



St. BERNARDINE of SIENA

Catholic Church and School

24410 Calvert Street, Woodland Hills, California 91367 (818) 888-8200



PASTORAL TEAM:

PASTOR: Rev. Fr. Robert J. McNamara
ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Rev. Fr. Daniel A. Fox
PASTOR EMERITUS: Rev Msgr Richard H Murray
SUNDAY ASSOCIATE: Rev Fr. Thomas Schrader, O.Carm.
DEACONS: Jerry Cellner, Dale Taufer

MASS SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY: 7:00am, 8:30am, 10:00am, 12:00nn, 5:30 p.m.
WEEKDAY: Mon thru Fri.: 6:30am & 8:30 a.m. (1st) Fri: 11:30 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00pm.
Confessions: Sat: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m



Notes from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

John the Baptist is featured today in the opening versus of Mark's Gospel. We will be hearing Mark most Sundays now for the coming year. John the Baptist points to Jesus taking the spotlight off himself and placing it squarely on Jesus. Perhaps this is a great model for us this Advent. It can be a real temptation approaching Christmastime, to be self-centered. Our culture seems to encourage that, let's take a page from John the Baptist, avoid self aggrandizing and point to where goodness is present and grace is at work.

Next week, I invite all who are sick and would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick, to come to the Saturday 5:00 p.m. Mass or the Sunday, 12:00 noon Mass. Many of us carry afflictions for years or perhaps you have just been diagnosed with an illness. Come to one of these Masses and receive the sacrament of healing. The following Sunday, December 18th, we will bless expectant mothers at all of the Masses.

There are a couple of dates I would like you to put on your calendars. Wednesday, December 7th is the Vigil Mass of our celebration of The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, December 8th, is the Feast of The Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be held at 7:30 p.m.

We will have a Christmas Concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, December 16. Similar to last year, John and Eileen Bonaduce and Ronald Lombardo will entertain and inspire us with Christmas music. Refreshments will follow the concert. Then on Monday, December 19th at 7:30 p.m., will be our Advent Penance Service Celebration. This is a very important part of our spiritual preparation for Christmas. I try to get a lot of priests to keep the service under an hour, so plan on being there. I hope your Advent is going well. God bless you all. ~ Father

St Nicholas ... Santa Claus

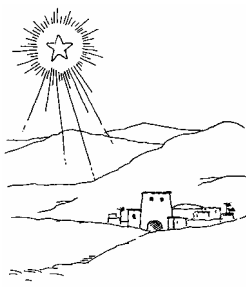
The concept of the American Santa Claus originated with St. Nicholas, who was born in Asia Minor in 280 A.D. He was known as a kind, benevolent man; indeed made a saint because of his generosity.

In honor of St. Nicholas, December 6th became the traditional day in Europe for the exchange of gifts and the beginning of the holiday season. Dutch immigrants to the United States brought with them their version of the gift-giving St. Nicholas, known as Sinter Klass. Americans, unaccustomed to Dutch pronunciation, turned this into "Santa Claus," who is beloved as a symbol of Christmas by children of all ages.

Gifts for the Spirit, our parish gift shop, has a lovely selection of holiday items to enrich this beautiful season.

Please stop by and shop with us.

We are located upstairs in the parish Center across from the Hall. The shop is open Sundays from 9:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 12:00.



**Second Sunday of Advent
December 4, 2005**

**Prepare the way of
the Lord,
make straight his paths.**
— Mark 1:3


On Tuesday, December 6th, Eucharist Adoration will be held in the Eucharistic Chapel following the **6:30 a.m.** Mass ending at 12:00 noon with Benediction.

Justice & Peace Ministry - ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Aurelia (age 35) and Rafael (age 43) have 6 children: Ophelia (19), Marco (15) Salvador (11), Jose (9), Maria (5) and baby Antonia (age 1). Rafael's full time salary is \$1237.52 per month. Rent costs the family \$850.00 each month. They have been clients at the Guadalupe Center for over 10 years.

Did you know that 48% of the clients at the Guadalupe Center are children under the age of 17? Or that 4% are ages 60-74? And 2% are between 75 and 100 years old! The reality is that people of all ages are registered for assistance at the Guadalupe Center in Canoga Park. By donating to the **Adopt-A-Family Program** at St. Bernardine's you can **MAKE A DIFFERENCE** in each one of their lives. Please stop by the Justice of the Peace table today after Mass to see how you can help. (Or call Teri Nogues at (818)716-7773 or John Reeves at (818)883-7413.

The **Magnificat Intercessory Prayer Group** will meet in the Veranda Room on **Thursday, Dec. 8th at 10:00 a.m.**



IMPORTANT DATES

- December 3/4** **Sandwich Sunday** for the homeless. Those interested in helping distribute sandwiches to the homeless on Skid Row will meet in the parish parking lot after the 5:30 p.m. Mass.
- December 6** **Sanctity of Life Committee Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**
- December 13** Scheduled execution of Stanley "Tookie" Williams by the state of California at 12:01 a.m.

ALTAR CARE December 9, 2005
Wil & Ann Gartland, Sue Vigo, Jan Wheatman, Carmen Rivera.

**An Advent Presentation
"Forgiveness and Reconciliation"**

A two-part Advent Series with Fr. Jim Clarke offering practical ways of moving to Christian maturity through the forgiveness process and ways of translating faith into action. Two **Wednesdays, December 7th and December 14th at 7:30 p.m.** in the Parish Center.

Fr. Jim is the Director of Spiritual Formation and Chairman of the Spiritual Theology Department at St. John's Seminary. Previously here at St. Bernardine's, he gave us a seminar on Fundamentalism last January.

"And when you stand in prayer, forgive whatever you have against anybody, so that your Father in heaven may forgive your failings too." ~ Mark 11:25

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Confirmation meets this Sunday, December 4th (3:45-5:15 PM for Year One and 6:45-8:15 PM for Year Two). **We are still looking for more Confirmed adults to serve as Catechists for the program. We will also need many adult chaperones and small group leaders for our Year One retreat February 10th-12th.** Please contact the youth ministry office if you are interesting in helping teens continue to explore and build their faith.

Junior High Youth Ministry youth night next Tuesday, December 13th from 6:30-8:00 PM in the parish hall. Registration is open year round for all 7th and 8th graders and forms are available in the parish office and at every youth night.



PRIME TIMERS: Our **Christmas Luncheon** will be held at the Calabasas Inn on **Tuesday, December 6th.** Doors open at 11:30 a.m. for those who have reservations. For info call Terry Piscitello at **340-4100.** The **Santa Barbara Culinary Institute/Oxnard Heritage Square Trip** has been **RE-SCHEDULED** for **Tuesday, February 7th.** If you are unable to make the trip or want to be put on the waiting list, Call Angela Adams at **347-6709.** The bus will depart from St. Bernardine's **10:00 a.m.**

Elections for the Prime Timers Board will be held in January. More information will be forthcoming.



Pray For
The Sick

In your charity please pray for the sick of the parish, Sharon Clark; Ed Fraker; Keith Farr; Corinne Ramirez; Fr. Liam McCarron; Charles Barkley; Diane Casey; Bob Van Buskirk ;Ama Pablos; Dennis Hoehn; Wayne Smith; Shirin; Rosalind Messick; Elaine Pittman; June Quinby;

Helen Ellescas; Eileen Wicks; Michele Pepin; Frank Anzalone; Julianna Morin; Janny Vogel Zang; David Espinoza; Marvin Asbury; Mary Biondo; Rose Marie Imber; Gabino Cruz; Dorothy Dhesse.



Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of Ina Klein, mother of Deborah, Randy & Doug; Tati Cardero, grandmother of Darma Trafecanty; Sandra Mills; Margaret Wise, mother of Marilyn Ryder.

BONE MARROW DRIVE ~ Please Help!

Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, in conjunction with City of Hope, is organizing a Bone Marrow Drive, to benefit Jeff Mailes, a 17 year old senior at El Camino Real. Jeff has been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer, T-cell Lymphoma, where a Bone Marrow transplant is part of the required treatment. Donors can be 18 years of age or older. The Drive will be held on **Thursday, December 22nd, from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at Shepard of the Valley (East Hall, 23838 Kittridge St., West Hills). In this season of giving, what better gift to give than the **Gift of Life?**

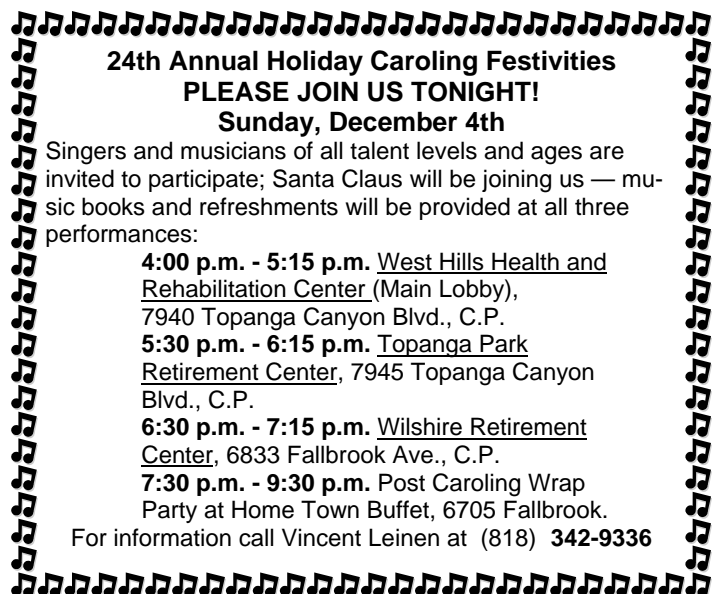
"Our Children Remembered"

The holidays are an especially difficult time for those who have lost a loved one. When that loss is a child, regardless of age or circumstance, it is the most difficult thing a parent will ever experience. Any parent who has lost a child, is invited to a very special **Mass and Candlelight Service** in memory of their children who have died. Please join us on **Monday, December 12th at 7:30 p.m.** at St. John Eudes in Chatsworth. Please bring a small piece of paper, with your child's name and dates of birth and death, to be placed on the altar during the offertory. You are also invited to bring a small photo of your child to be displayed during the service. We have made arrangements to deliver Christmas gifts in honor of our children to Hathaway Children and Family Services who work with foster children who are neglected, abused and homeless. If you would like to honor your child in this special way, please bring a wrapped gift to the Mass and place it at the altar. Label your gift "boy" or "girl," with the appropriate age.

If you have questions, please call Angela or George Wienckowski at (818)709-0011.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 175 Invites you to Sign-Up! Sign-Ups to be help on the following **Wednesdays: December 7th and 14th and January 18 & 25 at 7:30 p.m.**

in St. Bernardine's Child Care Room (south side of campus). Please call Gary Bishop at (818)998-7917 for more information.



**24th Annual Holiday Caroling Festivities
PLEASE JOIN US TONIGHT!
Sunday, December 4th**

Singers and musicians of all talent levels and ages are invited to participate; Santa Claus will be joining us — music books and refreshments will be provided at all three performances:

4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. West Hills Health and Rehabilitation Center (Main Lobby), 7940 Topanga Canyon Blvd., C.P.

5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. Topanga Park Retirement Center, 7945 Topanga Canyon Blvd., C.P.

6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. Wilshire Retirement Center, 6833 Fallbrook Ave., C.P.

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Post Caroling Wrap Party at Home Town Buffet, 6705 Fallbrook.

For information call Vincent Leinen at (818) 342-9336

Mass Intentions



December 4 through December 10, 2005

- 7:00 a.m. Pro Populo
- 8:30 a.m. Dean Kittinger+
- 10:00 a.m. Jack Real+
- 12:00 noon Paul Bulman+
- 5:30 p.m. Ernie Brown+

MONDAY

- 6:30 a.m. George Aguillar
- 8:30 a.m. Bobby Williams+

TUESDAY

- 6:30 a.m. S. John Falotico+
- 8:30 a.m. Michael Mayer+

WEDNESDAY

- 6:30 a.m. Michael Mayer+
- 8:30 a.m. Val, Day & Emy Sevilla

7:30 p.m. VIGIL

The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary

- 6:30 a.m. Stephen Kirkam
- 8:30 a.m. Conrado Ciriaco+
- 7:30 p.m. Teresita Renomeron

FRIDAY

- 6:30 a.m. Frank Vodhanel+
- 8:30 a.m. Rose Rokusek+

SATURDAY

- 8:30 a.m. Frank Vodhanel+
- 5:00 p.m. John Valtin+

ATTENTION YOUNG ADULTS (18-35)

Come enjoy fellowship with other young adults as Fr. Anthony Saroki, Assistant Director of Campus Ministry at San Diego State and Fr. Jose Sanchez, pastor of St. Frances Cabrini Church in Alexandria, Louisiana help you dig deeper into the essence of what it means to live the life of Christ in the spectacular mountain setting of Whispering Winds Catholic Conference Center in Julian, CA, next weekend, **December 9-11th**. Get away from life's everyday demands and rediscover your relationship with God (\$100.00 per person covers meals and lodging.) Call the Youth Ministry Office for a registration form.

Evening with Alemany Advent Series

on two **Mondays: Dec. 5th and Dec. 12th.** from **7:00 pm. to 8:30 p.m.** **Monday, December 5th** - *An examination of the Gospels about the birth of Jesus and what we can do to focus on the true meaning of Christmas. Presented by Sr. Sara Goggin and Fr. Norm Supancheck.*
Call (818)365-3952, ext. 190 for more information.

Advent Twilight Retreat at Our Lady of Grace on Thursday, **December 15th** at **7:00 p.m.** (Room A). Sr. Mary Ann Carla, SND will guide the retreat. Reservations are required, please call (818)342-4505 by Monday December 12th. Suggested donation: **\$12.** All Adults are welcome.