



December 3, 2006 – First Sunday of Advent

"May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all." 1 Thes 3:12

† Servant Leader †

Welcome Fr. John Sullivan, Retired

Fr. Ron and I are pleased to welcome Fr. John Sullivan, retired priest, to share a home with us here at Holy Family Parish. After many years of faithful, fruitful service, Fr. Sullivan is enjoying his retirement here with us, and he will be able to help out, from time to time, with our thriving parish family.

The following information is adapted from a Catholic Herald article published on his "official" retirement in 2000, after which he has continued to serve the people of our diocese in several capacities.

Father John Sullivan has been described as a community builder, a gifted teacher, a priest both wise and humble. Father Sullivan is the kind of priest who can comfortably poke fun at some of the twists and turns that have occurred along the way, including entering the priesthood a bit later than some of his fellow priests.

He grew up on a dairy and vineyards just north of Lodi. He started serving Mass at the age of eight, and recalls as a 10-year-old watching his parish priest celebrate Mass and thinking to himself, "I could do that."

But between serving in the U.S. Army and "knocking around" a bit, it wasn't until Father Sullivan was in his 30s that priesthood as a vocation became a reality. It happened when he became friends with a couple of priests active in the Cursillo movement.

"Cursillo simply said go do something (for God)," recalled Father Sullivan, who then began the formation process as a seminary student at St. Paul College in Waukesha, Wisconsin. "The first year I was put at the age of 31 in a class full of high school boys," he said, adding with a chuckle, "I've never quite forgiven them for that."

Ordained at the age of 39, Father Sullivan's first assignment was as assistant pastor at St. Basil Parish in Vallejo in 1972. He recalled that at the first Mass celebrated on his own the thought crossing his mind was, "Good Lord, what am I doing out here?" before quickly reassuring parishioners, "Just be patient. We'll get through this."

Father Sullivan not only "got through" but found himself within two years appointed pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Fort Jones, a rural community in Siskiyou County. In a

parish that included travel to three mission churches, Father Sullivan set about doing what he enjoys most: making hospital visits, home visits and community visits.

From 1986 to 1995 Father Sullivan served as pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Colusa. While there he took on the challenge of supporting the parish's financially struggling school. When he arrived 70 students attended the school, a number which doubled by the time he left nine years later.

In May 1995, Father Sullivan was named pastor of St. Patrick Parish. He found the people of this parish with its 27 ministries "a talented group" eager to roll up their sleeves and go to work. The Mother Teresa Maternity Home, which is located across the street from St. Patrick Church, opened its doors in 1998 with a helping hand from Father Sullivan. He had planned to put the former convent up for sale when it became vacant, but a visit from a parishioner changed his mind. The plan to turn it into a home for pregnant women sounded like a good idea. The facility has provided a temporary home for 28 women, many of whom have been reunited with families.

In 2000, Father Sullivan retired as pastor of St. Patrick Parish after 28 years of ministry in Northern California parishes.

Since his retirement, Father Sullivan has remained active in priestly ministry, assisting Msgr. James Kidder, pastor at Holy Trinity Parish in El Dorado Hills, and continuing his assignment as dean of the Southern Mines Deanery. He also continued to serve on diocesan vocations and diaconate boards.

Msgr. Kidder, who was Father Sullivan's vocations director at St. Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park, says the retiring priest brought a valuable perspective to the parish.

"(As a seminarian) his classmates found him to be a person of wisdom," Msgr. Kidder said. "He's a very hospitable priest-always on an even keel and very committed to Catholic education."

We are looking forward to Fr. Sullivan's presence here at Holy Family and ask God to continue to grace this holy man with countless blessings.



*Solemnity of the
Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Mass -	Thursday, December 7, 7:00 pm
Holy Day Masses -	Friday, December 8, 8:30 am, 10:00 am and 6:00 pm (English) 7:30 pm (Spanish)

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon: Mike Curran +; Jacqueline Francescon +
 Jenny Geronimo -Int.; Benito Hernandez +
 Tue: Charles Steele +; Richard Seward +
 Benito Hernandez +
 Wed: Thomas Massey +; Chris Hicks -Int.
 Amando & Cecilia Spadini +; Benito Hernandez +
 Thu: Filipina Twano +; Myrno Quinia +
 Felomina Quinia +; Gladys Pogozelski +
 Fri: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Sat: 4:30 pm Mass - Jose Punsulan, Sr. +;
 Ben Chan, Sr. +; Lourdes Chan +
 Pacifico Sun +
 Sun: 7:30 am Mass - Emma Mondragon +
 9:00 am Mass - Pro Populo
 12:30 pm Mass - David Alway +
 John Nathan Geronimo -Int.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11
 Tue: Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
 Wed: Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
 Thu: St. Ambrose: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
 Fri: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary:
 Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
 Sat: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
 Sun: Second Sunday of Advent:
 Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6



Questions of the Week:

For Adults: How can we prepare for the coming of the Lord?
 For Teens: What is one thing you can do to prepare yourself spiritually for Christmas?
 For Children: Name some special days and events that you are waiting for.

PRAYER CORNER

Please remember in your prayers:
 Barbie Adorno, Peter Alvarez, Marcel Arnal, Mary Avila, Jack Barca, Pam Bardwil, Cody Bartley, Teresa Bennett Smith, Charles Black, Jill Boyd, John Boyle, Shirley Bryant, Bernard Burke, John Bustabade, Marge Caron, Joe Celeya, Bob Cleveland, Darren Crose, James Crutcher, Julie Desrochers, Maria Dixon, John Dooney, Jim Espinoza, Lois Espinoza, Andrew Flores, Walt Fogleman, Loretta Francescon, Genny Giles, Frances & Leo Girard, Bob Gokey, Evelyn Gonsalves, Robert Gonzaga, Manuel Guerra, Max Guerra, Charlene Gutierrez, Rick Gutierrez, Eric Hayes, Jason Hayes, Stanley Hayes, Allison Herring, Glean & Kathryn Hollier, Randy Kennedy, Kimberly Kolodzie, Jonnie Kuennen, Grace LaGanga, Ian Larmore, Karen Lewis, Maria Mamauog, Maria Martinez, Earl Mattingly, Luke McCord, June McMaught, Jenine Michilena, Paul Moran Jr., Paul Moran Sr., Mary Nekrassoff, Eleanor Obmann, Betty O'Neil, Lee Ann Parrott, Nita Parrott, Bud Phelps, Tom Poeschl, Sr. Mary Porter, Christine Regan, Raymond Remick, Zan Rockett, Nikelle Schafer, Charles Schneider, Katherine Schottgen, Diane & Mike Smith, Marylyn Smith, Lisa Stamps, Kyle Steele, Phyllis Steele, Jo Ster, Laura & Paul Studer, Simon Sucharski, Clement Sweeney, D. Sweeney, Maureena Sutton, Elise Taylor, I. Thompson, X. Thompson, Jean Villanueva, Frank Vogel, Emily Walsh, Marvin Webster, Bishop Weigand, Mike Williams, Ken Zebroski, Claudette Zompetta

Stewardship
 ~ a way of life ~

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: NEXT WEEKEND

Next week's appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious asks us to recall those women and men religious whose ministry has nourished our own faith, served our church, and strengthened our nation. Today, more than 37,000 women and men religious are past age 70. Their institutes face critical economic challenges as the costs of health care escalate and as the need for handicapped-accessible housing increases. Please give generously.

YEAR-END GIVING

Giving at Christmas and at Year's End is not only a Catholic tradition, but a special way to commemorate the Greatest Gift - God's gift of His only Son, Jesus. The financial opportunity is significant as well. More money is contributed to charities in the month of December than any other month of the year, as many individuals will make charitable contributions late in the calendar year to take advantage of this year's tax benefits. In order to do so, checks must be dated and envelopes postmarked on or before December 31. Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

STEWARDSHIP - TREASURE

GENERAL COLLECTION

Weekly Goal	\$ 11,000.00
Nov 5	\$ 13,146.00
Nov 12	\$ 9,235.00
Nov 19	\$ 10,083.00
Nov 26	\$ 8,936.00
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$ 219,723.00
Goal-to-Date (22 Weeks)	\$ 242,000.00
% of Goal Collected	90.79 %
Annual Goal	\$ 572,000.00

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COLLECTION

Weekly Goal	\$ 3,750.00
Nov 5	\$ 2,105.00
Nov 12	\$ 375.00
Nov 19	\$ 2,320.00
Nov 26	\$ 645.00
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$ 34,543.50
Goal-to-Date (22 Weeks)	\$ 82,500.00
% of Goal Collected	41.87 %
Annual Goal	\$ 195,000.00

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Thanksgiving (for the poor)	\$ 1,717.00
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"Be on guard," Jesus warns in today's Gospel, "lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence." Let us heed His warning and follow the advice of St. Paul, conducting ourselves in a way pleasing to God, overflowing with love for one another.



HOLY FAMILY students are involved in a myriad of activities this month in addition to preparing for Christmas! The school's eight basketball teams are diligently practicing for the opening of the PAL Season in January, and all grades are invited to participate in the Student Council-sponsored Skating Parties this Monday and Tuesday. Eighth graders are attending Shadow Days at the Catholic High Schools and making decisions about which school to attend. They are also preparing the Liturgy for the feast of the Immaculate Conception this Friday, and they hope that a member of their Class of 2007 will win Friday afternoon's Spelling Bee and go on to represent Holy Family at the regional Spelling Bee in January!



**CRAB FEED ~ 4TH ANNUAL
HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL**



**~14 MORE DAYS UNTIL THE HFS CRAB FEED~
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4th - LAST DAY TO
PURCHASE TICKETS -**

Date: Saturday, December 9, 2006
Time: 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm (doors open at 5:30 pm)
Place: Holy Family Community Center
7817 Old Auburn Road, Citrus Heights

\$30.00 Per Person ~ Dinner/Dance ~ No Host Bar
Crab, Pasta, Salad, Salami & Cheese, & Bread
Door Prizes, Silent Auction, & Raffle Prizes
Must be 21 ~ No children

"Complete Music" by Greg Suggs until 11:00 p.m.
Tickets Contact: Charlotte Johnson (916) 632-1068,
Kathryn Cervantes Peterson (916) 725-0990,
or Jasmin Gonzales (916) 771-3795



NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS



**FABULOUS CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST
TODAY!**

The holiday season at Holy Family always starts with the Knights Champagne Breakfast today, Sunday, December 3rd! Come enjoy a delicious champagne breakfast served by those handsome guys in their tuxedos. Breakfast will be served after the 7:30 and 9:00 am Masses.

Women's Council News

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Join us today, Sunday, December 3, from 8:00 to 3:00 pm for our Holiday Boutique. Come join us for some Christmas shopping and cheer. Santa will be there too. After the Knight's Breakfast hot dogs, chips and drinks will be available. Bring a friend!@

YOUTH MINISTRY

TEENS PREPARE THE WAY

As we begin the season of advent why not go to www.goodgroundpress.com and select the teen advent calendar icon. You will find a practical guide for the days leading up to Christmas that will guide along your advent journey. During this season of waiting and preparation dedicate some time each day to really reflect upon the true meaning of Christmas.

LOOKING FOR A MEANINGFUL CHRISTMAS GIFT?

Why not support our teens by purchasing one of the Commemorative History of the Diocese of Sacramento books that the youth are selling now. Watch for tables after masses in the weeks ahead or call the youth office if you'd like one put aside. The books are beautifully illustrated and filled with many interesting facts about the Catholic heritage in this diocese. Books are \$30 with all proceeds benefiting our youth ministry program.

CYM HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Plans are underway for a CYM holiday celebration- watch for more details next week!

SAVE THE DATE!! WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST in San Francisco on Saturday, January 20, 2007. Join us as we continue to challenge the idea that abortion has been a good choice for women, men, children, families and for our society. Buses will leave Holy Family Church in Citrus Heights at 8am. Cost is \$20. Please call Gigi Croteau at (916) 725-4866 for reservations. Visit the website at www.WalkforLifeWC.com.

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC EVENTS
at the**

CATHEDRAL of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament will be the site of two upcoming free Christmas music events.

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

On Monday evening, December 4 at 7:30 pm, enjoy "Christmas at the Cathedral." This annual concert features the 60-voice Children's Christmas Honor Choir of our Diocesan Catholic Elementary Schools, including 5 members of the Holy Family Children's Choir, along with the Diocesan Choir and full orchestra. In addition, scripture readings will be presented by personalities from KOVR 13, the Sacramento Bee, Sacramento Magazine, and the Catholic Herald.

CAROLS FROM THE CATHEDRAL

On Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 pm, the Choir of the Cathedral will present the "Carols from the Cathedral," an annual Advent Service with Lessons and Carols that invites us to reflect and focus more clearly on the true meaning of this holy Season.

All are warmly welcomed to attend these two events; admission is free. The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament is located at 1019 11th Street (11th and K Streets), Downtown Sacramento.

**'Tis The Season -
Open House In The Parish Rectory**

The Pastoral Council and the Welcoming Committee will be hosting an open house in the parish rectory on Sunday Dec. 17 from 1 - 4 p.m. Come and celebrate Christmas with your parish family. See next week's bulletin for additional details.

Joyful Noize

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT IN THE CHURCH
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH:**

Following the 6:00 pm mass, Joyful Noize (the 6:00 Choir) presents an evening of spirit-filled songs of the season sure to fill your heart with holiday cheer!

All are invited to bring a coat, blanket, pack of socks, gloves, hat or other article of warm clothing for the CYM Blanket Drive as the "price of admission."

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Holy Family is asking for donations of poinsettias to adorn the church this Christmas. We will need the flowers donated by Friday December 22nd. We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on Saturday December 23rd, if you wish you may bring your flower that morning, or leave at the entrance by the chapel a couple days ahead. We ask that you please do not take the flower to the parish office. If you are interested in joining the decorating team, please call Bonnie Johnson for more info 408-5191.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity. May your Holidays be blessed by the Light of Christmas.

**COME TO CELEBRATE
THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patron of America and the feast is December 12. As one family everybody is invited to come and celebrate it. This is a tradition for some of us for many years. Mark this date on your Calendar. The schedule is as follows:

- 5:00 am Mañanitas (we sing special songs written for Our Lady of Guadalupe) with MARIACHIS
- 6:00 am Pray the Rosary to Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 6:30 am We will have Mexican bread, hot chocolate and coffee
- 6:00 pm Mass (Bilingual)
- 7:00 pm Tamales, rice and refried beans

If you want to donate roses (any color) for this celebration please bring them on Sunday, December 10th or Monday (morning) the 11th. If you have any question you can contact Fr. Ron or call Lupita at 489-3673.



Prayer Opportunities

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA:

Pope Benedict XVI has elevated the World Apostolate of Fatima (The Blue Army.) It is now officially associated with the Pontifical Council for the Laity in Rome. We are happy to offer these prayers here at Holy Family. All are welcome to join us Mondays after the 8:30 am Mass in St. Mary Hall. For information, please call Phyllis, 725-0218 or Phyllis, 725-5358.

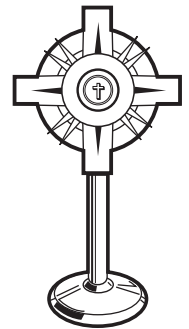
VOCATIONS CROSS



Each week a parish family is presented with the Vocations Cross to take home for the week and asked to pray daily for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The next Sunday, the family returns the cross and another family is presented the cross to pray for vocations. If you are interested in taking the Vocation Cross home, please contact Young Stewart at 332-8732.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Jesus stays with us day and night in the Blessed Sacrament, blessing us with the grace that encourages us, consoles us, strengthens us, guides us and inspires us to place our trust in Him. We stay with the Real Presence of Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration to be more personally involved with Him and to keep the Eucharist central in our lives. Spending time with Jesus in the Eucharist enables us to build a truly personal relationship with Him. Come into His presence in our beautiful chapel - He is looking forward to your visit!



BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL VISITING HOURS:

Monday – Friday	9:00 am – 9:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Sunday	1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Also in the chapel: Each day at 9:00 am a community Rosary and Chaplet of Mercy are prayed, and at 3:00 pm the Chaplet of Mercy is prayed.

DOMINICAN LAITY AT HOLY FAMILY

The Dominican Laity meets here at Holy Family on the first Sunday of every month in St. Mary Hall from 1–3 pm. Come and join us in a way of life of prayer, both private and liturgical, the study of the sacred truth, the sharing of our spiritual life with others in the community, and in our apostolic outreach. For further information call Phyllis Sale at 725-5358.



NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE - AND BEYOND

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Catholic Charities of Sacramento in conjunction with Centro Guadalupe is seeking people interested in our Adopt-A-Family program for Christmas. Whether you are interested in adopting a family or need information about assistance for your family, please call the Catholic Charities office at 733-0253.

SINGLE CATHOLIC ADULTS

Christmas Dinner and Dance will be held Saturday, December 9th, 6:00 pm at Frasinetti Winery 7395 Frasinetti Rd., Sacramento, CA. \$45 non-members/\$35 members with advance reservations. Deadline 11/30. For information call Jo Ellig: (916) 971-1758

DISCERNMENT RETREAT

Have you ever thought about becoming a Catholic Priest? You are invited to attend a Discernment Retreat, 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 26 through 1:00 p.m., Sunday, January 28, 2007 at St Patrick's Seminary to better understand if a vocation to the ministry of God's priesthood is for you! Single Catholic men, 21 years of age or older, are invited to explore the possibility of a priestly vocation. The weekend is designed to provide the tools needed to help you determine if God might be calling you to a vocation to the priesthood. Discernment Retreat will include prayer, discussion and presentations about the priesthood, group interaction and following the daily routine of a seminarian. For further information, please see your parish priest.

BUS TRIP TO SILVER LEGACY, RENO

The Roseville Knights of Columbus #4540 are sponsoring a bus trip to the Silver Legacy, Reno, on Sunday, December 17th. The cost is \$25 per person prepaid with approximately \$15 returned at the casino. Checks should be made payable to Knights Of Columbus #4540. Please call Sue or Dave Mirtoni for reservations and details at 782-3242.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO MEXICO

The Diocese of Sacramento Youth Office is collaborating with the Los Embajadores Missionary Program to take 24 teens and 6 adults from our Diocese to Tijuana, Mexico in June 2007. Grounded in service work, the program is a week-long experience that serves as a conduit for building relationship with the Mexican people, allows the youth to learn how to form a supportive and interdependent community, and gain a firmer understanding of the social justice issues that underlie poverty. The cost for the week is \$350. Participation is based on an application process and is open to high school students currently in grades 9-12. If you are interested in joining us, please contact the Diocesan Youth Office (916-733-0152) for an application for the program. Hurry as space is limited!

LAW ENFORCEMENT CHAPLAINCY SACRAMENTO

Sacramento's volunteer community chaplain program responds with law enforcement to homicides, suicides, drownings and other tragedies, providing profound comfort to traumatized survivors. It is the model program of its kind throughout the nation. If this is the ministry to which you think you might be called, please visit www.sacchaplains.com or call 916-857-1801 for more information.

WELLSPRING HOLIDAY STORE

Wellspring Women's Center will once again host its Holiday Store at a new location (St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church), on December 18 through the 22nd, for women and children of the Oak Park community. The numbers served daily in our breakfast program have grown significantly the last year and we anticipate serving more families this year - last year we assisted 600 families with gifts.

Donations of new unwrapped gifts may be delivered to St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church Annex at 4020 12th Avenue from December 11th through the 16th. If you have any questions, need more details about the store, wish to volunteer, or need gifts picked up, please call us at 454-9688, Ext. 202.

CHORAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

Three Rivers Chorale will present "Holiday Treasures," a festive concert of seasonal music both ancient and modern. Holiday Treasures features familiar carols, evocative texts, and spirited musical settings dating as far back as the 14th Century and as recent as the 21st Century. The audience is invited to join in carol singing for a complete and lively holiday experience.

Two performances are available: Saturday, December 9, 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, 803 Figueroa Street, Folsom; Sunday, December 10, 3:00 p.m. at Divine Savior Catholic Church, 9079 Greenback Lane, Orangevale.

Tickets are available from Katy Lynch at 916-995-2419 or online at www.threeriverschorale.com.

AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS

Cristo Rev High School & The Concerts Of All Hallows invite you to performances of "Amahl and the Night Visitors" on December 15 at 10 am, 11:30 am and 1 pm, and December 18 at 7 pm and 8:30 pm, part of All Hallows' and Cristo Rey's "Christmas Concert Weekend." For more information, including to claim your two complimentary tickets, please contact Cristo Rey board member and All Hallows Concerts Chair Chris Bakes at 916-456-7206.

CAMP ReCREATION: CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE 2006

A program for adults, teens, and children with developmental disabilities to celebrate the Christmas Spirit through art, drama, & song! Saturday, December 9th, 2006 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at St. Anthony Parish, 660 Florin Road in Sacramento. Pre-registration is required; please call (733-0136) or e-mail (mail@camprec.org) the Camp ReCreation Office by December 5th to R.S.V.P. Friends and families are invited to join us in the church at St. Anthony's at 2:45 pm for a dramatization of the Nativity with refreshments following.

LAY FORMATION INSTITUTE

The Lay Formation Institute begins in January in Sacramento, and it is open to all adults interested in developing their faith. For more information on the Institute please contact the Pastoral Center. The first of seven courses will be:

Foundations of Faith-Foundations of Catholicism, taught by Rev. Edward Fassett, S.J.-Pastoral Center, Sacramento, January 26th (6:30-9 pm) and January 27th (8:30 am - 4:00 pm). This course will fulfill 8 hours of credit towards Basic Catechetical Certification. Cost is \$25.