



# ST. JOHN NEUMANN CATHOLIC CHURCH

2575 W. El Campo Grande Avenue, North Las Vegas, NV 89031•

(702)657-0200 Fax: (702)648-2327•www.sjnc.org

*Proud to be a Stewardship Parish*



## **The Schedule of Masses**

Saturday: 4:00 pm (Vigil for Sundays)

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm & 5:00 pm

Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 am

Holy Days: 8:00 am, 12:00 pm & 6:00 pm

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday: 3:00 to 3:30 pm

or upon request during office hours except on Sundays.

## **Morning Prayer**

Tuesday through Friday: 7:35 am

## **Rosary**

Tuesday through Friday: 7:15 am

(Church opens at 7:10 am)

## **Office Hours**

Tue. thru Fri.: 8:30 am—12:00 pm & 1:30 pm—5:00 pm

Sat.: 8:30 am—4:00 pm

Closed Sun. & Mon.

## **The Nativity of the Lord December 25, 2011**

*“The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it.*

— John 1:5

## MASS INTENTIONS, CALENDAR, READINGS

### Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 24  
4:00 pm Edwin Kuhlmann†  
by SJN Morning Prayer Group  
6:00 pm In Thanksgiving for The Almeraz Family  
by Asuncion Almeraz  
8:00 pm Jack K. Goldstein by Pauline Tillmann  
10:00 pm The Wevita Family by Fr. Bede  
12:00 am For Peace in the World by Fr. Bede  
Sunday, December 25  
8:00 am Eve Carpenter† by Edna Bernardo  
10:00 am Christmas Novena  
12:00 pm Frances Chiodo† by Bob Chiodo  
5:00 pm The Parishioners of John Neumann  
Monday, December 26  
8:00 am Christmas Novena  
Tuesday, December 27  
8:00 am Christmas Novena  
Wednesday, December 28  
8:00 am Christmas Novena  
Thursday, December 29  
8:00 am Christmas Novena  
Friday, December 30  
8:00 am Christmas Novena  
Saturday, December 31  
8:00 am Christmas Novena  
Sunday, January 1, 2012  
8:00 am Annesley Perera† by Fr. Bede  
10:00 am Christmas Novena  
12:00 pm The Parishioners of John Neumann  
5:00 pm For Peace in the World by Fr. Bede

### Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22  
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Mt 2:13-18  
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35  
Friday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3;  
Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Heb 11:8,  
11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]  
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18  
Sunday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7;  
Lk 2:16-21

### Other daily scripture resources on the web:

[www.usccb.org/nab](http://www.usccb.org/nab) (daily scripture)  
[www.usccb.org/nab/nabpodcast.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/nab/nabpodcast.shtml)  
(daily scripture for podcast)

### Parish Calendar

Baptismal Preparation	Call the Parish Office for an appointment
Marthas & Marys	2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm
Young Adult Choir	Tuesdays, 7:00 pm
Children's Choir	Wednesdays, 6:00 pm
Adult Choir	Wednesdays, 6:45 pm
Men's Club	1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm
Senior Luncheons	2nd Wednesday, bi-monthly 12:00 noon
Finance Committee	4th Wednesday, 5:30 pm
Bible Study	Thursdays, 8:45 am
Staff Meetings	Thursdays, 10:00 am
RCIA	Thursdays, 6:45 pm
Reader's Workshop	Thursdays, 7:00 pm
Parish Council	Last Thursday, 7:00 pm
Jr. High Youth Group	2nd Monday & 4th Weds, 6:00-7:30 pm
High School Youth Grp	1st & 3rd Wednesday 6:00-7:30 pm

### Parish Office & Faith Formation



### Department & Outreach

### Pantry CLOSED

**Tuesday Dec 27-noon thru Monday Jan 2**

(In observance of the Christmas Holiday)

### New Year's Eve (Sat) &

### New Year's Day (Sun) Masses

Saturday 4:00pm

Sunday 8:00am; 10:00am; 12noon

and 5:00pm

### Bulletin Editor's Note:

Due to earlier publication of this bulletin, Baptisms or Funerals and/or Altar Flowers for this week will be published in a bulletin to follow.

### **Attendance and Stewardship**

Due to earlier publication of this bulletin, attendance and collection numbers for Dec.17/18 are not available. We will have a full accounting in a bulletin to follow.

### **Second Collection**

Next week's second collection is for the Building Fund.

This collection is for those parishioners who have not yet made a stewardship

pledge, but wish to add to the growth of our parish campus. If you are planning on making a pledge, forms can be obtained in the parish office or online at [www.sjnc.org](http://www.sjnc.org)



### **The Gift of God's Word**

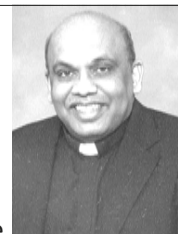
On this day of gifts and gift-giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### **Pastor's Note**

Dear Parishioners,



I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas, filled with the peace of our Lord. Now is the time to commemorate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ which occurred some 2,000 years ago. Each one of us has, deep down in our souls, an incredible hunger to be in the presence of God. Christmas is special because it reminds us concretely that God is indeed with us. In every circumstance of life, even when we are frightened or lonely or in sorrow, God is with us. So let us take Christmas to our hearts and embrace Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

As I told you last week, Christmas is not just one day, but a season which lasts for twelve days, concluding on Epiphany (12th night.) The extension of the feast should remind us to continue to share our joy at the comings of the Messiah-the first some 2000 years ago, the last at the Parousia or "Second coming," for which we all pray (Eucharistic Acclamation- "*Until You come again*") and all those occurring between the two, as we go about our daily routines. As we celebrate the incarnation of the Word of God this Christmas, let us make a conscious effort, both to remember that Jesus is always with us in the Eucharist, and to share our Joy in His presence with others.

In closing I want to thank you very much for bringing in toys, clothes and gift cards for the Angel Tree project. Your response was heartwarming.

May God bless you all,

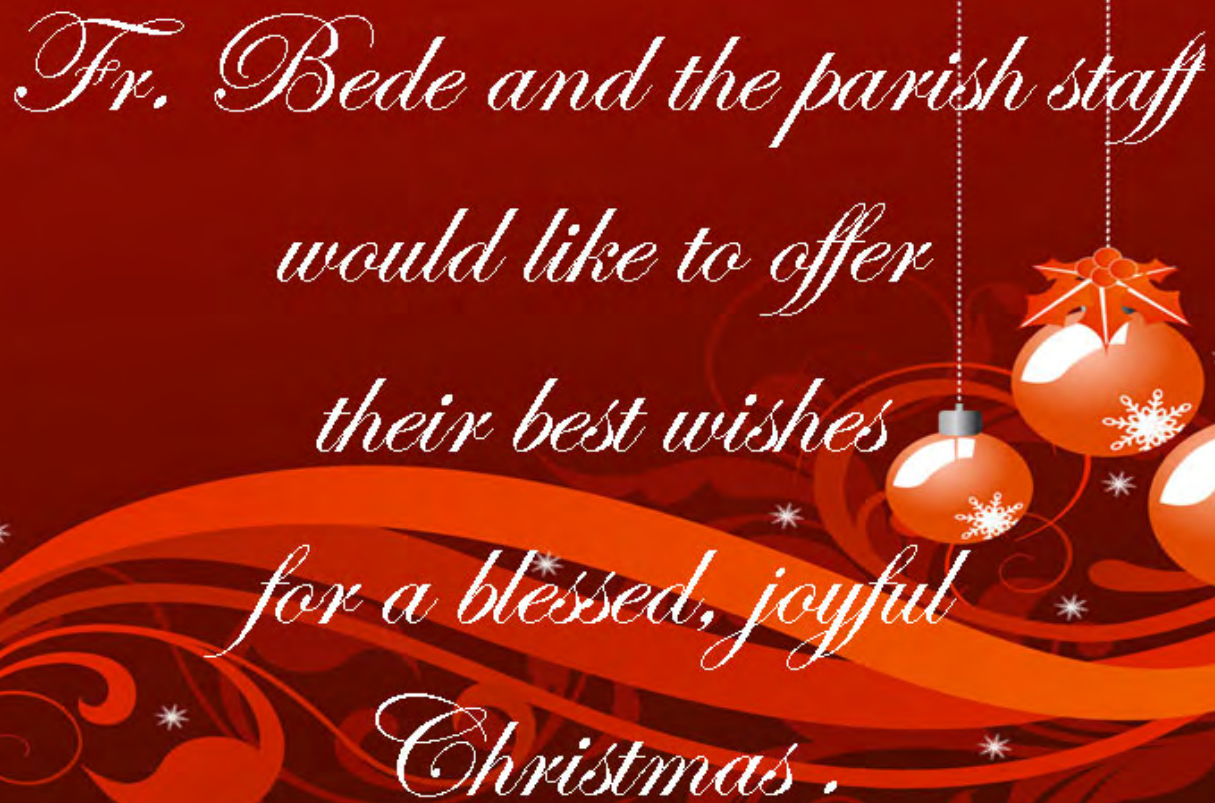
Fr. Bede Wevita

Fr. Bede  
Pastor




# MERRY CHRISTMAS

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*Fr. Bede and the parish staff  
would like to offer  
their best wishes  
for a blessed, joyful  
Christmas.*



Many thanks to those very thoughtful parishioners who brought goodies, gifts and special treats to the parish office. We are very blessed to have such wonderful people as friends.

**Fr. Bede and all the Staff**

St. John Neumann Church would like to acknowledge  
the DiFazio family  
for sponsoring our beautiful  
sanctuary Christmas banners.



These banners were sponsored  
in memory of  
Catherine DiFazio  
who would have celebrated  
her 100th birthday this year.

To all our **Stars for Christmas** light sponsors:  
Thank-you  
for helping us present a beautiful  
Christmas outdoor lights display.



May God bless you for your  
kindness and generosity.

### Diaper Drive

The Catholic Charities Social Program is in need of diapers in all sizes from newborn to toddlers for families in need in our southern Nevada community. ***Please help these less fortunate babies and toddlers.*** The diapers may be dropped off in the donation bins in the Lobby, and, **Thank-you for all that you do! Thank-you for all that you do!**



### 6th Annual Women's Silent Retreat



**SAVE these dates MAY 4-6, 2012** for the 6th Annual Women's Silent Retreat and bus trip to the Sacred Heart Retreat House with the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus in Alhambra, California. "Our goal is to promote a deeper spiritual life for the women in all of the Las Vegas Parishes and outlying areas." This retreat would be a great idea for that special woman in your life as a Christmas present, or Valentine's Day gift or even an early Mother's Day present. Visit the web-site at <http://www.carmelitesistersocd.com/>

### Lupus of Nevada Inc. Thanks-You!

The end of the year is here and Lupus of Nevada is profoundly grateful to the community for their support and financial contributions from their donors. Lupus of Nevada, Inc., is a nonprofit charitable organization 501 (c)3. Their mission is to increase educational awareness and advocacy throughout the State of Nevada. Lupus of Nevada is committed to educating and building support through awareness, education, nutrition, coping strategies, conferences and community outreach. Please continue your financial support to their cause, they actually reach out into the trenches and service those in need. You can send your donations to Lupus of Nevada, Inc., 3061 South Maryland Pkwy Suite 102-C Las Vegas, NV 89109.

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter

God gave us the greatest gift of love when He sent His son to redeem us. He asks us to love one another as He loves us. Take the time to grow deeper in love with God, your spouse and your family at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends are February 10-12 and May 4-6, 2012 in Boulder City. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information, call Wayne and Marcia Kessler at 702-566-8753. For information on Spanish-language weekends, call Jose and Patti Santiago at 702-544-3755.



### Living Stewardship Now

Christmas in the Church's calendar is a *season* that starts on Christmas Day and continues until the Baptism of the Lord on the first Sunday after January 6. Try extending your celebration through that time, with small gifts and good deeds of your choosing. Copyright © 2011, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

### Retrouvaille (Re-tro-vi) can Help Give Your Marriage a New Beginning!!

If you are living in the disappointment & pain of a marriage in trouble, whether it be from lack of communication or something more serious and you have no hope. The Church has another avenue than Divorce, it is a program called Retrouvaille, which will help you rebuild your marriage. Please call Chuck and Carol Moore for more information at 702-615-4339.



### Please, Protect Your Valuables

Several parishes continue to report purses being taken during Communion, while parishioners process to receive the Eucharist. As a precaution please safeguard your purse at all times and do not leave any valuables in your car!

### Bulletin Advertisers

**Please patronize our bulletin advertisers. It's because of them we have this weekly publication. If you are interested in advertising in the bulletin, please call the parish office.**

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

An old joke asks, “What time is Midnight Mass?” The answer is not really obvious, since Christmas is unique in having several distinct celebrations. The readings and prayers vary greatly from hour to hour. The Vigil Mass hinges on the family heritage of Jesus and his origins. The concept of “midnight” predates clock time, and really has to do with a celebration in the hours of darkness. Years ago, it was not possible to receive Communion without fasting for a full day, so the late hour of this Mass made it possible for the people to receive. The first Mass after sunrise, the Mass at Dawn, was once known as “The Shepherds’ Mass,” and later Masses set aside stories of Jesus’ birth to focus on the key to the day’s celebration: John the Evangelist’s majestic theology of Christ’s identity as the Word made flesh, dwelling among us. One feast, four separate Masses. Only monasteries manage the whole round. Parishioners typically take just one entry point into the mystery. Yet there is much to savor and celebrate in the coming of Christ into the world. Christmas is not a day, but a season. You still have two weeks to send those Christmas cards before you’re officially late!

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION**

Imagine, this day with no child in the manger, Christmas trees, presents, or fancy dinner. How would *you* celebrate? For three hundred years after Jesus’ time, Christians did not mark Jesus’ birth. Eventually the church settled Christmas on December 25. This became a big festival in the Middle Ages. Later, Puritans suppressed it as pagan and popish. By the mid-nineteenth century Charles Dickens’ story *A Christmas Carol* revived Christmas with a family emphasis, not a religious one. In one of today’s readings, Saint Paul gets to the heart of this day: “When the kindness and generous love of God our savior appeared, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, he saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior, so we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life” (Titus 3:4-7). Now *that* is cause for celebration!

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**Lectionary Based Scripture Study**

In observance of the Christmas Holiday, there is no class on

**Thursday, December 29th.** Classes will resume the following Thursday, January 5, 2012.



**Attention All Confirmation Students!**

Here is an up-coming opportunity to earn your service hours. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Youth Room. *Please make sure to bring in your service hours sheet to be signed!*

- Assist with Mass Books (Beginning in December)
- Every Saturday, 2:00pm-3:00pm
- Sundays after the 12:00 pm mass

**SJNC Youth Groups  
COMING IN JANUARY!**

**Jr. High Youth Group (JHYG)**  
for students in grades 6-8  
Meet every 2nd & 4th Wednesday  
6:00pm—7:30pm in the Youth Room

**YOUTH**

**High Youth Group (HSYG)**  
for students in grades 9-12  
Meet every 1st & 3rd Wednesday  
6:00pm—7:30pm

**YOUTH**

**COME AND ENJOY THE FELLOWSHIP & FUN!!!**

**FIRST MEETING FOR HSYG WILL BE  
JANUARY 4TH IN ROOMS 118 & 119**

**FIRST MEETING FOR JHYG WILL BE  
JANUARY 11th IN THE YOUTH ROOM**



### Visiting Mary

The St. John Neumann "Visiting Mary" can visit the home of a **registered parishioner** for one week. It can be a beautiful, peaceful time in your home. She may be picked up on Saturday afternoon and **must** be returned to the parish office by the following Saturday *morning*. The statue comes with prayers, songs, meditations and directions on how to pray the rosary, as well as some special intentions requested by our pastor.

#### VISITING MARY SCHEDULE

- 12/31 — Lissy De Jesus
- 1/7 — Nina Smith
- 1/14 — Asuncion Almeraz

### Families needed for Mary Sign-Ups

We are in need of families to sign up for Mary to visit their home in July and August of next year. Contact the parish office for more information. Families must be registered with the parish to sign up..



### Prayer of the Week

December 25, 2011, The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) *At the Mass at Dawn*

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your incarnate Word, the light of faith, which illumines our minds, may also shine through in our deeds. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

How can the light of my faith be seen in my daily actions?

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**Outreach** (Pantry hours: Wed. 9am-3pm)  
*Together, we can make the difference! Together, we can say Yes to God!*

The economic downturn has affected many families in the parish and there are many in our area that are without jobs, shelter, or food during these difficult times. The SJNC pantry is in need of our help. The next time you are at the grocery store please consider purchasing some extra food for our families in need. Please leave your donations in the big wooden box in the lobby. God bless you for supporting the Outreach pantry.



Wish lists for the Pantry  
Pasta Sauce, mac n cheese, canned tuna  
canned vegetables & fruit, soups, Ramen,  
canned proteins (i.e., chicken, spam) pasta,  
peanut butter, rice, dried beans.

Due to an earlier publication of this bulletin, the number of people the Outreach Ministry served on 12/14 and 12/21 will be reported in a bulletin to follow.

### Upcoming Retreat for all Eucharistic Ministers

There will be a retreat for all Eucharistic Ministers on Saturday, January, 21, 2012 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Please mark your calendar and save this very important date. More details will be coming soon. Participation in this retreat is required for all EMs.



Interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister? Please visit the parish office to register for the EM retreat and for training. Training for all new EMs will be offered on Saturday, January 28, 2012 from 10:00 am –12:00 pm. Thank you!

## WELCOME TO ST. JOHN NEUMANN!

If you're new to St. John Neumann, check out what we collect in order to add to our building fund:

Crushed cans, Cell phones, "Pennies for Heaven" Used Name Brand Ink & Toner printer cartridges.

Also, the Outreach Ministry accepts donations of clothing and food for the poor.



We are a "Stewardship Parish" and are provided an opportunity to contribute toward the growth of our parish. Information on our "Fruitful Vine" Stewardship process including the "Fruitful Vine Stewardship Commitment form are available in the parish office.

### WHY REGISTER IN THE PARISH?

Many people regularly attending mass at our parish are not *registered as parishioners*. Faith Formation registration is *not* parish registration.

It is important to be registered and to use your donation envelopes so that we have records of your activity in the parish. If you ever request a letter for Baptism, Marriage, Confirmation, a tax statement, being a godparent or sponsor, or if you would like to have your child enrolled in our Faith Formation Program, or many other reasons, we must check our records. We can verify that you attend by seeing your identifiable donations (and/or active participation in church ministry) that have been posted in the computer.

We cannot sign affidavits stating that you are a member of the parish (even if you do attend mass here), if we have no records to that effect. If you would like to register, we encourage you to do so by completing the registration form found in the welcome flyer in the lobby or in the parish office. Please return it either by mail, or placing it in the collection basket, or dropping it off at the parish office.

## Are you a fully initiated Catholic?

...One that has received not only Baptism and First Eucharist, but also the sacrament of Confirmation.

If the answer is NO, then RCIA is for you. If you or someone you know is considering becoming Catholic, come to a

Thursday evening meeting at 7 pm and see what it is all about. The process is very interesting. Practicing Catholics are also needed to sponsor those who wish to join the church. Come, learn, ask questions **and make friends**.



### The Nativity of the Lord Great Expectations

Christmas can be disappointing. We remember the Christmases from our childhood, all the joy, the excitement, and the fun we had.

When we grow up, we have to shop for gifts, write and mail the cards, put up the decorations and do all the preparations that seem to stress us out. We may be sad that the day did not meet our expectations. Now that most of that is done, we can reflect on how the first Christmas upset all expectations.



I'm sure Joseph never expected to have a child so soon. And those Jews who looked forward to the coming of a Messiah never expected Him to come as a baby. Yet God had His reasons for coming in this way. Jesus was born in a stable because no one had room for Him. The first to see Him were the shepherds, the migrant workers of the time. The political leaders (Herod and friends) wanted to kill Him.

Jesus was born in this way to show that He came not for the important and wealthy, but for the poor and outcast. So today He continues to come to us in the homeless, the illegal alien, the sick, those in prison, the unborn infant, that we may find Him where we least expect. Can we learn to see Him in the unexpected, in our trials and difficulties, our own weaknesses? When we do, we will celebrate what Christmas is truly about. Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

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## Parish Staff

Pastor	Fr. Bede Wevita	
Visiting Priests	Msgr. Joe Cosgrove	
	Fr. Albert Felice-Pace	
	Fr. Joe Annese	
Deacons	Frank Oettinger	
	Andrè Richard	
Secretary	Rosie Arellano	657-0200ext. 201
Receptionist	Leonarda Serna	657-0200ext. 200
Business Administrator	Cheryl Shaffer	657-0200ext. 204
Volunteer Coordinator	Mary Santos	657-0200ext. 211
Pastoral Care Coordinator	Kathy Oettinger	657-0200
Maintenance	Al Camacho	
Custodian	Tio Serna	
Dir. Of Children's Faith Formation	Cathy Trawinski	657-0200ext. 210
Admin. Assistant	Araceli Perez	657-0200ext. 215
Dir. Of Youth Ministry/Confirmation	Nora Luz Kriegel	657-0200ext. 214
CGS Coordinator	Helen Silva	657-0200ext. 217
Dir. Of Adult & Children's Choir	Sean Davis	255-5269
Youth Choir	Lissy De Jesus	657-0200
Organist	Kara Davis	
Organist	Delma Reid	

## Ministries/Organizations

Altar Linens	Mary Lou Bodan	658-1953
Altar Servers	Marie Ricci	399-6327
Bulletin Editors	B.Agbayani, E.Ramirez	657-0200
Eucharistic Ministers	Marge Nelson	649-3318
Gift Shop	Nelda Schafer	657-0200
Hospitality	Elsie Lyon	395-2542
Marthas & Marys	Parish Office	657-0200
Men's Club	John Lucas	635-1817
Sick or Homebound	Deacon Frank Oettinger	657-0200
Outreach	Fr. Bede Wevita	657-0200
RCIA	Sam & Gary Douglas	645-8323
Readers	Deacon Andrè Richard	324-7160
Sacristans	Max Fightmaster	657-0200
Senior Luncheons	Bob Chiodo	649-5989
Marriage Prep	Deacon Frank Oettinger	657-0200
Ushers	Bob & Adrian McKechnie	645-4882

## Parish Council

Terry Lamuraglia	Tony Urevich	Shelley Robertson
Marie Ricci	Jay Rodrigues	Arlene Martin
Chris Lee	John Cruz	Jesus "Doc" Floresca
Phil Lee	Harry Shull (Consultant)	
Leticia Cristobal	Theresa Reese	

## Parish Finance Council

John Kilduff  
Margo Lamuraglia  
Aruna Silva

## Sacrament of Baptism

Preparation time for the parents of the child is three months. Please call the parish office to sign up for a class and begin the process. Baptisms are celebrated during the Mass. Parents should meet with one of the program coordinators before choosing the godparents and/or choosing a date for the Baptism.

## Sacrament of Marriage

Consult with the priest before you set the date. A minimum of six to eight months preparation is needed.

## Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time if you or a family member seeks the Sacrament. If possible, please try to call before your loved one is in the active process of dying.

## Communion for the Sick or Homebound

Contact the parish office during office hours. In case of hospitalization, inform the admissions office that you are a Catholic and would like to receive communion.

## Mass Intentions

Scheduled in the parish office. The calendar fills up rapidly, so Mass intentions may have to be scheduled up to a year in advance.

## House Blessings

Parishioners are encouraged to bless their own homes. Holy water and appropriate prayers are provided by the parish.

## Faith Formation Registration

Registration began in April. Classes are held from September to May. Students must complete 2 consecutive years of classes in order to celebrate First Communion or Confirmation.

## Annulments

Please contact Fr. Bede Wevita or Deacon Frank Oettinger.

## Vocations

Please contact Fr. Bede Wevita

### Victim Advocacy Number

Advocacy is available for any individual who has been sexually and/or physically abused.

The 24-hour hotline number is:

**(702) 235-7723**

[www.sjnc.org](http://www.sjnc.org)

