

**CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION**

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Fr. Vincent J. Scott, Pastor

Fr. Chris Berbena, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Dac Cao, Permanent Deacon

Deacon Harry Clyde, Permanent Deacon

Deacon George Peters, Permanent Deacon

Deacon John Durden, Permanent Deacon

John Durden, Interim Music Director

Maureen Moran, Faith Formation

Mary Schirmer, Youth & Family Ministry

Toni Durden, RCIA Coordinator

Rhina Ruggiero, Office Manager

Pam Lyons, School Principal

**PARISH 510-352-1537**

**CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Saturday:** 8:00 AM, 5:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

**Sunday:** 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM and 12:00PM

**Weekdays:** 7:00 AM

**Holy Days:** 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 7:30 PM

**THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

**Saturdays:** 3:30 to 4:00 PM

**Perpetual Help Devotions:**

Tuesday mornings after 7:00 AM Liturgy

**Rosary:**

Recited every weekday morning before Mass.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:**

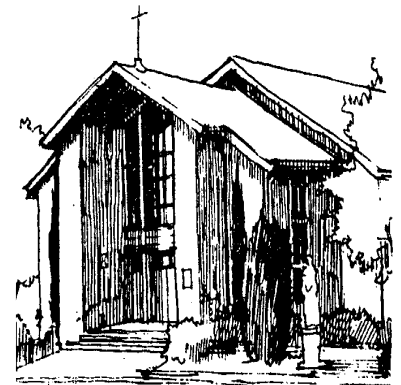
Every Wednesday 7:30-8:30 AM

Office Hours:

8:30 AM-12:00 PM – 1:30 PM-5:00 PM

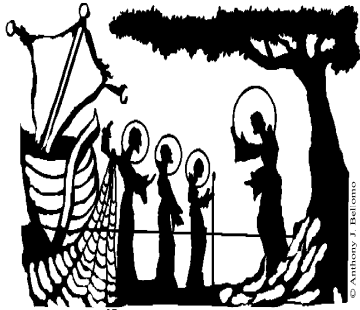
School Office 357-8772

School Office Hours: 7:00 AM-3:30 PM



### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 22, 2012

The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel. — *Mark 1:15*



Last Sunday, and again this Sunday, the Scriptures talk about responding to the call of God. Last Sunday's first lesson from I Samuel spoke of the young Samuel receiving his call in a dream. I feel that the Scripture writer is trying to tell us that more often than not, the call of God to be ministers of the good news does not come from a direct call but in the deep recesses of our souls.

Sometimes, because we want certainty, we hope and long for some kind of dramatic sign that God is calling us to a particular ministry or way of life. We hear, "this is what God wants me to do." Now some people may receive a call to ministry that way, but I can say from my own experience, my call to ordained ministry was less than spectacular. It was something I felt inside. God didn't strike me with a lightning bolt. The key to understanding what God wants us to do is found in paying attention to our **inner life**. And that's the key, which leads me to write about one of the stumbling blocks to really following Jesus instead of following our own aspirations for glory. I have been thinking about this for a long time.

It's been my unfortunate experience over these years of being a priest and pastor to run into more than my share of people who seem to answer the call to be of service in the Church (whether ordained or not) who aren't really following the call of the Lord. They end up following their own call based on their own needs. Last Sunday in my homily I mentioned a real story from my past. Forgive me for repeating it here.

There was a youth minister I "inherited" when I was first a pastor. While he spoke to me of "owing you my obedience and respect," I soon

found out that he worshipped the holy trinity of: Me, Myself, and I. I saw how he manipulated people, especially the youth, and he did so in a frightening way. I even had a psychologist sit in on some of his meetings. When he realized that he was soon going to be exercising his career opportunities elsewhere, I found out that he gathered with some of his male friends in the church chapel every morning to pray me out of the priesthood. Obviously, he did not have his prayers answered and he eventually left the Catholic Church to found his own church. Of course the most disappointing thing for me was not the hate mail I received, but my greatest disappointment came from good people who said, "He saved my kids from doing drugs." This came from a couple who had a strong marriage and good kids. I remember saying to the parents, "Why are you so willing to hand over to someone outside of your family all the credit for having good children? You have a strong marriage and a strong family life and yet you say HE was the one who kept your children from doing drugs?" Sometimes as a pastor I understand more fully why Jesus called us "sheep."

On the part of those in ministry, lay or ordained, there's always the temptation to make following Jesus all about ME instead of following him. I remember one person who told me in my last parish, "If you leave here, I'm going to go where you are." I immediately told the person that I wanted no part of that. "There is only one person we follow, and I am not him." While even priests like a pat on the back sometimes, I cringe if I hear, "You're the reason why I worship here." I immediately but gently correct the person.

Ministry, whether ordained or lay, often attracts narcissists, and unfortunately there are many who are blinded by narcissists who are really in it for themselves. If you don't believe how prevalent this is, do a Google search of "narcissism in ministry." You will find more information than you have time to read.

So, who is the narcissist? The development of this disorder is rooted in damage to the individual's self-image during his or her early formative years. The individual's inward insecurity leads

him or her to adopt a “false front,” an inflated self-image that may bear minimal resemblance to the actual person. The maintenance of this image becomes the means by which the narcissist copes with his or her ego deprivation. Narcissists cause great distress to the people of God.....and not just to their supervisors. Unfortunately some people can be easily snowed by the attractiveness of a narcissist until one day they find out that “there’s no there” inside; the narcissist is an empty shell. It’s all about the narcissist and not about God....or at best God takes a small place and the person’s wounded ego is blown up larger than life.

So how do ministries attract narcissists? Some ministries, especially ones with great public exposure and influence, are like sweet-smelling fly-paper to a narcissist. Since grandiosity implies being bigger and better, then the public forum of doing some public ministries is an attractive opportunity for selfish promotion in the name of God. Doing God’s will has come to mean becoming a superstar for the narcissist. “Young and upcoming leaders have been falsely trained to think that in order to be a great Christian you have to be in the limelight, however big that might be. We have forgotten that humility is having a servant’s heart and knowing that we have feet of clay. The greatest must be the servant of all. True promotion comes only from God and is blessed by God. We cannot bless or anoint ourselves.” (Samuel Lopez De Victoria)

Responding to God’s call in Christ is not for the faint hearted and we shouldn’t pretend it is. It involves loving our enemies, working for peace, forgiving those who have wronged us, telling the truth, and most especially **paying attention to our inner life**. If these charges make no claim on us in our daily lives, then, chances are, we are listening to voices that endlessly give us the runaround. Instead, God urges us to be engaged with the Source of all life which makes sense and gives meaning to all our connections in this world and the next. It’s about God, and not oneself.

Once again, I am very happy to announce that I have hired Mr. Bill Vaughan as Director of Music for Church of the Assumption. I had immediately put an ad for resumes on the National

Pastoral Musicians job search site, and I was inundated with resumes from all over the country. Here were my considerations: Music Training (proficiency in organ and piano), choral conducting training, dedication to our Catholic faith and tradition, and last but not least, a good pastoral personality! There was one other consideration. I did not want to interview people from out of state, since protocol would require that we pay for airfare, lodging, etc. Bill found out that we were looking for a new Music Director. He is known by the clergy of this diocese, especially since he was the accompanist for our recent Clergy Convocation. Not only can Bill play the organ, but he is also familiar with all of the other things our organ can do, especially the use of MIDI voices that we have been used to. Bill is a trained musician. Bill did his undergraduate studies, majoring in music at San Francisco State University and graduate studies at Southern Methodist University, majoring in organ and choral performance. Bill has given concerts throughout the United States and in Europe, most notably at St. Mary’s Cathedral (Miami Florida) Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral (Los Angeles) St. Mary’s and Grace Cathedrals (San Francisco) St. Paul’s Cathedral (London, England) and St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome. Bill was Director of Music at St. Paschal Baylon Parish in Oakland. Bill will still continue to being Assistant Organist at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland. Just a note: Bill has an organ concert planned at the Cathedral for March 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M. All are invited.

On behalf of our school, we are also happy to announce the hiring of a Music Teacher, Tim Silva, who will teach music to our school children. Tim is a California credentialed music teacher. He did his undergraduate work at the Herb Alpert School of Music at UCLA with a BA in Music Education and Music Composition (dual degree). He has also a graduate degree from the UCLA School of Education and Information Studies with his California K-12 teaching credential. The list could go on and on! He also teaches music at St. Leander School.

I am very happy to welcome both Bill and Tim to our Parish! May God bless them in their ministry to our parish and school.

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus says: "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." As disciples, we are called to continue God's work on earth. Taking care of the poor is indeed living gospel values. **Help us answer the call to serve the poor by donating to our St. Vincent de Paul conference. Our Fifth Sunday collection will be held next weekend.** You can continue to assist those in need by helping us reach out to those who call our **HELP-LINE at 352-6079.**



### Weekly Offering Including EFT

Weekly Goal .....\$8,200

Weekly offering 1/8.....\$8263

Christmas Goal.....\$21,500

Christmas as of 1/8..\$27,769.91



### Parish Crab Feed

Join us on Saturday, February 11 for the Annual Parish Crab Feed. Cost is:

- \$40 Adults (\$45 after 2/1/12)
- \$35 Seniors 65yrs and over (\$40 after 2/1/12)
- Children \$10 (6-12 yrs)

Doors open at 5:30 for a no host bar, dinner of crab, pasta, salad, garlic bread and dessert. Seating is reserved. Tickets sold at the door or sold after February 1, 2012 will be \$45. You may call and purchase tickets at the office.

**Married Couples:** God's Dream... for every married couple is that they love each other as much as He loves them. If this is your dream too, a Marriage Encounter weekend can help you make it come true. Give yourself the gift of a 'weekend of Discovery; a Lifetime of Love!' Please join us for our upcoming WWME weekend held in Pleasanton February 24-26 or consider June 22-24. For more information call Mike & Jeanne @ 925.672.2016 or Joe & Sue @ 925.680.7767 now or go to <http://www.rekindleyourmarriage.org>

## Kindred Ministry

Eucharist Ministers take Communion to Kindred Hospital patients on Saturday mornings. **Volunteers are needed to partake in this Ministry.** You will be accompanied by another person for three months or until you feel comfortable enough to take your own Saturday. Please call: Al Frates 510-351-2852

## Blood Drive

Our December Blood drive collected 57 pints of blood—that will save over 170 lives! Thank you to all who participated. That drive was such a success that we're having another one on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. Hours are 7 am to 1 pm in the Small Hall. Please contact Jan Kehoe at [jkehoe.blood@yahoo.com](mailto:jkehoe.blood@yahoo.com) or 352-2624 for an appointment.

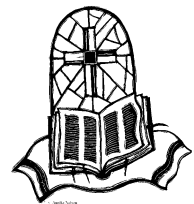
## Scout Liturgy on Feb. 12 at 9am

On February 12 at the 9am Liturgy there will be a special blessing given to all cub, boy, sea and girl scouts and scout leaders. Cub, boy, sea and girl scouts and scout leaders should wear their full uniforms to this special Scout Liturgy. Scout groups are invited to process into the church as the Liturgy begins and must arrive by 8:45am to do so. Please pass on this information to others in your troop/pack. Contact Simonne at 351-6447 or [simonnedansereau@earthlink.net](mailto:simonnedansereau@earthlink.net) if you have any questions.

**Just a reminder that Catholic Schools Week is rapidly approaching. Please join Assumption School for a liturgy at 9am on Sunday, January 29, which will be followed by an Open House. We hope to see you there!**

**PLEASE NOTE: SUNDAY JANUARY 29 LITURGIES**

**MASS TIMES WILL BE AT 7:30A.M. 9:00AM 11:00A.M. 12:30P.M.**



**Week at a glance.....**

**Sunday 22 GYM CYO**  
 H Confirmation 10:00a.m.  
 YC Faith Formation  
 RCIA Dismissal Inquiry and  
 Catechumens  
 Rite of Acceptance 10:30

**Monday GYM CYO**

**Tuesday GYM Dad's Club Crab Feed**

**Wednesday H Cub Scout 7p.m.**  
 Ch Adult choir practice 7:30  
 GYM Senior Movie

**Thursday... Gym CYO**

**Friday.....CR Knitters 10a.m.**  
 GYM CYO 3:30-9p.m.

**Saturday... CYO 9-9**  
 Ch First Reconciliation 10:30

**Sunday..... Gym CYO**  
 Open House Catholic School

**WE REMEMBER AT THE EUCHARIST**

**Weekly Mass Intentions**  
January 21 - January 29

**Saturday**

**8:00 Erik Reynosa +**  
**5:00 Walter & Anna Szymanski +**

**Sunday**

**7:30 Reidy Family (L)**  
**9:00 Theresa Scott +**  
**10:30 Laura Nyfield +**  
**12:00 Michael Frazier +**

**Monday**

**7:00 Carmelita Cinco +**

**Tuesday**

**7:00 Troops Overseas +**

**Wednesday**

**7:00 Virginia McLaughlin**

**Thursday**

**7:00 Joseph Rago +**

**Friday**

**7:00 Linda Payne (L)**

**Saturday**

**8:00 Agnes Seeberger +**  
**5:00 Betty Rezente +**

**Sunday**

**7:30 Tricia Diller +**  
**9:00 Betty Clements +**  
**10:30 Manuel Cabos +**  
**12:00 Rodney O'Hare +**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS:**

Head Lector: Barbara Buckley.....352-9656  
 Altar Server Coordinators:  
 Dennis Burigsay.....895-1628  
 Mike Tedeschi.....357-9447

Head Communion Ministers:  
 Joe and Mina Riccio .....352-3506  
 Head Usher: Al Weinberger.....895-9900  
 Head Greeter: Susan McCue.....638-7434  
 Ministry Schedulers: Barbara Buckley .....352-9656  
 Susan Hupp.....483-5652

Teen Confirmation:  
 Mary Schirmer .....352-1537  
 St. Vincent de Paul  
 Joe Riccio.....352-6079

Pastoral Council:  
 Paul Carney .....635-9473

School Board:  
 Giovanna Giuliani.....777-1426

Liturgy Committee  
 Finance Committee:  
 Loretta Fernandes.....352-1537

Pat Durgin .....632-4032

All Saints Skilled Nursing  
 Merlie Macasieb.....895-5162

Bishop's Appeal:.....352-1537

Tuesdays with Larry:  
 Larry Graves .....352-4777

Rosary Makers:  
 Irene Haines .....483-7975

CYO:  
 Lisa Brue.....351-6860

Communion to the Homebound:  
 Mary Croak.....352-1537

Communion to Kindred Hospital:  
 Al Frates.....351-2852

Prayer Chain:  
 JoMarie Stavosky.....483-3366

Knit/Crochet Group  
 Mary Croak.....357-7562

Linens:  
 Anita De Marais.....357-9172

Cursillo  
 Jennie Gisslow.....635-4143

**Assumption Parish Mission Statement**

Assumption Parish is a culturally diverse and vibrant Catholic community which strives to grow as followers of Jesus Christ. We do this by accepting the challenge to build a Christ-centered community that draws on the wisdom of our seniors and the energy of our youth. We are committed to Catholic education at various levels. We are nurtured by inspired Liturgy, active and enriching faith formation programs, and inclusive family ministry, all of which enable us to share our gifts of time, talent, treasure and vision with our parish family and surrounding communities.