December 01, 2019 ~ First Sunday of Advent

“You . . . must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” ~ Matthew 24:44

St. Patrick Catholic Church
San Francisco’s Historic Landmark #4
Founded in 1851
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Pastor ~ Rev. Roberto “Fr. Obet” A. Andrey
On Sabbatical through 31 December 2019
Administrator ~ Rev. Arsenio Cirera
Parochial Vicar ~ Rev. Linh Nguyen
Deacon ~ Rev. Mr. Ferdinand Mariano
Priests in Residence ~ Rev. Raphael Laizer
Parish Manager ~ Linda Benson
Secretary & Receptionist ~ Victoria Wicklund
Music Coordinator ~ Charles Corpus
Liturgical Wedding Coordinator ~ Virginia Dilim
Religious Education Coordinator ~ Nenette Murata
RCIA Coordinator ~ Rev. Mr. Ferdinand Mariano

St. Patrick Church neither sells this bulletin nor asks for donations on the street.
Hopeful Expectation

Our liturgical year begins with the season of Advent—a time of hopeful expectation of the coming of the Lord. On the First Sunday of Advent we look forward to the end of time when we will awaken to the dawn of Christ’s new day.

Today we hear Isaiah speak of a day when God’s power will have brought universal peace and God’s Word will have instructed all people, radiating God’s “light” (teachings) into all of human society. Only when humanity walks “in the light of the Lord” (Isaiah 2:5), when all people desire to be instructed “in [God’s] ways” (Isaiah 2:3), will the world be set aright and our deepest longings fulfilled. The reading from Romans calls us to “awake from sleep” for this final “day is at hand” (Romans 13:11, 12). Together this Sunday’s scriptures proclaim our Christian faith that Jesus is the One who will finally come to fulfill God’s plan of salvation.

Treasures From Our Tradition

“People in love make signs of love,” wrote our bishops in a document guiding the renewal of liturgical music. They were not merely urging us to sing at Mass, but suggesting that the song itself is a sign of the love of Christ. Love never expressed dies, as we know from experience. Flowers for no special reason, a caress, a hug, a turn around the dance floor, a note on the pillow or in the lunchbox, the aroma of fresh bread in the kitchen, all are signs of love’s vitality.

A significant treasure in our Catholic tradition is the place of the sacraments as signs of Christ’s love. We can trace the sacraments back to scriptural sources, through centuries of history. They are woven through family tradition and our own life story. Sacraments are the way Christ makes signs of love for the Church. For twenty centuries, God has spoken to us in the arena of the sacraments, and we have responded.

For the next year of “Treasure” essays, we will explore the story of sacraments: their sources, their signs and rituals, and the way Christ nurtures and sustains us as we encounter him, the companion on our journey who loves us and faithfully makes signs of that love.

Special Collection

Retirement Fund Helps Senior Religious

Next weekend the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious will be taken. Your gift will help defray some of the costs needed to care for our elderly religious and relieve the genuine financial crisis in many religious congregations. Whatever you give will be greatly appreciated. Please be generous. Most importantly, please remember in your prayers the more than 500 women and men religious living and serving in the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Advent

Let’s approach Christmas with an expectant hush, rather than a last-minute rush.

*Anonymous

Please Pray for our Holy Father’s Intention for December

Pope’s Intention (December): The Future of the Very Young. That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.
The 17th Annual
SF Parol Lantern Festival and Parade
2019 Theme: "Tayo ang Liwanag" (We are the Light)
Saturday, December 14, 2019, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
St. Patrick Church | Jessie Square
Join us on celebrating the strength and resilience of SoMa Pilipinas at this free, family-friendly community event.

Parol Stroll – the parade of lights starting and culminating at Jessie Square (6:00 p.m.)
Sayaw sa Ilaw – a community-wide dance performance
Tala Awards and Holiday Program
Gallery of Lanterns - from parols made by local artists and community organizations to the world renowned San Fernando lanterns
Taste of Filipino Christmas Bitanga Hall, St. Patrick Church (3:00 - 5:00 p.m. only)
Live Music Performances
Everyone is welcome. Bring your lights. Let us celebrate with lights.
Also, there are parol making workshops on Friday November 22nd and December 6th at the Bayanihan Community Center (1010 Mission Street, San Francisco CA 94103)
For more information and to volunteer: parolsf@gmail.com
Visit: www.parollanternfestival.com
or
www.bayanihancec.org/parol-festival.html
In the event of rain, the program will be held in St. Patrick's Bitanga Hall.

St. John of Damascus (c. 675-749)
December 4
From almost 1300 years ago, John’s message for the church’s spirituality and mission is surprisingly contemporary. Pope Benedict said that in our modern culture of images, sacred images often speak more eloquently than words. This “incarnational theology,” the concept that visible, tangible elements can give believers access to divine realities beyond, found an eloquent champion in John of Damascus. He challenged the Iconoclasts (image-breakers), whose misinterpretation of the biblical prohibition of idolatrous images (Exodus 20:4-5) led them to campaign for the destruction of all sacred art. Before this controversy, however, John bore witness to Christ in a way that provides a timely example for Christians in today’s pluralistic society. Succeeding his grandfather and father, John served as chief financial officer to the Muslim caliph, professing his Christian faith without compromise, while winning the esteem of his Islamic sovereign by his competence and integrity. No wonder John could eloquently defend icons as “windows into heaven”—he had already learned to see Christ in the living icons of people different from himself yet fashioned in the same divine image!

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Today’s Readings

First Reading — All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD’s house (Isaiah 2:1-5).

Psalm — Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord (Psalm 122).

Second Reading — It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11-14).

Gospel — Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44).

Welcome to St. Patrick!!
Welcome to all of our out-of-town visitors,
Thank you for worshipping with us!!

Parish Meeting Schedule
Adult Choir........................................... Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.
Altar Servers.............................. 3rd Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
Charismatic Prayer Group.......... Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
Forever Young Ministry......... Sundays, 10:30 a.m.
Legion of Mary ~ 3rd Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Patrician Meeting................... Last Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Liturgical Lay Ministers............. as announced
Our Lady of Fatima Devotees..... 1st Saturday, 2:00 p.m.
Parish Pastoral Council........... 1st Monday, 6:15 p.m.
Sacred Heart of Jesus Devotion.. 1st Friday, 6:00 p.m.
St. Vincent de Paul Society..... 4th Saturday, 6:30 p.m.
Young Adult Choir (SPYCO)....... Fridays, 6:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Marriage
You must first be a registered and active parishioner for at least six months prior to arranging a marriage at St. Patrick. Arrangements for this celebration must be made at least six months in advance. No date may be reserved without first consulting with the Pastor.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
Tuesdays and First Fridays ~ 11:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m.

Readings for the Week
Monday: Is 4:26; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-1-10; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21,24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21,23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1,5z,6-8
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Time of Preparation
This life is the time of our preparation for our future state. Our souls will continue for ever what we make them in this world.

Saints & Special Observances
Tuesday: Memorial ~ St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Wednesday: optional memorial ~ St. John Damascene, Priest, Doctor of the Church
Friday: optional memorial ~ St. Nicholas, Bishop
Saturday: Memorial ~ St. Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT