

FIRST READING

We have sinned in complaining against the Lord.

Numbers 21: 4-9

PSALM

But He, being merciful, forgave their sins.

Psalms 78

SECOND READING

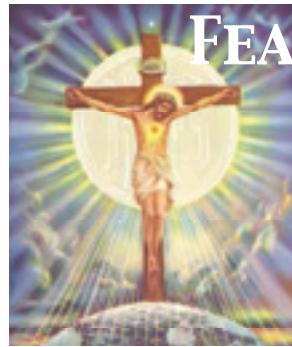
Because of this, God greatly exalted Him.

Philippians 2: 6-11

GOSPEL

God so loved the world that He gave His only Son.

John 3: 13-17



FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

14 SEPTEMBER 2008

God did not send His Son into the world to condemn it, but that the world might be saved through Him.

John 3: 17

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS WEEK OF 14-20 SEP

SAT	05:00 PM	Priest's intentions
SUN	Masses	Priest's intentions
MON	07:30 AM	† James Alloro
	05:30 PM	† Russell Jones
TUE	07:30 AM	Sarah Masuhara
	05:30 PM	† Joseph Ferrando
WED	07:30 AM	† Ed Tuite
	05:30 PM	† Suzanne Walsh
THU	07:30 AM	Pat Reynolds
	12:00 PM	The Thursday Group
	05:30 PM	† Ursula Sullivan
FRI	07:30 AM	† Aveliano Hidalgo
	05:30 PM	Benefactors of the parish
SAT	08:00 AM	† Jean Perry

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

MON-FRI	07:10 AM	Morning Prayer
MON-FRI	05:10 PM	Evening Prayer
SAT	07:40 AM	Morning Prayer
14 SEP	(Sunday)	
	07:30 PM	Holy Hour
15 SEP	(Monday)	
	09:00 AM	Bible Group
	07:30 PM	Legion of Mary
	07:30 PM	RCIA
16 SEP	(Tuesday)	
	09:30 AM	Bible Study: Acts
	06:00 PM	Cenacles of Life Rosary
	07:30 PM	Bible Study: Acts
17 SEP	(Wednesday)	
	01:00 PM	Infant of Prague Society
	07:30 PM	Opus Dei Men's Group
18 SEP	(Thursday)	
	11:00 AM	The Thursday Group
	06:00 PM	Perpetual Help Novena
19 SEP	(Friday)	
	10:30 AM	Book Club
20 SEP	(Saturday)	
	10:00 AM -	Confessions
	12:00 PM	(Opus Dei priest)
	03:30 PM -	Confessions
	04:30 PM	(parish priest)

2nd



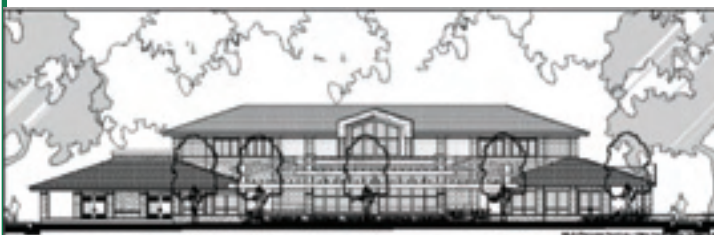
SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a **second collection** at all Masses next week for the **Priests' Retirement Fund**.



NATIVITY PARISH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PHASE I

MULTI-PURPOSE PAVILION AND KINDERGARTEN



FUNDING TO DATE: \$7.18M

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS REMINDER

Deadline for item submissions is **12:00 noon Friday** by email to nativity.bulletin@gmail.com, for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin 9 days later (e.g., due **19 Sep** to run **27-28 Sep**).



PARISH OFFERINGS

WEEK OF
30-31 AUG

TOTAL:	\$	9,946
Annual Appeal Progress:	\$	35,170
2008 Annual Appeal Goal:	\$	109,500

SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

15 SEP (Monday): OUR LADY OF SORROWS

A feast in honor of the *Mater Dolorosa* (Mother of Sorrows) was granted to the **Servite** order in 1667, and Pope Pius VII placed it on the Roman calendar of saints (third Sunday of September). Pope Pius X moved the feast to the current date of 15 September. The **Seven Sorrows of Mary** are events in the life of the Blessed Virgin which are a popular devotion and are frequently depicted in art: (1) the prophecy of Simeon over the Infant Jesus, (2) the flight into Egypt, (3) the loss of Jesus for three days, (4) the meeting of Jesus and Mary along the Way of the Cross, (5) the Crucifixion, (6) the descent from the cross, and (7) the burial of Jesus.



16 SEP (Tuesday): SAINT CORNELIUS, Pope and Martyr, and SAINT CYPRIAN, Bishop and Martyr

Cornelius was the 21st pope, elected during a time when persecutions were so bad that papal ascension was a quick death sentence. He worked to maintain unity in a time of schism and apostasy. He called a synod of bishops to confirm him as rightful pontiff. Among his supporters was **St. Cyprian**.

17 SEP (Wednesday): THE SACRED STIGMATA OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI



18 SEP (Thursday): SAINT JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO, Priest (1603-1663)

Joseph is remembered for his ability to levitate while in prayer. This became a sort of cross for Joseph and his order, as many people would come to “spectate”. This gift made him humble, patient, and obedient.

19 SEP (Friday): SAINT FRANCIS MARY CROESE OF CAMPOROSSO, Priest (1804-1866)

20 SEP (Saturday): SAINTS ANDREW KIM TAEGON, Priest and Martyr, PAUL CHONG HASANG, Martyr, and Their Companions, Martyrs

During an outbreak of persecution that occurred in **Korea** in **1839**, **1846**, and **1867**, some 103 members of the Korean Christian community gave their lives as martyrs. Pope John Paul II, during his trip to Korea, canonized these martyrs on **06 May 1984**.

PRAY THE ROSARY

Observe this special devotion to our Blessed Mother as often as you can. *“I am the Lady of the Rosary, I have come to warn the faithful to amend their lives and ask for pardon for their sins. They must not offend Our Lord any more, for He is already too grievously offended by the sins of men. People must say the rosary. Let them continue saying it every day.”*

--Our Blessed Mother to Lucia at Fatima
13 October 1917

MINISTRY AND GROUP NEWS

INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE SOCIETY

The group meets on the **17th** of each month (this Wednesday!) to begin a novena, in the Church at the statue of the Infant. If you have any questions please call **Anne Delaney, SFO** at **650/323-9333**.

ALTAR SERVER NEWS

Training for new altar servers will take place on **23-25 September 2008**, in the church from **03:00-04:00 PM**. If you are already an altar server and would like to brush up on your skills you are welcome also. Applications are available in the vestibule of the church or at www.nativitystars.com/contact.html. If you have any questions please call **Fr. Roland** at **650/323-7914**.

FATIMA CELEBRATION

On **Monday, 13 October 2008**, we will hold our final monthly Fatima celebration for this year. It begins with Holy Mass at **07:30 PM**, followed by a talk on the appearance, rosary procession, and Eucharistic healing service. Please join us. For questions, contact **Deacon Dominick** or **Mary Ellen Peloso** at **650/322-3013**.



NATIVITY BOOK CLUB

The **Nativity Book Club** will meet on **Friday, 19 September 2008** in the **O’Hare Center**, from **10:00-11:30 AM**. The book we will be discussing is *When Bad Things Happen To Good People* by Harold S. Kushner. Any questions, please call **Bart Phelps** at **650/854-7526** or **Cathy Enciso** at **650/854-8915**.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Please come to visit our Lord during the week, as the church is open 24x7 and He awaits you. Also, everyone is encouraged to sign up for one hour. This will ensure your weekly meeting with Jesus. You may sign up for any hour. Please consider the following hours which currently have no one assigned:

MON: 12:00 AM (midnight) - 01:00 AM

TUE: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

WED: 06:00 PM - 07:00 PM

FRI: 02:00 PM - 03:00 PM

SAT: 09:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Please call **650/322-3013** for more information or to sign up.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR PARISH FAMILY

We congratulate



• **Larry Quinn and Paula Smith**
on their recent marriage at Nativity. May this couple grow in grace, aided by the prayerful support of their parish family.

BAKE SALE

On **13-14 September 2008** the **Sisters Fraternite Notre Dame** will once again be here to sell their delicious cakes and cookies.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Our beautiful and much beloved old stained glass windows are in need of restoration. The Parish Finance Council has approved this project, which will commence in September with the *Sacred Heart* window and take approximately five years to complete. The restoration cost of the *Sacred Heart*, *Blessed Mother* and rose windows is \$20,000 each. Donors have already come forward with the funds for the rose window, the Sacred Heart and Blessed Mother windows. Other windows range from \$2000 to \$6,000 each. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$160,000. Appropriate acknowledgements will be made for those underwriting the full cost of a window. If you are interested in making a financial contribution to this effort please contact **Msgr. Otellini, 650/323-7914.**

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Checks for all second collections should be made out to the **Church of the Nativity**. In the memo line write what the appropriate reference for your donation, for example: *Priests' Retirement Fund*. Next weekend there will be a second collection for the **Priests' Retirement Fund**. The money from this collection stays in this archdiocese and is used to help our retired priests, like our own Fr. Davenport, who have served our community so faithfully and so well for so many years. Please be generous.

SAINTS, STIGMATICS, AND OUR SAVIOUR

Many of the saints not only welcomed the Child Jesus into their hearts, but embraced the Crucified Lord. Some of these saints were also imprinted by the marks of Our Savior's Passion. On **17 September 2008**, the Feast of the **Stigmata of Saint Francis** is celebrated by the Franciscan Order. **St. Catherine of Siena** (Dominican) received the grace of the invisible stigmata. **St. Gemma Galgani** (Passionist) received wounds at intervals. The **Infant Jesus of Prague Society** will meet on **17 September 2008, Wednesday**, at **01:00 PM** before the Infant shrine, for our litany, prayer intentions, and novena. To bring us closer to this century, we shall learn about **Saint Padre Pio's** heavenly experience of "Santo Bambino" resting in his arms, and **Saint Therese of Lisieux's** deep devotion for "L'infant Jesus."

IN THE COMMUNITY

FORMING CONSCIENCES FOR FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

The Archdiocese of San Francisco invites you to a Faithful Citizenship Workshop, for a discussion about *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, a compelling document prepared by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Workshops will be held from **07:00-08:30 PM** in the following locations:

24 September 2008: St. Bartholomew's Auditorium (San Mateo)

25 September 2008: St. Sebastian's Hall (Marin)

26 September 2008: Holy Name of Jesus Hall (San Francisco)

For more information: **415/614-5570,**

www.sflifeandjustice.org,

publicpolicy@sfarchdiocese.org.

HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE

Experience a fresh anointing at the **Holy Spirit Conference, 19-21 September 2008** at **Archbishop Riordan High School**, 175 Phelan Ave. San Francisco. There will be a Mass and healing service on **Friday** at **07:00 PM** (no charge). On **Saturday** and **Sunday** the doors open at **08:00 AM**. Speakers include Bishop Mylo Vergara, Fr. Lou Cerulli, Fr. James Tarantino, and Carolyn Suty. Conference fee schedule: **\$25** (Friday), **\$35/day** (Sat/Sun), **\$10** (youth), **\$6** (hot lunch). For further information contact **Ernie** at **415/664-7729**, (information in Spanish: **415/297-1709**; youth information: **415/350-8677**).

WOMENS CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE STUDY

Come join women from parishes around the Bay Area for our upcoming study based on the text *Understanding the Scriptures: A Complete Course in Bible Study* by Scott Hahn. The format includes individual home study and small group discussions. We meet at **St. Marks** parish in Belmont on **Thursdays, 10:00-11:45 AM**, beginning **11 September 2008** through **28 May 2009** (with holiday breaks). For more information, visit www.cssbelmont.com or contact **Christine Fenwick** at **650/573-7942** (cssbelmont@gmail.com).

BE A HERO!

Be a hero and help a child beat cancer! Whether you're a runner or a walker, you can join the **St. Jude Heroes** team and cross the Golden Gate Bridge in the US Half Marathon on **02 November 2008**. To register or for more information, please call **800/701-4443** or visit www.stjudeheroes.org.

ICA GALA DINNER

Immaculate Conception Academy is celebrating **125 years** of educating young women by hosting our **First Annual Gala Dinner** on **04 October 2008**. Graduates, alumnae and family, along with all friends of the Academy, are invited to celebrate our history and an exciting new direction ICA will be taking in the future. You won't want to miss this night. For more information, please contact **Patricia Cavagnaro** at **415/824-2052, x31** or email at pcavagnaro@icacademy.org.

Pregnant? Need Help? Please contact the **Juan Diego Society** at **408/258-2008** or the **Gabriel Project** at **800/910-0191**.

You are never too far gone for the Father's forgiveness and grace.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2008
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA



THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

Each month **His Holiness Benedict XVI** asks for general and missionary prayer intentions. For **September 2008**, the Holy Father's prayer intentions are:

General: That those who are forced to leave home and country because of war or oppressive regimes may be supported by Christians in the defense and protection of their rights.

Missionary: That faithful to the sacrament of matrimony every Christian family may cultivate the values of love and communion in order to be a small evangelizing community, sensitive and open to the material and spiritual needs of others.



We are continuing to publish the text of the
ENCYCLICAL LETTER **SPE SALVI (SAVED BY HOPE)** OF THE SUPREME PONTIFF *BENEDICT XVI*

III. Judgement as a setting for learning and practising hope (cont'd.)

44. (cont'd.) In the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (cf. Lk 16:19-31), Jesus admonishes us through the image of a soul destroyed by arrogance and opulence, who has created an impassable chasm between himself and the poor man; the chasm of being trapped within material pleasures; the chasm of forgetting the other, of incapacity to love, which then becomes a burning and unquenchable thirst. We must note that in this parable Jesus is not referring to the final destiny after the Last Judgement, but is taking up a notion found, inter alia, in early Judaism, namely that of an intermediate state between death and resurrection, a state in which the final sentence is yet to be pronounced.

45. This early Jewish idea of an intermediate state includes the view that these souls are not simply in a sort of temporary custody but, as the parable of the rich man illustrates, are already being punished or are experiencing a provisional form of bliss. There is also the idea that this state can involve purification and healing which mature the soul for communion with God. The early Church took up these concepts, and in the Western Church they gradually developed into the doctrine of Purgatory. We do not need to examine here the complex historical paths of this development; it is enough to ask what it actually means. With death, our life-choice becomes definitive—our life stands before the judge. Our choice, which in the course of an entire life takes on a certain shape, can have a variety of forms. There can be people who have totally destroyed their desire for truth and readiness to love, people for whom everything has become a lie, people who have lived for hatred and have suppressed all love within themselves. This is a terrifying thought, but alarming profiles of this type can be seen in certain figures of our own history. In such people all would be beyond remedy and the destruction of good would be irrevocable: this is what we mean by the word Hell[37]. On the other hand there can be people who are utterly pure, completely permeated by God, and thus fully open to their neighbours—people for whom communion with God even now gives direction to their entire being and whose journey towards God only brings to fulfilment what they already are[38].

46. Yet we know from experience that neither case is normal in human life. For the great majority of people—we may suppose—there remains in the depths of their being an ultimate interior openness to truth, to love, to God. In the concrete choices of life, however, it is covered over by ever new compromises with evil—much filth covers purity, but the thirst for purity remains and it still constantly re-emerges from all that is base and remains present in the soul. What happens to such individuals when they appear before the Judge? Will all the impurity they have amassed through life suddenly cease to matter? What else might occur? Saint Paul, in his First Letter to the Corinthians, gives us an idea of the differing impact of God's judgement according to each person's particular circumstances. He does this using images which in some way try to express the invisible, without it being possible for us to conceptualize these images—simply because we can neither see into the world beyond death nor do we have any experience of it.

(continued next week)



The **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops** (USCCB) invites U.S. Catholics to pray before the November election a novena for life, justice, and peace called **Novena for Faithful Citizenship**. It is a podcast and available for download: (www.faithfulcitizenship.org/resources/podcasts)

DISCUSSING FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

The **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops** has posted on www.faithfulcitizenship.org a series of articles by USCCB experts on issues pertinent to the November elections. Articles are in both English and Spanish. Topics include Immigration, Voting by Conscience, the Environment, Poverty, Iraq, Stem Cells, Gay Marriage, Abortion, Health Care and Economic Policy.

Please also see the schedule of **workshops** on **faithful citizenship** in the *In the Community* section of this bulletin.



OTHER RESOURCES

www.ewtn.com/vote

PRAYER AND FASTING FOR PROPOSITIONS 4 AND 8

In November, Californians will be going to the polls to decide critical moral issues for the state: **Prop. 4** establishes a waiting period and parental notification for a minor seeking to obtain an abortion and **Prop. 8** would solidify in the California Constitution the definition of marriage as between one man and one woman. Nativity invites you to participate in prayer and fasting. As to prayer, first we would ask that everyone say a **54-Day Rosary Novena** for their passage. This daily rosary would begin on **12 September** and end on **03 November**. The first 27 days are said in petition, and the second 27 in thanksgiving for hearing our request. Secondly, on **Sunday, 05 October**, we will be saying the **2,000 Hail Mary Prayer**: 2,000 Hail Mary's along with meditations and petitions will be said in church beginning at **01:30 PM** and ending about **10:00 PM** (with a break for 05:00 PM Mass). Please join us for all or even just part of the prayer. Finally, we should all give up something we enjoy (a certain food, TV, etc.) until 03 November for this intention. *"Fasting adds wings to our prayer."* Even a small sacrifice can make a big difference. Let us join with our bishops to work for passage of these two important propositions. For any questions about this, call **Deacon Dominick** or **Mary Ellen Peloso** at **650/322-3013**.

Young Believers

FIND-A-WORD

Can you locate all these words in the square full of letters?

SERPENT	STAFF
COMPLAIN	MERCIFUL
HUMBLE	OBEDIENT
EXALT	LOVE
WORLD	PERISH
ETERNAL	SAVED

Q	S	E	R	P	E	N	T	A	J
N	S	E	R	V	E	N	O	N	E
I	M	G	O	D	E	V	A	S	S
A	H	U	M	I	N	X	Z	T	U
L	U	X	D	E	O	E	A	W	S
P	M	E	R	C	I	F	U	L	L
M	B	E	G	D	F	A	L	W	T
O	L	V	E	L	V	E	V	O	L
C	E	R	E	P	H	I	M	R	W
S	T	P	E	R	I	S	H	L	R
E	T	E	R	N	A	L	W	D	Z

(Just like in our lives, JESUS is always there, too.)

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross celebrates the finding of the True Cross by St. Helena (mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine) in 325, while on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Help her bring the True Cross to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which was dedicated on this day in 335.

