

**St. Joachim**  
*Catholic Church*



**Iglesia Católica**  
*de San Joaquín*

21250 Hesperian Blvd, Hayward, CA 94541 | 510-783-2766 | [www.stjoachim.net](http://www.stjoachim.net)

**December**  
**13,**  
**2020**

# Third Sunday of Advent



## MASS SCHEDULES

### Reconciliation

Saturday 3-4 PM, Wednesday 6-7 PM

### Reconciliación

Miércoles 6-7 PM, Sábado 3-4PM

**Masses** Currently we have outdoor masses in English on Sunday at 9:00 AM and in Spanish on Sunday at 2:00 PM

### Mass Schedule

We have livestream Masses Monday—Saturday at 10 AM and Sunday at 10:30 in English and Sunday in Spanish at 12:30 PM. Follow mass on Facebook or our webpage live. You can receive communion after the Sunday livestream masses by coming to the placita immediately after mass.

**United in faith and guided by the Holy Spirit**



### From the Pastor's Desk:

*Valesa – a Nightmare* is a docu-drama which was written in Poland under a pseudonym and then smuggled out of the country. It tells the story of political prisoners like Lech Walesa. Near the end of the play a prisoner priest, who usually

offers a solitary Mass, is joined by the rest of the prisoners at considerable risk to celebrate the Eucharist. At this moment, the play reaches a climax with the deafening scream of crows - a Polish symbol for the Communist military regime under General Jaruzelski. The cawing of the crows suddenly gives way to the soft chirping of spring birds and the comforting notes of a piano concerto - a symbol of the optimism of the Polish people that one day their quest for religious and political freedom will be realized. *Valesa – a Nightmare* shows how Christ can come into our lives even in the worst of circumstances. The Lord came to Lech Walesa in a Communist prison through Walesa's faith and prayers, through his Polish culture and pride, through his fellow political prisoners and through the Sacrament of Eucharist. [Albert Cylwicki in *His Word Resounds*]

[This is a little story from an Irish Lady]. I heard a knock at the door. Two children in ragged, outgrown coats got inside as I opened the door. "Any old papers, lady?" I was busy. I wanted to say no until I looked down at their feet. Thin little sandals, sopped with sleet. "Come in, and I'll make you a cup of hot cocoa." There was no conversation. Their soggy sandals left marks upon the hearthstone. I served them cocoa and toast with jam to fortify them against the chill outside. Then I went back to the kitchen and started again on my household budget.... The silence in the front room struck me. I looked in. The girl held the empty cup in her hands, looking at it. The boy asked in a flat voice, "Lady..., are you rich?" "Am I rich? Mercy, no!" I looked at my shabby slipcovers. The girl put her cup back in its saucer carefully. "Your cups match your saucers." Her voice was old, with a hunger that was not of the stomach. They left then, holding their bundles of papers against the wind. They hadn't said, "Thank you." They didn't need to. They had done more than that. They told me that my plain blue pottery cups and saucers matched. I boiled the potatoes and stirred the gravy. Potatoes and brown gravy, a roof over my head and my man with a good steady job: I was lucky. I moved the chairs back from the fire and tidied the living room. The muddy prints of small sandals were still wet upon the hearthstone. Were not they the foot prints of the Lord who visited me to intensify my joy by His presence? I let the prints remain. I wanted those footprints there in case I ever forget again how very rich I am.

The message in the first and the second reading is clear – "rejoice always" the Lord is near – and the Lord will surprise you because you will find him not in the comfortable and the easy – but rather in the ones who challenge us and wake us up as those children did. (HO)

**Nota de nuestro pastor:** Valesa - a Nightmare es un docu-drama que fue escrito en Polonia bajo un seudónimo y luego sacado de contrabando del país. Cuenta la historia de presos políticos como Lech Walesa. Cerca del final de la obra, un sacerdote preso, que suele ofrecer una misa en solitario, se une al resto de los presos con un riesgo considerable para celebrar la Eucaristía. En este momento, la obra alcanza su punto culminante con el grito ensordecedor de los cuervos, un símbolo polaco del régimen militar comunista del general Jaruzelski. El graznido de los cuervos da paso repentinamente al suave canto de los pájaros primaverales y a las reconfortantes notas de un concierto para piano, un símbolo del optimismo del pueblo polaco de que un día se hará realidad su búsqueda de la libertad religiosa y política. Valesa - a Nightmare muestra cómo Cristo puede entrar en nuestras vidas incluso en las peores circunstancias. El Señor vino a Lech Walesa en una prisión comunista a través de la fe y las oraciones de Walesa, a través de su cultura y orgullo polacos, a través de sus compañeros presos políticos y a través del Sacramento de la Eucaristía. [Albert Cylwicki en Su palabra resuena]

[Esta es una pequeña historia de una dama irlandesa]. Escuché un golpe en la puerta. Cuando abrí la puerta, entraron dos niños con abrigo andrajoso que ya no eran grandes. "¿Algún papel viejo, señora?" Estaba ocupado. Quería decir que no hasta que miré a sus pies. Sandalias finas, empapadas de aguanieve. "Entra y te prepararé una taza de chocolate caliente". No hubo conversación. Sus sandalias empapadas dejaron marcas en la piedra de la chimenea. Les serví cacao y tostadas con mermelada para fortalecerlos contra el frío del exterior. Luego volví a la cocina y comencé de nuevo con el presupuesto de mi hogar.... El silencio en la sala del frente me sorprendió. Miré dentro. La chica sostuvo la taza vacía en sus manos, mirándola. El niño preguntó con voz plana: "Señora ..., ¿es usted rica?" "¿Soy rico? ¡Dios mío, no! Miré mis fundas raídas. La niña volvió a poner su taza en su platillo con cuidado. "Tus tazas combinan con tus platillos". Su voz era vieja, con un hambre que no era del estómago. Entonces se fueron, sosteniendo sus paquetes de papeles contra el viento. No habían dicho "Gracias". No fue necesario. Habían hecho más que eso. Me dijeron que mis tazas y platillos de cerámica azul simple coincidían. Herví las patatas y removí la salsa. Patatas y salsa marrón, un techo sobre mi cabeza y mi hombre con un buen trabajo estable: tuve suerte. Aparté las sillas del fuego y ordené la sala de estar. Las huellas embarradas de pequeñas sandalias todavía estaban mojadas sobre la piedra de la chimenea. ¿No eran las huellas del Señor que me visitó para intensificar mi gozo con su presencia? Dejo que las huellas permanezcan. Quería esas huellas allí en caso de que alguna vez volviera a olvidar lo rico que soy.

El mensaje de la primera y la segunda lectura es claro - "alegraos siempre" el Señor está cerca - y el Señor te sorprenderá porque no lo encontrarás en los cómodos y fáciles, sino en los que nos desafían y despiertan. nosotros como lo hicieron esos niños. (HO)



## WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the Week  
of December 13, 2020

### Sun/Dom:

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54  
[Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

### Mon/Lunes:

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc,  
8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27

### Tues/Martes:

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19  
and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32

### Wed/Mier:

Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10,  
11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23

### Thurs/Juev:

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17  
[cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17

### Fri/Vier:

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/  
Mt 1:18-25

### Sat/Sab:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17  
[cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25

### Next Sun./Dom:

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5,  
27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

## THE WEEK AHEAD

Mass Schedule Our current  
schedule for masses is:

Sunday

9:00 English—mass in the parking lot

10:30 English indoor & live streamed

12:30 Spanish indoor & live streamed

2:00 Spanish—mass in the parking lot

Sign up for flocknote to be among  
the first to know when our mass  
schedules change - it is quick an  
easy to stay up-to-date with all the  
latest information

## OFFICE INFORMATION

### Parish Office

783-2766

### Parish Fax

783-2760

### Parish Email

office@saintjoachim.net

### Parish Office Hours

Mon- day-Friday 10 AM-7:30

PM

Bi-

ble

7:30 PM

Saturday 10 AM-

4 PM

Bilingual available 10 AM-4 PM

Sunday 12 PM -4 PM

Bilingual available 12 PM-4 PM

### Rev. Joseph Antony Sebastian, SVD

Pastor

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday

10 AM to 12 PM

5 PM to 8 PM (with appointment)

lunes, martes, miércoles, y viernes

10 AM a 12 PM

5 PM a 8 PM (con cita)

### Rev. Ricardo Gonzalez, SVD

Parochial Vicar

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

5 PM a 8 PM (with appointment)

lunes, miércoles, jueves y viernes

10:00 AM a 12:00 PM

5 PM a 8 PM (con cita)

### Ariel Mayormita

Music Director/Director de Música

Phone Ext. #223

amayormita@aol.com

### Flor Herce

Bookkeeper

### Pat Ludwig

Administrative Assistant



### St. Vincent de Paul

783-0344

### Office hours

1:00-2:30 PM ONLY

Monday-Friday

### San Vicente de Paul

Gary Enos, President

### Faith Formation Office

Oficina de Formación de Fe

785-1818

### St. Joachim School

Escuela de San Joaquín

783-3177

### Armond Seishas

Principal

### Sandra Garzon

School Secretary

### St. Joachim Pre-School

783-0604

### Marisa Melgarejo

Director





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### PRAY FOR

Edgar DeLos Angeles  
Debbie Eberly  
Julia-Marie Eberly  
Mike Talbot  
Kelsey Codilla  
Cynthia Crutchfield  
Arsenio M. Reyes Sr.  
Ruben & Altagracia Perez  
Jerome Aguiar  
Jennie Harling  
Ivan Benin  
Melanie Fabio  
Jennifer Bliss  
Angie Bubon  
Nelia Esguerra  
Herminigilda Manuel  
Rodelio Manuel  
Florencio Rodriguez

### DONATIONS

**St Vincent de Paul**  
offering for next week:

Canned vegetables  
or rice

*verduras enlatadas o arroz*

Donations are very much appreciated—but please no expired food. ~ Thank You

### CONTRIBUTIONS CONTRIBUCIONES

#### COLLECTION FOR WEEK

Nov 30—Dec 6

The Plate Collection

**\$ 3,508.00**

EFT Collection

**\$ 65.00**

On line Collection

**\$ 1,945.00**

**Total**

**\$5,518.00**

## VATICAN CORNER

At the Sunday  
Angelus prayer in St.

Peter's Square on Dec.6, 2020, Pope Francis said there is no pandemic or crisis that can turn off the light of Christmas. Referencing the Vatican's recently erected Christmas tree and the Nativity Scene that is soon to be assembled, he said "they are symbols, or signs of hope, especially during this difficult time", and he invited Christians not to stop at the symbols, but to go beyond and understand their meaning: "Jesus, the love of God, who was revealed to us to reach that goodness which has been poured out on the world." He said let us allow the light of Christmas to enter into our hearts and reach out toward those who are most in need. "God will once again be born in us and in our midst." This year's Vatican Christmas tree was donated by the city of Kocevje located in southeast Slovenia and it is a 92 foot high Norway spruce. The tree is from a region that takes special care of the environment and where forests make up 90 percent of the land. It is also the home of the tallest spruce tree in Europe which is 203 feet tall and 300 years old. The tree will be decorated with handmade Slovenian ethnographic ornaments. Pope John Paul II began the tradition of displaying a Christmas tree at the Vatican in 1982. The nativity set will consist of larger than life-size contemporary ceramic statutes made by teachers and alumni of an art institute in the Italian region of Abruzzo in the 1960s and 1970s. That region has been famous since the 16th century for its ceramic sculptures. The figures are similar to ancient Sumerian and Greek art and are cylindrical because they are formed by overlapping rings. The Director of the Slovenian Government Communications Office said that the tree and the sculptures are an excellent opportunity to enhance Slovenia's recognition in the world and to present the region as a green country. Only a few of the fragile 54 piece collection will be displayed in St. Peter's Square; Mary, Joseph, Jesus the Child, the three Magi and an angel. Vatican officials said that "setting up of the traditional space dedicated to Christmas in St. Peter's Square aims to be a sign of hope and faith for the whole world." This year's Christmas Masses will be celebrated by Pope Francis at St. Peter's Basilica before a very small group, but will be transmitted live from the Vatican News website.



Sources: [vaticannews.va](http://vaticannews.va), [catholicnewsagency.com](http://catholicnewsagency.com), [aleteia.org](http://aleteia.org), [gov.si](http://gov.si)

"Please prayerfully consider giving to our parish community online as it does benefit our parish in many important ways."



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### In these most difficult times your Church still needs your financial assistance.

There are a few easy ways to do that:

1. ~~Mail your donation to the Rectory office
2. ~~Drop your donation in the mail slot near the front Rectory door
3. ~~Donate on line — the easy way . Go to our website [saintjoachim.net](http://saintjoachim.net) , in the upper right corner of the home page of the page click on donate/pay, select weekly/monthly donation and complete the form. It is easy to update and change as you want to. If you need assistance with this call the office and leave your name and phone and we will call you back and assist you. *We understand these hard times and appreciate you helping the church.*



## MASS INTENTIONS

December 12-19, 2020

following are the original  
mass time requests

### Saturday 4:30 PM

The Community of St. Joachim

### Saturday 6:00 PM

Maria Rojas (*salud*)

### Sunday 7:30 AM

Lucia Kim (*thanksgiving*)

Lucia Joo (*thanksgiving*)

### Sunday 9:00 AM

Arielle Lucille Garcia (*birthday*)

Anna's Ancestors †

David A. Tayco †

Ramon G. Garcia †

### Sunday 10:30 AM

Talaue Family (*thanksgiving*)

Jose & Jolyn Montes (*thanksgiving*)

Melencia Ludovice †

Jerry Aquino Sr. †

### Sunday 12:15 PM

Mark Delos Angeles (*birthday*)

Tom Martinez (*thanksgiving*)

Florencio Marquez † (*anniversary*)

### Sunday 2:00 PM

Francisco & Lupita Estrada (*aniveresario*)

Miembros de la familia Cruz

(*intencion especial*)

Paula & David Cruz †

Roberto Veneges †

Martin Napoles Zaragoza †

Juana Hernandez Barajas †

### Sunday 6:00 PM

John Stuart †

### Monday 10:00 AM

Tom Martinez (*thanksgiving*)

Faustino P. Juan Jr. (*thanksgiving*)

### Tuesday 10:00 AM

Rio Cuayzon (*birthday*)

Tom Martinez (*thanksgiving*)

Raymond Santos (*thanksgiving*)

Socorro Garcia (*special intention*)

### Wednesday 10:00 AM

Tom Martinez (*thanksgiving*)

Joshua Kevin Estavillo †

### Thursday 10:00 AM

John Paul Diaz (*birthday*)

Tom Martinez (*thanksgiving*)

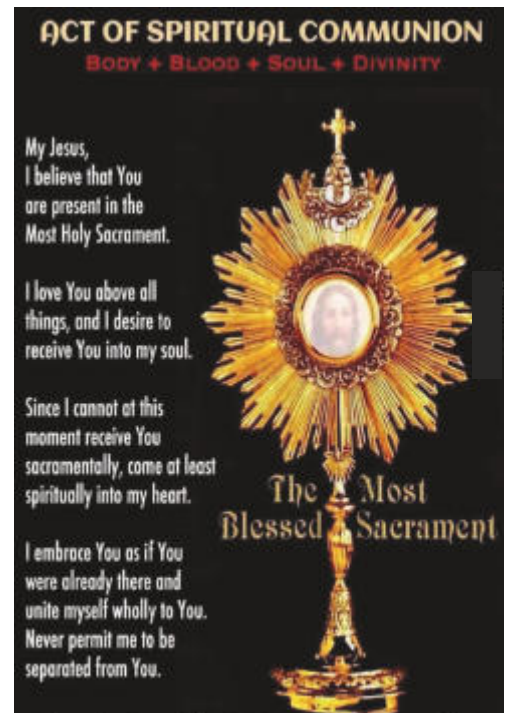
Joe S. Arellano †

### Friday 10:00 AM

Tom Martinez (*thanksgiving*)

### Saturday 10:00 AM

Tom Martinez (*thanksgiving*)



Did you know that our Priests both say a private mass (just by themselves) everyday while our shelter in place is on and limited Public Masses may be said.

Our Priest mention the names of all of those with Mass intentions on that day at their Mass, so if you have a mass intention on a day that there are no public masses your intention is mentioned at each of their masses.

If you would like to do a mass intention while the office is closed the easiest way is to do it online on our parish website [saintjoachim.net](http://saintjoachim.net) / Select the Donate/Pay in the upper right hand corner and then select mass intentions , put all your payment information in and in the comment section please put a date and time of the mass you would like your intention read at. Even though right now those mass times do not exist we would like to know which mass would be your preference. Intentions must be in by noon the day before except for the weekend masses - those must be submitted by noon on Friday. You can still drop mass intentions in the Rectory mail slot or in the mail but these must be a minimum of one week in advance since we are not in the office on a regular basis now. If you have questions about this process, please call the Rectory Office and someone will return your call.





## Celebrating Simbang Gabi, Aguinaldo Mass, Misa de Gallo

@ St. Joachim Church

by: Ariel Mayormita

Every year, from December 16 to 24 (for others, December 15 to 23), churches and chapels teem with people from all walks of life for a pious exercise that has become so popular among Filipino Catholics all over the world. This is a form of popular piety that is known as “Aguinaldo Masses” and is commonly called “Simbang Gabi” or “Misa de Gallo”. This is a novena in preparation for the commemoration of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior. This Filipino religious custom originated in Europe brought to the Philippine islands by the Spanish conquistadores in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, who brought the Catholic faith to the Philippines.

The “Aguinaldo Masses” were recognized by Pope Sixtus the V in the 16<sup>th</sup> century when he granted a plenary indulgence to those who participated in it. “Aguinaldo” is a Spanish word which means “Christmas gift”. The Catholic faithful offer to God nine (9) Masses as a gift on the occasion of the Birth of Jesus Christ as the whole Church rejoices at receiving from God, the gift of His Son. Because, these Masses are celebrated before daybreak or at dawn, “Aguinaldo Masses” are also called “Misa de Gallo” (gallo: Spanish word for rooster) and since these Masses are celebrated before the sun rises; when it is still dark, they are also referred to as “Simbang Gabi” or “Mass at Night”.

Filipinos around the world especially here in the United States brought this religious tradition into their parishes as their “Aguinaldo” or “religious gift” to their new community. At present, Simbang Gabi is considered one of the common celebrations during Advent and is participated in by different cultural and generational groups in the parishes.

Here at St. Joachim Church, Simbang Gabi has been celebrated for 20 years and counting. This year of pandemic, we will do this completely virtual with no physical gathering.

On December 16<sup>th</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup>, we will wake up in the morning at 5AM and prepare to attend the livestreamed Mass at 5:30AM through **Facebook (Saint Joachim Catholic Church)** or through our church’s **website: [saintjoachim.net](http://saintjoachim.net)**. You may also want to join singing Christmas carol at 5:20AM before the Mass. After the mass, prepare your coffee and your sweet bread and eat breakfast with your loved ones in the comfort of your homes. This will be our grand celebration of Simbang Gabi this year.

We will also keep the tradition of offering our special “Aguinaldo” or “gift” to God for all the graces our families have received throughout the year or for a special petition. This “Aguinaldo” comes in the form of sacrifices for waking up in the morning and participating in the masses, or monetary offerings by being a Hermano/Hermana or Mass Sponsors. The money collected will be used to sustain the different ministries in our church especially during this time of pandemic when our church funds are running low.

The Filipino-American Ministry of St. Joachim Church is the lead organization of the Simbang Gabi celebration. We encourage each family in our parish to be a sponsor (Hermano/Hermana) for a Mass as our “gift/present” to God for all the blessings we have received from his bounty: our life, our health and our family. **Please contact Ariel Mayormita at 510-5897555 leave your name and contact information for more details.**

**“Maligayang Pasko at Masaganang Bagong Taon Sa Inyong Lahat!  
Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to All!”**



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