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Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament

1019 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 * 916-444-3071

Christmas



“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.”

~John 1:14~

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

Welcome to our lowly stable here at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.

We know that this is a very important time to understand more clearly the birth of Jesus and how His presence and love might bring peace into your hearts and into your homes. Like Mary and Joseph, you have traveled some distance seeking a place of comfort. May you feel the welcoming hand of God as we worship together to honor the Christ Child.



Although our Cathedral is quite grand and filled with sacred images, it is the people, of course, that truly make it a Church. As each one of us comes to adore the Light in the Manger, the Church Herself shines more brightly. In addition, the large number of faithful during the Christmas season helps us to appreciate the important role we play as the Mother Church of the Diocese of Sacramento as well as a significant spiritual presence in downtown. We encourage all those who are visiting for the first time to take our tour or learn more about us and our restoration on our website.



Although during Christmas we can be quite busy, we do encourage everyone to maintain a spirit of respect.

Our homes will always be the most powerful sign of the Church. We thank God for all the homes that make up the Diocese of Sacramento, and we pray for all people on our streets seeking comfort and stability. Some of the least of our brothers and sisters make their home right here around the Cathedral. Although God can dignify a stable as well as a cardboard box, neither reflects the true blessing of being a Child of God. As you ponder what gifts you are able to offer back to God, please keep our downtown homeless in your prayers. And this year, especially keep the victims of the Paradise fire in your prayers. Consider making a financial gift to our social service ministry to help strengthen the embrace of God and His Church.



May you have a very Blessed Christmas season and peace in the New Year.



Fr. Michael O'Reilly, Pastor





Luke began his Christmas narrative with the great and powerful Caesar Augustus proclaiming a decree that the whole world should be enrolled. This became the motive for Joseph to take Mary, who was with child, and journey to Bethlehem because he was of the house of David. During those days in Bethlehem the child Jesus was born and laid in a manger.

The seeming paradox between the edict of Rome and the humble child nestled in the straw of a rustic manger proposes not a contrast but an unexpected similarity. Jesus, the humble shepherd king, had come to enroll all the people in his kingdom of mercy and peace.

Joseph and his family would be counted among the subjects of the Emperor but Jesus would begin to count the people of all the nations among the children of God. On that First Noel, the shepherds were summoned by angels to the manger in Bethlehem so they could be the first to be counted.

The heavenly edict has resounded through the ages. On this Christmas, along the Sacramento River, we have come, having heard the timeless echo of the heavenly hosts beckoning us to worship the wonder of radiant beams from the holy face of Jesus, the face of mercy, the dawn of redeeming grace.

Joseph and Mary complied with the temporal edict not knowing what would be the consequences of the Roman census. More taxes, more soldiers, more oppression? We come because our heavenly Father does not wish that anyone should perish but that all should come to repentance. (II Peter 3.9) Jesus assured us when he prayed to His Father on the night before he died, May they "all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me." (Jn. 17.21)

There are so many in our own time, whom the world does not count. They seem not to matter. Pope Francis has lamented a throw-away society that discounts the unneeded, unwanted, or unworthy; the unborn, the unemployed, the unhoused, the uninsured, and the undocumented. Jesus counts them and counts on us to bring to them to Bethlehem where they can encounter Christ in His manger of mercy. A blessed and merry Christmas to you and yours.



Bishop Jaime Soto



CATHEDRAL MINISTRIES

Altarservers	Michael Ognisty, mfognisty@msn.com.
Benedictus Youth Group	Victoria Ramos, benedictusy@gmail.com
Brown Bag Lunch Ministry	Jerri Rush, jerrirush@comcast.net
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd	for ages 3+, for information, visit youngsheep.org, or call 916-910-3435 saccathedralacts.org
Cathedral A.C.T.S.	Bob Meyers, cynm1@yahoo.com
Cathedral Men's Group	contact the rectory office
Cathedral Saint Vincent de Paul	Titi Kila, cathedralya@gmail.com
Cathedral Young Adults	Rex Rallanka, Music Director, rrallanka@cathedralsacramento.org
Choir (English)	Jerry Vanoye in the choir annex after the 1pm Mass, or Ricardo Savala in the choir annex after 7pm Mass.
Choir (Spanish)	Reggie King, Brian Perez, thecatholicstore@gmail.com
Cinema Divina Movies	catechesis meets every Wednesday at 7:15pm in the Cathedral Lower Level.
Communion & Liberation	Jill Pease, peasejill@gmail.com
Docents	Lynne Amerson, cbs1017pc@yahoo.com.
Email Prayer Chain	
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Amy McCormick, amcmccormick@att.net
Festival of Trees and Lights	Paula Trujillo, trupaula@gmail.com
Front Door Ministry	ministries@cathedralsacramento.org
Greeters and Ushers	Tom Waddock, 916-444-3071, x 36
Hospitality	Celeste Gisla, jfgisla@surewest.net
Knights of Columbus	Jaime Elizaldi, jaime.elizaldi@gmail.com
Lectors	Fred Heacock, fheacock72@hotmail.com
Respect Life Ministry	Veronica Avina, veronicaavina@yahoo.com
Rosary Club	Lolita Urrutia, lolita.urrutia@gmail.com.
Spanish Parents Group Leaders	Leticia Hilbert, leticia_hilbert@hotmail.com

Learn more about the ministries at the Cathedral, visit our website:

cathedralsacramento.org/ministries



CATHEDRAL PARISH REGISTRATION & UPDATE Actualización y registro de la parroquia de la Catedral

You can also register online at cathedralsacramento.org/ Visit Us / Register as a Parishioner

Name (*Nombre*): _____

Street Address (*Domicilio*): _____

City (*Ciudad*): _____ State (*Estado*): _____ Zip (*Código postal*): _____

Phone (*teléfono*): (____) _____ Cell Phone (*Celular*): (____) _____

Email: _____

For additional family members, please attach a separate sheet.

Please indicate:	Por favor indique:
New Parishioner/Individual	Nuevo Parroquiano / Individuo
New Parishioners/Family	Nuevo Parroco / Familia
Change of Address	Cambio de Dirección
Please send Offertory Envelopes	Por favor envíe Sobres de Ofertorio

Please return by (*Regrese por favor*):

- 1) Put into collection basket at mass (deposite en la canasta de la colecta en misa)
- 2) Scan to pdf file and email: blessed@cathedralsacramento.org (escanear a pdf file y envía por correo electrónico)
- 3) Fax to: 916-443-2749
- 4) Mail to (correo): 1017 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The cathedral offers a complete faith formation program, including Catholic Faith Formation, Confirmation, The Rite of Christian Initiation Program, R.C.I.A., for adults, teens and children, Religious Education for Spanish Speaking Adults, and a Catechesis Formation Program.

If you've been coming to Mass for a while, but are not Catholic, or were baptized Catholic but never completed your faith formation classes, we invite you to look deeper into the Catholic faith. Come meet some faithful Catholics who love the Lord and would consider it a privilege to get to know you. We invite you to learn what Catholics believe in an open and welcoming environment. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) sessions meet every Monday Evening at 7 PM in the lower level of the Cathedral. Feel free to come any Monday evening.



For more information on all of our faith formation programs, please call 916-444-5364 or email Sister Jenny Aldeghi FDCC, Director of Religious Education, jenny@cathedralsacramento.org

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

The Diocese of Sacramento requires an engaged couple to complete a marriage preparation program no later than two months before their wedding date. Contact: Janet & Omar Bardales at matrimonyprep@att.net, or 916-427-9160, or Sister Jenny at 916-444-5364. You do not have to have your wedding at the Cathedral in order to take this class.

GET MARRIED AT THE CATHEDRAL

If you would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony at the Cathedral, download the Cathedral Wedding Guidelines and Reservation Form on the cathedral website. Contact the parish office at least *six months* before your desired wedding date to arrange a meeting with Wedding Coordinator, Titi Kila, at the Cathedral Office, 916-444-3071 x13, tkila@cathedralsacramento.org.

HAVE YOUR MARRIAGE BLESSED IN THE CHURCH

If you would like to have your civil marriage blessed in the Catholic Church, please call or email Deacon John at the Cathedral Office to explore this possibility: 444-3071 Ext. 11; jgisla@cathedralsacramento.org. This can often be done in a small, private ceremony called a Convalidation, without any cost or fee. If you have been together for a number of years and would like to be married in the Church, this can also often be done in a small, private ceremony without any cost.

QUINCEAÑERA

This is the tradition of celebrating a young girl's coming of age on her 15th birthday with a Mass, and highlights the virtues of family and social responsibility, recognizing her journey from childhood to maturity. For more information on celebrating this beautiful tradition at the Cathedral, call Titi Kila, at 916-444-3071, or titi-kila@cathedralsacramento.org.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

For ages 5 to 10 years old, at the 11:00 am Sunday Mass (Check calendar for dates). Children return to their families before the Offertory. For more information, contact the education office or Dorothy Corgiat at dlcorgiat@yahoo.com.



"El Verbo se hizo carne y habitó entre nosotros,
y vimos su gloria, la gloria del Hijo del Padre,
llena de gracia y de verdad".

~ Juan 1: 14 ~

Estimados feligreses y visitantes,

Bienvenido a nuestro humilde establo aquí en la Catedral del Santísimo Sacramento.

Sabemos que este es un momento muy importante para entender más claramente el nacimiento de Jesús y cómo Su presencia y amor pueden traer paz a sus corazones y a sus hogares. Al igual que María y José, has viajado a cierta distancia buscando un lugar de comodidad. Que sientas la mano acogedora de Dios mientras adoramos juntos para honrar al Niño Jesús.



Aunque nuestra Catedral es bastante grande y está llena de imágenes sagradas, es la gente, por supuesto, la que verdaderamente la convierte en una Iglesia. A medida que cada uno de nosotros viene a adorar la Luz en el pesebre, la Iglesia misma brilla con más intensidad. Además, la gran cantidad de fieles durante la temporada navideña nos ayuda a apreciar el importante papel que desempeñamos como Iglesia Madre de la Diócesis de Sacramento, así como una presencia espiritual importante en el centro de la ciudad. Animamos a todos aquellos que nos visitan por primera vez a realizar nuestro recorrido u obtener más información sobre nosotros y nuestra restauración en nuestro sitio web.



Aunque durante la Navidad podemos estar muy ocupados, alentamos a todos a mantener un espíritu de respeto.

Nuestros hogares siempre serán el signo más poderoso de la Iglesia. Agradecemos a Dios por todas las casas que conforman la Diócesis de Sacramento, y oramos por todas las personas en nuestras calles que buscan comodidad y estabilidad. Algunos de los hermanos y hermanas más pequeños tienen su hogar aquí, cerca de la Catedral. Aunque Dios puede dignificar un establo y una caja de cartón, ninguno refleja la verdadera bendición de ser un Hijo de Dios. Mientras reflexiona sobre qué regalos puede ofrecerle a Dios, por favor mantenga a nuestro centro de la ciudad sin hogar en sus oraciones. Y este año, especialmente mantén a las víctimas del fuego del Paraíso en tus oraciones. Considere hacer una donación financiera a nuestro ministerio de servicio social para ayudar a fortalecer el abrazo de Dios y su Iglesia.



Que tengas una muy bendita temporada navideña y paz en el Año Nuevo.



P. Michael O'Reilly, Pastor





Lucas comenzó su narrativa navideña con el gran y poderoso César Augusto proclamando un decreto de que todo el mundo debería estar inscrito. Esto se convirtió en el motivo para que José se llevara a María, que estaba embarazada, y viajara a Belén porque era de la casa de David. Durante esos días en Belén, el niño Jesús nació y fue puesto en un pesebre.

La aparente paradoja entre el edicto de Roma y el niño humilde enclavado en la paja de un pesebre rústico no propone un contraste, sino una similitud inesperada. Jesús, el humilde rey de los pastores, había venido para inscribir a todas las personas en su reino de misericordia y paz.

José y su familia serían incluidos entre los súbditos del Emperador, pero Jesús comenzaría a contar a la gente de todas las naciones entre los hijos de Dios. En ese Primer Noel, los pastores fueron convocados por los ángeles al pesebre en Belén para que pudieran ser los primeros en ser contados.

El edicto celestial ha resonado a través de los siglos. En esta Navidad, a lo largo del río Sacramento, hemos venido, después de haber escuchado el eterno eco de las huestes celestiales que nos llaman a adorar la maravilla de los rayos radiantes del santo rostro de Jesús, el rostro de la misericordia, el amanecer de la gracia redentora.

José y María cumplieron con el edicto temporal sin saber cuáles serían las consecuencias del censo romano. ¿Más impuestos, más soldados, más opresión? Venimos porque nuestro Padre celestial no desea que nadie perezca, sino que todos deben venir al arrepentimiento. (II Pedro 3.9) Jesús nos aseguró cuando oró a su Padre la noche antes de morir, que "todos sean uno, como usted, Padre, está en mí y yo en usted, para que también estén en nosotros, que el mundo puede creer que me enviaste." (Jn. 17.21)

Hay muchos en nuestro tiempo, a quienes el mundo no cuenta. Parece que no importan. El Papa Francisco ha lamentado una sociedad desechable que descuenta lo innecesario, lo indeseable o lo indigno; Los no nacidos, los desempleados, los desamparados, los no asegurados y los indocumentados. Jesús los cuenta y cuenta con nosotros para llevarlos a Belén donde puedan encontrar a Cristo en su pesebre de misericordia. Una feliz y feliz Navidad para ti y los tuyos.



Obispo Jaime Soto





We, Chinese, greet one another "Happy Christmas" - "Shen Tan Quai Ler" on Christmas even though Main Land China is governed by a Communist Political Party. Never do we say to each other 'Happy Holiday'. This is because, for us, Christmas is the joyful celebration of our God coming to be with us. Jesus, the Son of God, whose birthday we celebrate brings us the message that God loves us and He fills us with the hope that we can live in Peace and Harmony as His children. Let us therefore, open our heart and welcome Jesus into our lives, so that He may fill us with His Love and Peace.

The Chinese Community of Sacramento happily greets you,
Parishioners of the Cathedral

"Happy, Holy and Blessed Christmas".

We also say - "Ju Yu" = GOD BLESS!

~ Father Nicholas Ho ~

雖然中國是由共產黨領導，但我們華人仍在聖誕節互祝“聖誕快樂”。可是我們不會說“假期愉快”，因為聖誕是慶祝主的臨在。天主之子，耶穌的誕辰帶給我們的意義是主愛世人，並賜給我們平安，喜樂和希望。就讓我們打開心扉去迎接耶穌，使祂的愛和平安能充滿我們的內心。

我們二埠華人團體祝願大堂各位教友 - “聖誕快樂，主寵滿溢”。

天主保佑！