### Soli Deo Gloria Concert

Sunday, December 7  
3:30 pm, Basilica

Embark on a musical journey through light and celebration with Soli Deo Gloria as we begin our 50th anniversary season. Derek Tam will conduct a concert of choral masterpieces that explore the spectrum of divine and human light.

From the jubilant grandeur of J.S. Bach's majestic Magnificat to the radiant peace and profound beauty of Morten Lauridsen's transcendent Lux Aeterna, welcome your holiday season with music that glories in eternal hope and joy. For ticket purchase, visit SDG's website:

<https://sdgloria.org/performances/>



#### Simbang Gabi "Dawn Masses" December 15 - 23 5:30 am, Basilica

At St. Joseph, we celebrate this special Simbang Gabi tradition with Mass at 5:30 am daily, with singing in Tagalog and traditional lanterns, or parol, lighting up the Church. All are invited to join our Filipino Community for the Masses, followed by hospitality in the Vestibule (weekdays) and Notre Dame Hall (weekends). If you would like to help in anyways - Mass set-up, food donations, etc, please contact Alma Olaguer, email: [olagueralma@yahoo.com](mailto:olagueralma@yahoo.com). For music, contact Alex Ramos: 510.708.9640 or [aramos94501@gmail.com](mailto:aramos94501@gmail.com).



**Mark Your Calendars:** Basilica Choir annual Christmas Concert will take place on Saturday, December 20 at 7:00 pm. All are welcome!

## Praying Together

### Devotions

**Daily Rosary:** St. Joseph, Monday - Saturday, 7:30 am

**Men's Power Hour:** St. Joseph, Mondays, 6:00 - 7:00 pm  
(Note: Rosary at 6:00 pm & Lectio at 6:30 pm)

**First Monday Eucharistic Adoration in Vietnamese**  
St. Joseph, 7:30 - 8:30 pm

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wednesdays**  
St. Joseph, following the 8:00 am Mass  
St. Barnabas, following the 12:10 pm Mass

**Women's Rosary:** St. Joseph, Thursdays, 6:00 - 6:30 pm

**First Friday Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus:**  
St. Barnabas, 11:30 am

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

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

**The Communal First Saturdays,** St. Joseph, 7:15 am

### Mass Intentions: St. Joseph

#### Saturday, November 29

8:00 am 1) Tony Aganus - Birthday  
2) +Dan Lydon  
5:00 pm Rosie Apura - Thanksgiving

#### Sunday, November 30

7:30 am +Avelina Ofreneo  
9:30 am 1) +Almos Phraner  
2) +Mailan Dao  
12:00 pm People of the Parish - Living & Deceased  
7:00 pm +Ramon Jimenez

#### Monday, December 1

8:00 am +Arlene L. Estigoy

#### Tuesday, December 2

8:00 am +Sally Gallagher

#### Wednesday, December 3

8:00 am +Willie & Florenda Polido

#### Thursday, December 4

8:00 am Belgica & Eusebio Families - Thanksgiving

#### Friday, December 5

8:00 am +Sebastian Baldassarre  
- Birthday Remembrance

#### Saturday, December 6

8:00 am In Reparation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary  
5:00 pm +Lorenzo Nucheli

#### Sunday, December 7

7:30 am +Norma De La Cruz  
9:30 am Victoriano Bautista Nabaza, Jr - Birthday  
12:00 pm Living & Deceased family members of  
Anderson & Lakey Families  
7:00 pm People of the Parish - Living & Deceased

**Missals for Advent-Lent, November 30, 2025 - March 28, 2026:** Limited copies for personal use are available for purchase at \$5.00 to cover printing costs, while stock last. You can buy them at the St. Joseph Rectory during office hours from Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4 pm. Please note that the office is closed for lunch from 1 pm to 2 pm.

Please Pray For The Sick & The Suffering In Our Communities

Romelita Bautista, Kwame Cunningham, Mary Butler, PJ Deschenes, Calito Franco, Chris Kapowich, Mario Lopez, Madeline Lontiong, Nory Antonette Reyes, Erica Rivard, Maureen Thomas, Ramon Edita Supremo, Normandy Tirona, Rina Tobis, Femy Visperas and Daniel Yañez.

**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](mailto:secretary@sjbalameda.org).

### 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

**Estate Plan up to date?** Please consider including a bequest to St. Joseph or St. Barnabas.

### Mass Intentions: St. Barnabas

#### Saturday, November 29

4:30 pm +Norma de la Cruz

#### Sunday, November 30

9:00 am People of the Parish  
11:00 am Carlos Ramon Maldonado

#### Monday, December 1

12:10 pm +Betritz Reynoso

#### Tuesday, December 2

12:10 pm Victoria Maldonado

#### Wednesday, December 3

12:10 pm +Deceased Members of De la Cruz Family

#### Thursday, December 4

12:10 pm +Roland Viray

#### Friday, December 5

12:10 pm Apostleship of Prayer

#### Saturday, December 6

4:30 pm Familia Maldonado

#### Sunday, December 7

9:00 am +Holy Souls of Purgatory  
11:00 am People of the Parish

## Other News

### Faith Formation – What's Up with the 9:30 Mass

Newcomers to the 9:30 Mass at the Basilica may be puzzled by the group processing out after the homily. This dismissal takes place every Sunday, whenever catechumens (unbaptized men, women and youth who have committed to full initiation in the Catholic Church) are present. They are “gently dismissed before the Eucharistic Celebration begins” (OCIA 75) to reflect with their catechists on their spiritual experience during the Liturgy of the Word. We normally offer two opportunities each year to enter the Catechumenate, which then takes at least 12 months to prepare for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. That is why you might notice some individuals no longer dismissed (if baptized that Easter Vigil) or new people join. The next Rite of Entrance into the Catechumenate is scheduled for February. Information at [www.sjbalameda.org/initiation](http://www.sjbalameda.org/initiation)

**Reminder:** If you have a picture of a loved one displayed in the Memorial Altar and have not pick it up last weekend, please pick it up outside the Rectory, in a box on the bench. Thank you.

## Parish Information

### Clergy Contacts:

**Rev. Mario Rizzo**, Parochial Administrator  
Phone: 510.995.9421 / email: [fmario@sjbalameda.org](mailto:fmario@sjbalameda.org)

**Rev. Kenneth Nobrega**, Parochial Vicar  
Phone: 510.995.9406 / email:  
[fatherkennethnobrega@icloud.com](mailto:fatherkennethnobrega@icloud.com)

### Staff Contacts

#### St. Joseph:

**Jimmy Jimenez-Garcia** - Pastoral Associate,  
510.994.0599 / email: [jjimenez@sjbalameda.org](mailto:jjimenez@sjbalameda.org)

**Anne Marie Fourre** - Director of Faith Formation,  
510.995.9409 / email: [afourre@sjbalameda.org](mailto:afourre@sjbalameda.org)

**Stan Schonberg** - Business Manager, 510.995.9411 /  
email: [business@sjbalameda.org](mailto:business@sjbalameda.org)

**Sherley Lim** – Parish Secretary, 510.995.9420 / email:  
[secretary@sjbalameda.org](mailto:secretary@sjbalameda.org)

**Dr. Cyril Deaconoff** - Music Director, 510.995.9403 /  
email: [cdeaconoff@sjbalameda.org](mailto:cdeaconoff@sjbalameda.org)

**Michael Chinnavaso** – 7:00pm Music Coordinator,  
[mchinnavaso@sjbalameda.org](mailto:mchinnavaso@sjbalameda.org)

#### St. Barnabas

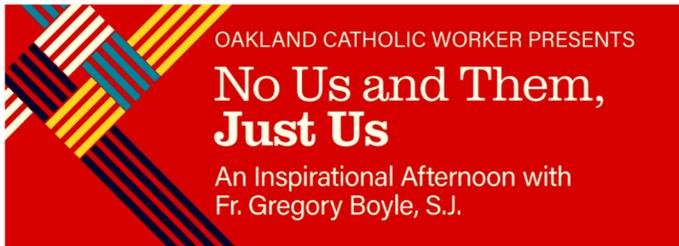
**Gloria Maldonado** - Parish Secretary, 510.995.9401 /  
email: [gmaldonado@sjbalameda.org](mailto:gmaldonado@sjbalameda.org)

**Agatha Leong** - Faith Formation, 510.748.9537 / email:  
[stbarnabasfaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:stbarnabasfaithformation@gmail.com)

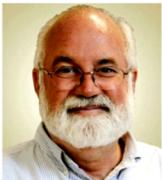
**Bernadette Baria** - Music Director, 510.522.8933

### St. Vincent de Paul Hotlines:

St. Barnabas: 510.995.9475 / St. Joseph: 510.995.9471



OAKLAND CATHOLIC WORKER PRESENTS  
**No Us and Them,  
Just Us**  
An Inspirational Afternoon with  
Fr. Gregory Boyle, S.J.



**Saturday, December 6, 2025 | 1 pm to 3 pm**  
Bishop O'Dowd High School, Knauss Gym | 9500 Stearns Avenue, Oakland

You are invited to a powerful and inspiring event hosted by **Oakland Catholic Worker** (OCW), a community-based nonprofit supporting immigrant families in the East Bay.

Our distinguished guest speaker, Fr. Gregory Boyle, S.J., is a best-selling author and the founder of Homeboy Industries, the world's largest gang rehabilitation and re-entry program based in Los Angeles.

Join us for a very special afternoon of hope and community as Fr. Boyle shares stories of compassion, transformation, and justice.

All proceeds and donations will benefit Oakland Catholic Worker and strengthen our ability to provide housing, food, and urgently needed community support services.

#### Reserve your ticket today!

Ticket: \$75 | Scan QR Code to purchase tickets or to make a donation.  
To pay by check, mail to: P.O. Box 19277, Oakland, CA 94619 (pick up tickets at check-in).  
Check in begins at 12:30 pm. Reception and refreshments immediately following.



#### ABOUT OAKLAND CATHOLIC WORKER

Oakland Catholic Worker (OCW) is a faith-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit in East Oakland that has supported immigrant families of all faiths since 1986. We provide transitional housing, comprehensive social services, advocacy, and a weekly large food security program. Rooted in the belief that every person has inherent worth, OCW fosters welcome, hope, and human dignity to empower immigrants on their path to self-sufficiency.  
[oaklandcatholicworker.org](http://oaklandcatholicworker.org) | Email: [info@oaklandcatholicworker.org](mailto:info@oaklandcatholicworker.org) | Tax ID: 94-3088087

**Note:** Due to early upload of bulletin, events are subject to changes. Possible changes will be updated on the Parish Facebook and E-news platforms.

### Phishing Scams!

We want to alert you that phishing scams targeting our parish members are



ongoing, particularly during the holidays. It's crucial for all parishioners to stay alert and informed. To empower yourself against these threats and prevent falling victim to fraud, we encourage you to visit the website shared by the Federal Trade Commission to learn more: <https://consumer.ftc.gov/consumer-alerts>

Please remember our Priests nor any staff member, will ever ask you for gift cards or request that you wire transfer money. Always be cautious when sharing personal information online or through email. If something feels off, don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office for clarification. Your safety is our priority!



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St. Joseph/St. Barnabs Alameda, CA

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