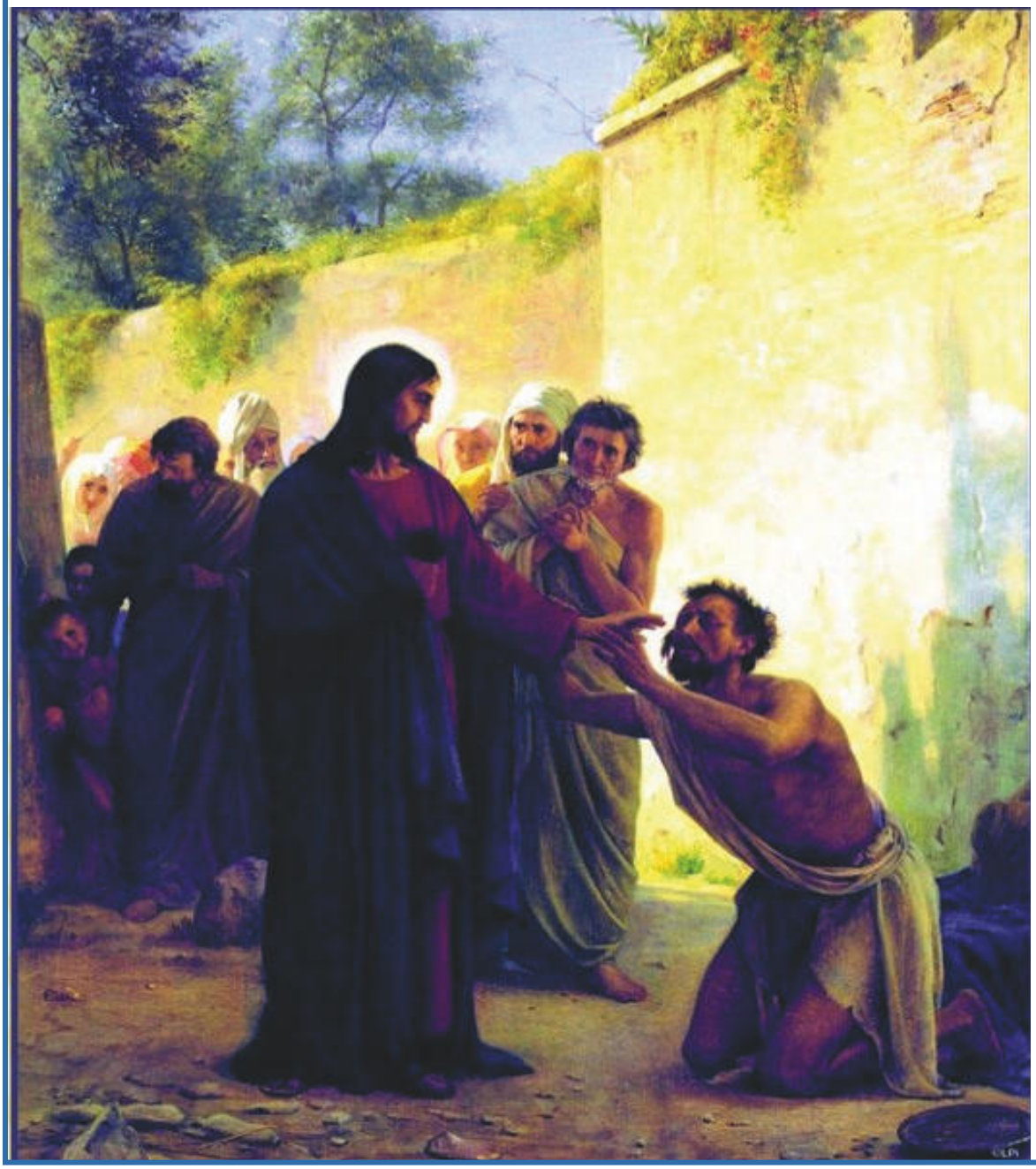
Saint Gregory the Great Catholic Church



30th SUNDAY in ordinary time

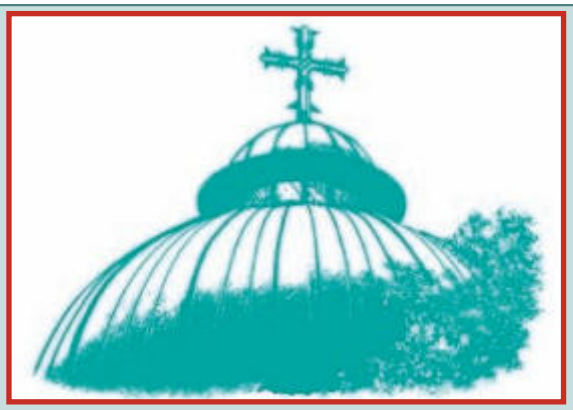
Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

Mk. 10-52

Very Rev. Nicholas P. Clavin, Pastor
Presiders: Msgr. Michael Gallagher and Rev. James Rafferty
Deacons: Dcn Ron Diem, Dcn Doug Pingel, and Dcn Dom Guzzardo

October 24, 2021

11451 Blue Cypress Dr., San Diego, CA 92131 • 858-653-3540 • www.stgg.org



We are a vibrant, faithful, Eucharistic, Catholic Community who bring people to Christ and send them out to transform the world.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass Daily: 8:00 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

First Friday Mass: Noon

Weekend Mass Schedule:
All Sunday Masses are held inside)

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. *(outside)*
Sunday: 7:30 a.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. *(Signed for the deaf)*
Sunday: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday: 5:00 p.m.

All Masses are livestreamed at:
www.stgg.org

A Walk Through the Mass

Week THREE

This week we will focus on, "The Liturgy of the Eucharist." This is the part in Mass where we move to the altar for the sacred meal of sacrifice, sharing and thanksgiving.

Join us for our

New Parishioner Orientation Today starting at 12:15pm!

We would love to meet you and share with you all the wonderful ministries and opportunities our parish community provides! Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

The STGG Gardening Ministry is happy to announce the construction of the St. Gregory the Great Memorial Garden! As parishioners you may purchase memorial bricks with custom inscriptions to memorialize your loved ones. There are 300 4X8 and 30 8X8 inch bricks for sale, so please don't delay in purchasing. Please look for the Memorial Garden Brick Sales table in the Gathering Plaza after each mass. The Gardening Ministry would like to thank Fr. Nick for his enthusiastic support and the Parish Stewardship Council for their positive endorsement of this project.

Saturday, Oct 23
5:00 pm Modesto Lumban †

Sunday, Oct 24
7:30 am Helen Kremp SI
9:00 am Joan Doyle †
11:00 am Mass for the People
5:00 pm Margaret Ames †

Monday, October 25
8:00am Rosendo & Norma Villaruz †

Tuesday, October 26
8:00 am Salve Teoxon SI

Wednesday, October 27
8:00 am Coral Nicole Mangahis SI

Thursday, October 28
8:00 am Rowena Galendez SI

Friday, October 29
8:00 am Cristela Tan SI

The Faith Community and Staff of St. Gregory the Great extend a warm welcome to our newest parishioners and their families:

Emily Silady

Paul and Julia Ryan

Christian and Jacqueline Webb

Robert and Kumchu August

New to our parish? Sign up at: www.stgg.org

IN MEMORIAM

The Community and Staff of St. Gregory the †Great Parish extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of:

Yolanda Ochoa

Andres Bacusmo

Edgardo Camerino

Jesus Dennis Labitan

Theresa McConnell

Miguel Monasterio

May they rest God's peace.

FOR THE NEEDS AND INTENTIONS OF:

James Pellerino, Judith DiMatteo, Gloria Galvan, Carlton Family, Susan Bryan, Cruz Rubio, James O'Keefe, Mara Casas, Alex Rubio, Russell Mars, Felicidad Floresca, Danny Wagner, Robert Scigliano, Billy Colmenar, Ha Bich Tran, Alex Bernabe, Kathy Cazin, Carmen Morrissey, Adam Pavan, Chip Lindgren, Valerie DelaPena, Peter Kremp, Doug Collins, Stephanie Lower, Mary Ann Lazaro, Rosie Ann Pablo, Michael and Carmen Evans, Emilio Sales, Ramsey Esparza, Stephanie Miller, John Vattuone, Roger Stevens, Dave Nelson, Jeffrey Tara, Rowena Gabriel, Rudy Sigarlaki, Laurel Ayres, Shelley Wilson-Smith, Linda Drabek, Hermenigildo and Corazon Valera, Maggie Delaney, Celia Turek, Rick Igou, Karin Baker, Jay Janssen, Norma Trujillo, Emily Hempton, Skip Anderson, Alex Borja, Alfredo Garrido, Myrna Gloria, Jayden James Valera, Thai Tran, Anna Anderson, Maria Scigliano, Armando Camacho RIP

Parish Info for All Souls Day

All Souls Mass

Tuesday, Nov 2nd at 7 pm

Please join us at this Mass where we remember those loved ones who have gone to their final rest since last year's All Souls Mass.

Honor your loved ones during the month of November, by bringing a 4"x6" photo to be added to the memorial trees in the Holy Family Chapel. Write the name of the deceased on the back of the photo along with a contact name and phonenumber. Photos will be kept for the following years unless a return is requested. Please bring the photo to the parish office before Friday, October 29th.

Daily Novenas

Nov 2nd – 10th

Envelopes for All Souls Novena are in the pews and the parish office. Put the names of those you want to remember on the envelope and return it in the collection basket, the mail, or drop it off at the office. If you have questions , contact Judy judy@stgg.org 858-653-3584.

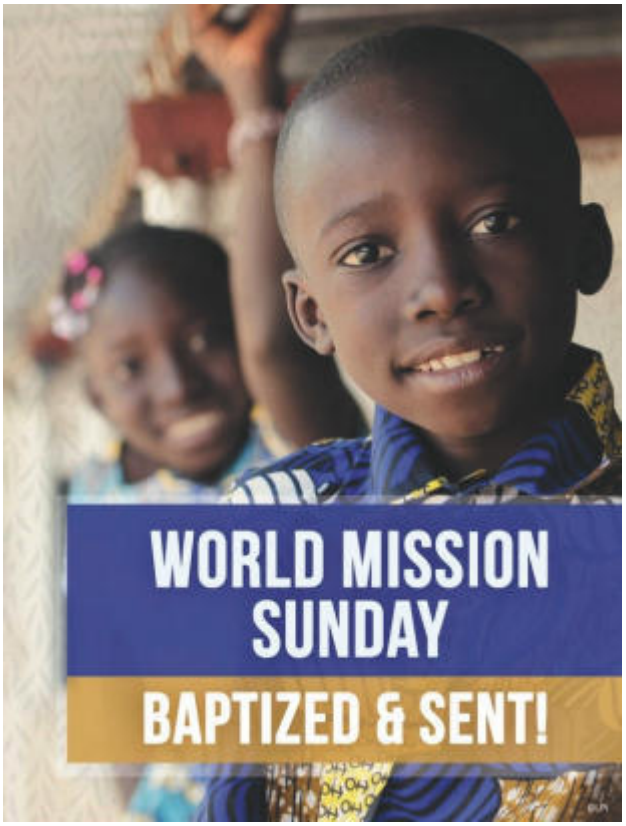
St. Gregory the Great Parish

Month of the Rosary Celebration

Sat, October 30, 2021

This family event kicks off with Confession at 4:00pm , and ends with a Reception at the Parish Hall starting at 7:00pm.

Please check out all the details on our Parish website at: www.stgg.org



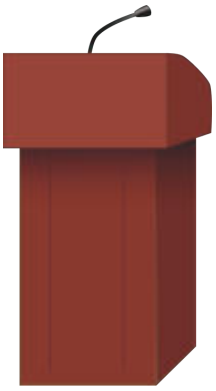
October 24th

EVERY YEAR in October we join all Catholics of the world to recommit ourselves to our common baptismal vocation.

We are called to be missionaries through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Your help is greatly needed this year!

Please pick up an envelope and give generously to this fund. www.stgg.org



Are you currently a Lector?
Are you getting a call to proclaim the Word?
If so, we invite you for Lector Training on Saturday November 6 from 9 AM to 10 AM in the Church. We will be handing out the 2022 Lector Workbooks and reviewing the latest changes we are implementing during Mass. Many thanks and God Bless.

The great Pope John Paul II says the following in our Catechism:

"The Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to making amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease." (CCC, 1380)

ADORATION Thurs, Oct 28th from 8:30am-Fri, 8:00am

Sign up @ www.stgg.org

Join us on October 29th for

A Pizza Fest and Movie Night!!!

St. Gregory the Great Catholic School is hosting this event. All are welcome.

Time: 5:30pm

Movie: Hotel Transylvania begins at 6:15pm

Cost: Movie and Flippin" Pizza $15

Click to get your pizza order form www.stgg.org

(You must have your pizza order in to the school office by October 21st!)

*Bring your own seating

Questions:? Call 858-397-1290

Oct 25-31, 2021

Monday: Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21 [21a]/Lk 13:10

Tuesday: Rom 8:18-25/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd -3, 4-5, 6 [3a]/Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Rom 8:26-30/Ps 13:4-5, 6 [6a]/Lk 13:22-30

Thursday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5a]/Lk 6:12-16

Friday: Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 14:1-6

Saturday: Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18 [14a]/Lk 14:1, 7-11

Next Sunday: Dt 6:2-6/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 [2]/Heb 7:23-28/Mk 12:28b-34

40 DAYS FOR LIFE
Will you speak for those who cannot speak for themselves?

Sept 22 – OCT 31 2021

Parishioners of St. Gregory the Great are called to make a difference, to be a light in this dark world, and to be a powerful witness for the most vulnerable in society!

Join the pro-life ministry during the 40 Days for Life campaign to pray and fast.

40daysforlife.com/sandiego

Oct. 29 7AM to 5PM **Location**: sidewalk near the Carl's Jr, 10717 Camino Ruiz in Mira Mesa.

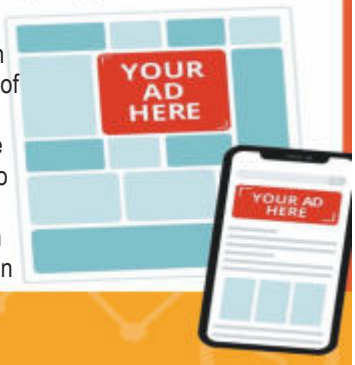
We are pleased to announce the return of Youth Choir to the Sunday 5 PM Mass!!

We are now recruiting choir members. We welcome the youth of our parish starting from 7th grade though High School and beyond to be part of this ministry. Singers and instrumentalists are welcome. Practices will take place on Sunday prior to the start of Mass and online resources for practicing remotely will also be available. Music will be of a more contemporary style than our other traditional choirs. If you are interested, please email John Chicca at musicministry@stgg.org to be placed on the mailing list. More details to follow.

AVAILABLE NOW!
PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Kathy Dickens from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be in our office the week of **Oct 25th,** securing new ads for our church. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on



LPi
Kathy Dickens
Cell: 719-650-9467

Memorial Mass for
Robert R. Darron
Lt. Col USMC (Ret)

Monday, November 8, 2021 at 11:00am

St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church

11451 Blue Cypress Dr. San Diego, CA 92131

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

What's in it for me?

I think we've all been guilty of looking at a situation and wondering what's in it for us. It doesn't matter if it's a particular work assignment, someone at the parish asking for help with the mission trip bake sale, or your spouse asking if you'll take over the grocery shopping this week. Often, our first reaction to one of these requests is a heavy sigh and the thought: "If I do this, what will I get?"

Sometimes it surprises us to realize that the Apostles were no different. We tend to idolize these contemporaries of Christ as giants who walked with the Savior. But in reality, these individuals were merely human beings struggling to commit to the task of everyday stewardship.In the Gospels, we see glimpses of them longing for praise and affirmation. We see them jockeying for positions of power within the group of twelve. We see them expect earthly rewards like honor and admiration. We see them acting a lot like us.

But in the end, we see them transformed by the grace of God. Like all the saints, their holiness stems from their commitment to their call. They stumble through, and as they stumble, they keep trusting God. They keep turning to Him. They keep asking for help. They don't give up just because they keep failing at it.We are defined by what we give when we have no hope of being reimbursed, rewarded, or recognized. The Apostles understood this, eventually, and they gave accordingly. Most of them gave their very lives.Remember, they're just like us. If they can do it, we can too.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE

Our Parishioners and visitors made a joyful return to the Lord in gratitude for the gifts they have received from God:

Oct 17, 2021

Church	**$18,319.97**
Online Giving	**$16,654.39**
Total:	**$34,974.36**

Approximate amount needed weekly:

$36,000

Difference: **-$1,025.64**

Sincere gratitude for your fidelity to your offertory of sacrificial giving in support of St. Gregory the Great Parish. Fr. Nick, Pastor

Calling all military families…

Our parish has asked us to help with the Donut Ministry on the 2nd Sunday of the month! Can you come out and help serve a fresh donut, coffee and juice?

We would begin on October 10th!

If you are willing to help please email Chris Keane cakeane46@gmail.com and Ryan Lawrenz relawrenz@gmail.com.

Hope to see you soon. God Bless you.

Rachel's Hope

AFTER-ABORTION

HEALING RETREAT FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN

Oct. 29-31, 2021

For info call Rosemary Benefield 858-581-3022

rachels_hope@juno.com

10 ANNUAL WHITE MASS

OCT 30, 2021 • 10:00AM

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH

CARLSBAD, CA 92009

Presider: Most RevRamón Bejarano

Attire: White Lab Coats (optional)

Speaker: Dr. Lauren Rubal, a reproductive endocrinologist and infertility specialist

Reception to follow in the Parish Hall

Grief & Loss Workshop

Presented by: The Mental Health Ministry at St. Michael's

Sat, Nov 6th 8:30am-11:30am

RSVP Deacon Bill Adsit:

bill@smpoway.org

Holy Mass with Prayers for Healing

Tues., Nov 9, 2021 7pm

Contact Bob and Rosemary 760-741-0866

Thanksgiving Food Drive 2021 for Our Lady of Angels
Weekend of November 20/21

For safety purposes due to the current pandemic, we will not be opening individual bags. The bags you donate will be given as is. One bag will be given to each family at Our Lady of Angels

We are accepting the following:

Walmart gift card ($20) – Each family at Our Lady of Angels will receive a gift card to purchase a turkey.

Give to parish office, or tape outside of filled grocery bag as noted below

2) A grocery bag complete with each of the following non-perishable, non-expired, standard-size canned or boxed foods in a double paper or sturdy bag.

- Vegetables
- Fruit
- Instant Potatoes
- Gravy
- Stuffing Mix
- Soup/Broth
- Yams
- Cranberry Sauce
- Ready-to-make Desserts (ex: cake mix or brownie mix)

3) We can also accept cash or checks for any amount. Please make checks payable to: "St. Gregory the Great" – In memo line, please write "SPOM – Thanksgiving" and return to parish office.

Please return in front of parish before or after masses on
Saturday, November 20 and Sunday, November 21
Thank you for your generosity!

For more information, please contact Andrea:
SPOM.STGG@gmail.com
Sister Parish Outreach Ministry

Parish Ministries & Groups

Adoration	David Rowe	858-549-2215
Altar Linens	Maria Quitugua	858-663-4135
Altar Servers	Greg Wisniew	619-922-1529
Audio-Visual Ministry	John Chicca	858-653-3583
Baptism Seminars	Jim & Paula Baker	858-653-3540
	Tom & Joni Deiters	858-740-8965
Bible Study	Dennis Poirier	858-243-2455
Blood Drive	Alan Muir	858-695-1633
Boy Scout Troup #616	Paul Honeycutt	858-692-1112
Boy Scout Troup #664	Bill Boggs	858-530-9061
Boy Scout Female Troup #226	Paula Trubitt	858-566-9231
Build-A-Miracle	Chris & Julianne North	619-992-0845
Catholic Men's Fellowship	Frank Deniston	619-857-5473
Children's Liturgy of the Word		858-653-3540
Communion to the Homebound	Paulette Deniston	619-857-5443
Computer Help Ministry	Michael Yang	619-607-0875
Confirmon Preparation-Adult	Dcn Doug Pingel	559-731-9791
Confirmation Preparation-Youth	Vinny Kyamko-Yap	858-653-3591
Connection to Christ Small Groups	Kathy Nuffer	858-354-0091
Cooking Group	Margaret Byrne	858-549-3375
Cub Scouts	Stephanie Karpow	858-776-280
Cursillo	Frank & Paulette Deniston	619-857-5473
Daily Mass Ministry	Jenny Quimpo	619-972-9719
Divine Dining	Mark & Gail Russell	619-972-1457
Divine Mercy Cenacle	Zofia Piastowska	858-547-0052
	Carolyn Standifer	858-536-1113
Donuts & Coffee	Kim Witham	619-508-1999
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Greg Tom	858-271-9490
Faith Formation-Adult	Deacon Ron Diem	858-653-3582
Faith Formation–Children	Maddie Hoeger	858-653-3594
Faith Formation Asst.–Children	Bella Luna	858-653-3590
Faith Formation-Middle School	Maddie Hoeger	858-653-3594
Faith Formation-Mid School Asst	Bella Luna	858-653-3590
Family Cancer Support	Megan Clark	773-405-7151
	Mary Brewer	858-395-2547
Filipino-American	Hermie Moscoso	858-586-7473
Film Fans	Kate Schemensky	858-748-5227
Gala	Brie Atwater	858-342-7484
Gardening Ministry	Mike Yang	619-607-0875
Greeters & Ushers	John Brown	858-525-5710
Health & Safety Ministry	Linda Mulvain	858-248-0040
Helping Hands	Margaret Byrne	858-549-3375
Kitchen Coordinator	Pat Rasmussen	858-774-8381
Knights of Columbus	Wes Petonak	973-713-2051
Lector	Rene Trevino	858-602-6437
	Terry McKearney	619-822-3568
Liturgical Environment:	Eric Thunberg	619-813-8477
	Christine Thunberg	619-813-8478
Liturgical Scheduling	Greg Tom	858-271-9490
Marriage Encounter	Parish Office	858-653-3540
Martha's Ministry	Caroline Yandell	858-653-3540
Military Friendship & Support	Ryan Lawrenz	850-384-3269
	Kelli Lawrenz	850-384-2660
	Christopher Keane	858-382-1887
Ministry of Consolation	Judy Riotz	858-653-3584
Ministry Fair	Bill Carpenter	858-922-8860
	Maureen Carpenter	858-922-8860
Ministry of Mothers	Cynthia Kurose	858-859-0517
Music Ministry	John Chicca	858-653-3583
New Parishioner Orientation	Rich Abrom	858-603-9640
	Peggy Abrom	858-414-7629
Our Lady of Fatima Devotion	Carolyn Standifer	858-536-1113
Outreach for Nazareth Orphanage	Deborah Sampson	858-229-0345
	Father Brian Kelly	760-448-5462
Parish Tours	Deacon Ron Diem	858- 653-3582
Prayer Wheel	Matt Gaynor	858-344-2165
Prayers & Squares	Margaret Lynn	858-530-2560
	Pat Kikendall	858-771-1167
RCIA	Deacon Dom Guzzardo	858- 751-4785
Relevant Radio	Greg Lettau	858-663-6978
Respect for Life / Social Justice	Maria Manyari	858-549-2812
Rosary Cenacle	MaryAnne Dunlop	858-880-2265
Rosary Makers	Mary Ann Quinto	619-252-7874
STGG Food Share	Joe Kloberdanz	858-449-6246
Sister Parish Outreach	Angie McAllister	858-395-5916
	Bill McAllister	858-790-4068
Special Needs Ministry	Erin Zwahlen	619-540-0676
St. Vincent/Meals for Homeless	Margie Mills	619-733-7410
Vacation Bible School		858-653-3594
Wedding Ministry	Judy Roitz	858--653-3584
Women's Book Club	Kate Schemensky	858-748-5227
Women's Friendship Circle	Debbie Malone	858-663-5230
	Pam Klevesahl	858-748-7733
Young Adult Ministry	Maddie Hoeger	858-653-3594
Youth Ministry Coordinator	Vinny Kyamko-Yap	858- 653-3591

Pastoral Stewardship Council

PSC Chief Stewards

Pastor	Very Rev. Nicholas Clavin	858-653-3540
Deacon	Ron Diem	858-653-3582
Chief Steward	Michael Kielty	858 -271-1004
Financial Council	Gene Fantano	858-335-2253
Parish Development	Maria Sittmann	619- 846-4706
Communications	Rob Thornhill	858-679-0407
Catholic School	Maeve O'Connell	858- 397-1290
Christian Formation	Ken Marra	858-442-3871
Groups & Organizations	Marla Garvey	858- 689-8449
Liturgy	Cheryl Magner	858-271-7250
Assisted by:	Greg Tom	858-271-9490
Parish Life	Matt Gaynor	858-344-2165
Parish Outreach	Mike Harris	858-513-1153
Assisted by:	Chris Villasenor	858 -382-9405
Parish-wide Involvement	Bill Carpenter	858 -922-8860
Assisted by:	Maureen Carpenter	858- 922-8860
Stewardship/Webmaster	Nichol Swift	858-653-3546

PARISH STAFF

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858-653-3540 • www.stgg.org

Very Rev. Nicholas Clavin, *Pastor*
858 653-3540 • slower@stgg.org

Deacon Ron Diem, *Adult Formation Coordinator*
858 653-3582 • deaconron@stgg.org

Deacon Doug Pingel *Adult Confirmation Coordinator*
559-731-9791 DougjPingel@gmail.com

Deacon Dom Guzzardo, *RCIA Coordinator*
858-751-4785 deacondom@stgg.org

Maeve O'Connell, *School Principal*
858-397-1290 • office@stggcs.org

Stephanie Lower, *Business Manager*
858-653-3540 • slower@stgg.org

Nichol Swift, *Stewardship Coordinator, Webmaster*
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Judy Roitz, *Baptisms, Funerals , Weddings and Scheduling*
wedding@stgg.org
858-653-3584 • judy@stgg.org

John Chicca, *Music Director*
858-653-3583 • musicministry@stgg.org

Maddie Hoeger, *Young Adult Coordinator*
Maddie@stgg.org

Maddie Hoeger, *Faith Formation Coordinator:*
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Bella Luna, *Faith Formation Assistant*
858-653-3540 ff@stgg.org

José Barrera, Anna Diaz, Maria Munoz, *Maintenance*
858 653-3540 • jrba378@gmail.com

Vincent Kyamka-Yap, *Coordinator of Youth Ministry:*
858-653-3591 vinny@stgg.org

Suzanne Guzzardo, *Reception*
858-653-3540 • reception@stgg.org

SCHOOL FACULTY STAFF

15315 Stonebridge Pkwy • San Diego, CA 92131
858-397-1290 • www.stggcs.org

Maeve O'Connell, *Principal*
858-397-1290 • office@stggcs.org

Darlene Howard, *Assistant Principal*
www.stggcs.org

Becky Walton, *School Office Manager*

Melissa Fugitt, *Kindergarten*

Michelle Langley, *Kindergarten*

Cynthia Herman, *First Grade*

Nicole Demirbey, *Second Grade*

Jacqueline Renteria, *Third Grade*

Christina Defensor *Fourth Grade*

Camille Girard, *Fifth Grade*

Austin Simpson, *6th Grade / Jr. High History*

Melissa Colombo, *7th Grade / Jr. High ELA*

Darlene Howard, *8th Grade / Jr. High Math*

Sudipta Dasgupta, *Jr. High Science*

Kelli Lawrenz, *Jr. High Religion / Volunteer Cord*

Daniel Cavar, *PE / Reading Support*

Amy Igou, *Pre-School Director*
858-397-1291

Pre -School Classes:

2 Yr Old Teachers: Erica Howland, Casey Sanchioli
3 Yr Old Teachers: Elsa Chira, Irene Yutadco
4 Yr Old, TK Teachers: Melanie Bruce, Sanae Vaughan

Instructional Aides: Debbi Howard, Angela Sloskey, Cynthia Angeles, Daniel Lee

Extd Daycare Program: Director: Debbi Howard
Assistant: Noemi Palihnich

Custodian: Bert Meza

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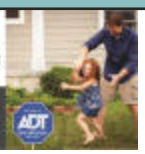

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A Walk Through the Mass: A Step-by-Step Explanation
Week Three: The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Meal sharing (Liturgy of the Eucharist)

After the Liturgy of the Word, we move to the altar for the sacred meal of sacrifice, sharing, and thanksgiving. As at a meal in the home of a friend, we 1) set the table, 2) say grace and 3) share the food (eat and drink). At Mass these ritual actions are called 1) the Preparation of the Altar and Gifts, 2) the Eucharistic Prayer, 3) the Communion Rite.

Preparation of the Altar and Gifts

The early Christians each brought some bread and wine from their homes to the church to be used for the Mass and to be given to the clergy and the poor. Today a similar offering for the parish and the poor is made with our monetary contributions.

The priest receives bread and wine brought forward by members of the congregation, keeping the spiritual efficacy and significance of the early church offerings.

He then mixes water with the wine and washes his hands. (Mixing water with wine and washing hands are things all Jews did at meals in Jesus' day.)

Finally, he invites us to pray that the sacrifice be acceptable to God. We respond "Amen" to the Prayer Over the Gifts.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The prayer which follows is addressed to the Father and brings us to the very center of the Mass and the heart of our faith. While the words of the prayer may vary from Sunday to Sunday, the prayer always has this structure: 1) We call upon God to remember all the wonderful saving deeds of our history. 2) We recall the central event in our history, Jesus Christ, and in particular the memorial he left us on the night before he died. We recall his Passion, Death and Resurrection. 3) After gratefully calling to mind all the wonderful saving acts God has done for us in the past, we petition God to continue those deeds of Christ in the present: we pray that we may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

Invitation. The prayer begins with a dialogue between the leader and the assembly. First, the priest greets us with "The Lord be with you." He then asks if we are ready and willing to approach the table and to renew our baptismal commitment, offering ourselves to God: "Lift up your hearts." And we say that we are prepared to do so: "We lift them up to the Lord." We are invited to give thanks to the Lord our God. And we respond: "It is right and just."

To "give thanks" translates the traditional Greek verb which now names the whole action: Eucharist.

Preface and Acclamation

Institution Narrative: Consecration. The priest continues the prayer, giving praise and thanks, and calling upon the Holy Spirit to change our gifts of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. He then recalls the events of the Last Supper—the institution of the Eucharist. At this important moment in the prayer, we proclaim the mystery of faith. Several texts are possible, for example: "We proclaim your Death, O Lord, / and profess your Resurrection / until you come again." The priest continues recalling the wonderful deeds of salvation: the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ.

Prayer for unity and intercessions. The grateful memory of God's salvation leads us to make a bold petition, our main petition at every Eucharist: we pray for unity. "Humbly we pray / that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, / we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit" (Eucharistic Prayer II). To this petition we add prayers for the bishop of Rome and for the bishop of the local Church; we pray for the living and the dead as well as ourselves that through the intercession of the saints we may one day arrive at the table in heaven.

We look forward to that glorious day and raise our voices with those of all the saints who have gone before us as the priest raises the consecrated bread and wine and offers a doxology, a prayer of glory to God in the name of Christ: "Through Him, and with Him, and in Him, / O God, almighty Father, / in the unity of the Holy Spirit, / all glory and honor is yours, / for ever and ever." Our "Amen" to this prayer acclaims our assent and participation in the entire Eucharistic Prayer.

The Communion Rite

Our Father and Sign of Peace. We prepare to eat and drink at the Lord's Table with those words taught us by Jesus: "Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Keenly aware that Communion (the word means "union with") is the sign and source of our reconciliation and union with God and with one another; we make a gesture of union and forgiveness with those around us and offer them the Sign of Peace.

Invitation to Communion. The priest then shows us the Body of Christ and invites us to come to the table echoing the words of John the Baptist "Behold the Lamb of God...." We respond, "Lord, I am not worthy...", as the Centurion did when he asked Jesus to cure his servant (Matthew 8:8). None of us, on our own, are worthy to embrace the fullness of Christ. It is only through the love and mercy of God bestowed upon us that we become worthy to receive. The members of the assembly now approach the altar in procession.

Communion. As God fed our ancestors in the desert on their pilgrimage, so God gives us food for our journey. We approach the minister who gives us Eucharist with the words "The Body of Christ," and we respond, "Amen." During this procession we usually sing a hymn that unites our voices, minds and thoughts, even as the Body and Blood of Christ unites us into one body. Then we pray silently in our hearts, thanking and praising God and asking for all that this sacrament promises. The priest then unites our prayers into the Prayer After Communion, to which we respond, "Amen."