

# ST. MARY'S BY THE SEA

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



321 10<sup>th</sup> Street ♦ Huntington Beach ♦ CA 92648

PASTOR: Rev. Quang Vinh Chu

## PARISH MINISTRIES

ADORATION MINISTRY - THE LIEBLANG FAMILY

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE - SUSAN SIZLO

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS - MIKE BANNER

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - PAUL BRESTYANSZKY

LECTORS - MIKE BANNER

LEGION OF MARY - JOANNE PETERS

OUR LADY'S COMFORTERS - ANNE LIEBLANG

PRO-LIFE - JACKY ROZA

FAITH FORMATION - SR. CATHERINE NGUYEN

RETREATS - DIANE MILLER

SAFETY MINISTRY - TOM & SUSAN SIZLO

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE - MARY GILL/DEBBIE RANSOM/GERI DIXON

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - MIKE PEDUZZI

USHERS - JOE MUNGARI

WELCOME MINISTRY - SHARON TRAN

CONTACT US: (714) 536-6913 ♦ E-MAIL: [StMarys.HB@gmail.com](mailto:StMarys.HB@gmail.com)

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 9am-12pm & 1pm-5pm

### DAILY MASS

Monday-Saturday at 8:00am

### SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

5:00pm

### SUNDAY MASS

7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 12:00pm

### ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Thursday, 9:00am - 3:00pm

With Divine Mercy, Rosary, Benediction

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday, 9:00am - 9:00pm

With Benediction

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday, 3:00pm-4:00pm



### VISION & MISSION STATEMENT

Our Vision: "Be my Disciples." If not you, then who?

Our Mission: St. Mary's By the Sea, a Catholic community of faith, hope, and love, journeying together in the spirit of stewardship, unity, and charity, embracing all in Christ under the mantle of Our Lady.

### Reflections of the Week

John the Baptist is a far different man from the one who prepared the people for Jesus' coming and then baptized him in the River Jordan. There was no mistaking the Son of God then, what with the dove and the voice of God from on high. But now? John has been arrested and thrown in jail for daring to speak out against Herod. Left alone in his prison cell for days on end, he begins to doubt. Where is this Messiah whom he had proclaimed? Listen to the deeds that Jesus ticks off, all quoted from Isaiah about the day of salvation. Sure, the blind see and the lame walk, but what about "liberty to the captives, release to the prisoners" (Isaiah 61:1)? Had Jesus turned his back on his cousin? Have we often wondered the same thing? If Jesus is our brother, where is he in times of trouble? If we are adopted sons and daughters of God, why do we sometimes feel abandoned?

It is ironic that Jesus leads with "the blind regain their sight" (Matthew 11:5), for John himself has lost his eyes of faith. With eyes of faith, John was able to see the kingdom of heaven at hand, trees bearing good fruit, and chaff thrown into unquenchable fire (as we heard last week), much as Isaiah could see flowers blooming in the desert, disabilities eradicated, and joy banishing sorrow. But in prison he can't see as he used to and can't see what Jesus' disciples are seeing. Can we see past the surface ourselves? Sometimes we feel stuck with our maladies, our problems, and our inadequacies and don't see the possibilities in the light of Christ. Sometimes reimagining our lives from God's perspective can make the difference in how we feel about our situation in life.

It seems incongruous for Jesus to say, "Blessed is the one who takes no offense at me," after ticking off all the miraculous things he's done (Matthew 11:6). Yet we know that many took offense. The well-to-do may have resented the poor being raised up. Many regarded lepers as beneath them and their sudden cures didn't affect the way they felt about them as people. It had been easier to ignore the disabled, the homeless, and the outcasts. By the end of his ministry, the inoffensive little baby in the manger becomes the condemned man on the cross. Radically remaking the world to reflect the kingdom of God threatens the status quo and offends many.

### Question of the Week

If I am honest with myself, what part of Jesus' message offends me?

-GIA Publications (Adapted.)

### Special Intentions of Pope Leo XIV For December 2025

#### For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

### Christmas Concert in the Church & Parish Dinner - TODAY December 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm

Join us for a **Christmas Concert in the Church this Sunday** as we celebrate a journey of hope.



➤Afterwards, everyone is invited to the **Parish Christmas Dinner** in Fr. Johnson Hall. There is no cost to attend.



### Retirement Fund for Religious

There will be a **2<sup>nd</sup> Collection** this weekend, **December 13-14**, for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests need your help. Each year, the need to provide for them becomes more pressing. Many served for years in Catholic schools, hospitals, and parishes - often for little to no pay. Now there is a shortage in retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders.

*Please give generously to those who have given a lifetime!*



### Poinsettias for Sale

The Knights of Columbus will be selling Poinsettias **after all the Masses Dec. 20 & Dec. 21**. Each Poinsettia is beautifully wrapped in foil and is only **\$15 for one or two for \$25**. Plants can be taken home or donated to the Church to decorate the Altar and dedicated "*in loving memory of*" or "*in honor of*." You can also make a donation to our religious vocation fund.

### Local Advent Penance Services

(All at 7:00 pm)

Monday, Dec. 15 ..... St. Mary's by the Sea  
Tuesday, Dec. 16 ..... Sts. Simon & Jude  
Wednesday, Dec. 17 ..... St. Joachim  
Monday, Dec. 22 ..... St. John the Baptist  
Holy Family ..... Individual Confessions  
St. Anne ..... Individual Confession



### Flowers for the Church

If you would like to **donate Poinsettias** to decorate the Church for Christmas, please bring them to the office by this **Thursday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>**.

## **PENANCE SERVICE**

**\*MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025 AT 7:00 PM**  
**(5) PRIESTS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS**

### **✠ EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE ✠**

What are you hiding behind in your life? Perhaps it is an inordinate pride that keeps you hiding from God or an unwillingness to depend on God in all things. Perhaps it is a failure to pray as you should, to think before you speak or to leave unsaid those words that hurt more than physical blows. To aid your reflection in this regard, you should think of yourself not necessarily as a biblical scarlet sinner, but as a daily, dusty pink one who is afraid, for whatever reason, to reach out and love the people you should have, but didn't. There's a whole litany of these dust particles: the words of love you didn't say; the comfort suppressed; the friendship left to wither; relationships unattended; children neglected as you pursued the better life... for them, of course; the little white lies, the face-saving untruths; the suppression of revealing your hunger for God

If any of these pertain to you, perhaps you should attend the Penance Service on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Prepare for the birth of Jesus and start anew.

## **Weekly Collections**



**DECEMBER 7, 2025**

**REGULAR COLLECTION..... \$10,040.40**

**VISITORS AND PARISHIONERS, YOU MAY USE THE QR CODE TO MAKE ONLINE DONATIONS (EITHER ONE TIME OR REGULAR WEEKLY DONATIONS).**



## **Let Us Pray for the Sick**



Natalia Amezuqueta	Nancy Friedman	Don Quinn
Tracy Andonian	Cindy Friendt	Debbie Ransom
Tony Aragón-Sotelo	Rudy Friendt	Tim Ransom
Mike Banner	Paul Hayes	Carmela Rugel
Frank Barrera	Jim & Paula Keating	Susan Rocio
Ted Beresford	James Kosai	Colleen Rowe
Rowyn Bolinger	Nam Le	Yvonne Ruiz
Connie Bowles	Arturo Loya	Carol Summerfield
Pamela Brown	Susan Mastroianni	Ernesto Aragón-
Rosie Clouse	Dan McKelvie	Trevino
Vicky Drieg	Patricia McKenzie	Roberta Velasquez
Bryan Donnelly	Tracy Murray	Andrea Wall
Ann Erwin	Erin Nakamoto	John Waldron
Rachel Ferrarie	Thomas Nester	Baby Brooks Webb
Molly Flaherty	Rosalie Ocanas	Nancy Yaslik
	Derrick Peront	

### **For Those in the Armed Forces**

J. Caico, G. Campbell, D. Coffey, Sgt. R. Colbert, Sgt. L. Donovan & Team, T. Donovan, R. Hanrahan, S. Miller, J. Pendergrass, N. Sanchez, Capt. D. Tierney, T. Pace

## **This Week at St. Mary's By the Sea**

5:00pm Mass for Danny & Diana Ponce (L)  
**\*Retirement Fund for Religious 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent, December 14**

**\*Retirement Fund for Religious 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection**

**\*5:00pm: Annual Concert & Parish Dinner**

7:30am Mass for our Priests and the People of the Parish—  
 Living & Deceased  
 9:00am Mass for the soul of Ramon C. Wong (RIP)  
 10:30am Mass for the soul of Ember Rain Galloway (RIP)  
 12:00pm Mass for Joseph Bishoff (L)  
 12:00pm Legion of Mary meeting in Conf. Rm

### **Monday, December 15**

**\*7:00 pm - Penance Service**

8:00am Mass for the soul of Paul Sang Tran (RIP)  
 3:30pm 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Class Year 1  
 5:15pm Confirmation class Year 1 & 2  
 7:00pm OCIA Class

### **Tuesday, December 16**

8:00am Mass for the soul of Sheena De Mello (RIP)  
 3:30pm 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Class Year 2

### **Wednesday, December 17**

8:00am Mass for Margaret Ross (L)  
 9:45am Legion of Mary meeting in Conf. Rm.

### **Thursday, December 18**

8:00am Mass for David (L)  
 9:00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, exposed  
 until 3:00pm and Benediction  
 4:00pm Christmas Food Bank for the Needy (til 5:30pm)

### **Friday, December 19**

8:00am Mass for the soul of Lois Gray (RIP)  
 9:00am Cenacles of Life

### **Saturday, December 20**

8:00am Mass for Ross & Diane Miller and Family—Living  
 & Deceased  
 3:00pm Confessions (til 4:00pm)  
 5:00pm Mass for the soul of Al Griego (RIP)

### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, December 21**

7:30am Mass for Julie Pham (L)  
 9:00am Mass for our Priests and the People of the Parish—  
 Living & Deceased  
 10:30am Mass for All Souls  
 12:00pm Mass for the souls of Vincente Ky Pham and Teresa  
 Thanh Le (RIP)  
 12:00pm Legion of Mary meeting in Conf. Rm.





## JOY OF CHRIST

Rose is the Primary color  
this Sunday, why so?

The rose candle on the Advent wreath signifies **joy** designated for the "Gaudete Sunday," Latin for "Rejoice". It marks the midpoint of Advent, a joyful pause in the penitential purple, symbolizing the nearness of Christ's birth and the happiness of the coming Christmas. See if our priest is wearing a rose-colored vestment today.

Last week our OCIA community came together to celebrate the *joy* of heaven and earth on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We were reminded of God's special favor



toward the human race by preparing a fellow human being to take on the role of **Mother of God**. God made her a perfectly pure vessel to bear Jesus. She is called "*Full of Grace*," and like any loving mother, she gives to her children the very best gifts she has. For us, that gift is grace received through her loving intercession.

*Full of Grace, pray for us now and at the hour of our death*—our physical death and our spiritual deaths through sin—because Christ entrusted you to us from the Cross and so we in turn entrust our own lives to you. Thank you, Blessed Mother!

## Spiritual Bouquet

...Take your guess—which of our Faith Formation classes will win the Spiritual Bouquet contest this



year? Will it be the younger group or the older group? Each class was invited to gather acts of love and sacrifice throughout Advent in honor of Christ. Their enthusiasm has been inspiring, and the generosity of their hearts is a beautiful offering to the Lord. Look for our report in next week's entry!

## Stewardship Corner



### DEAR STEWARDS . . .

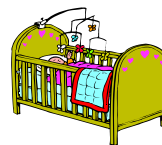
**Happy Gaudete Sunday!** On this day we are called to rejoice in hope as we anticipate the birth of our Lord and Savior on Christmas Day. We invite you to rejoice with us this evening at the **CHRISTMAS CONCERT/DINNER CELEBRATION**. We need volunteers to help with food service during the dinner and to help with cleanup after the dinner. **Please arrive at Fr. Johnson Hall at 5:40 if you plan to help serve food.** This is our final event of the year and one of our biggest parish events. Any and all help you can give is greatly appreciated.

➤ We would like to thank everyone who helped with last Sunday's **ST. NICHOLAS BREAKFAST**. The food was delicious and the fellowship was delightful at this fun and faith building event. We are grateful to all who helped but we are especially grateful to Jacky, Dan, and our generous benefactor who donated the delicious tamales!

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page ([www.rv.by/d0jbv7](http://www.rv.by/d0jbv7)) to view pics from SMBS events as they are posted.

➤ Once again, we invite you to spend time with Jesus in **ADORATION** every **Thursday at 12pm** and on **First Fridays at 1pm**. We hope you will stop by and visit **JESUS IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** during our time slots or whenever your schedule allows.

➤ Please continue to pray for fellow Stewards, parishioners, family, friends, and neighbors who are in need of your prayers. Always remember that you are loved and appreciated!



## Christmas Crib

Throughout the month of December, we are accepting baby gifts for our local crisis pregnancy center. Please consider a Christmas gift for these precious babies. Items will be used in various programs to help young mothers who have chosen life for their babies. A crib will be in Fr. Johnson Hall during the month of December for this collection. If you prefer, a monetary donation in an envelope marked "Christmas Crib" would also be helpful; You can drop this off at the Office or in our mail slot.

## Christmas Food Sign-Ups

We are still taking sign-ups for the Christmas food bags for the needy. If you would like to put your name in, please **contact the Office at (714) 536-6913** with your **name and phone number**. The bags will be given out **December 18<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-5:30 pm**.