

# MOST HOLY REDEEMER *Parish*



**1st Sunday in Advent**  
**December 3, 2023**

**Worship Hours**

Monday - Friday Daily Mass: 8:00am  
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00pm  
Sunday Masses: 8:00am, 10:00am & 6:30pm  
Holy Days: 8:00am and 7:00pm

**Reconciliation**

Saturday: 3:45pm to 4:30pm

**Baptism & Marriages**

Please call the parish office  
for an appointment.  
For marriages please call the parish  
office six months in advance.

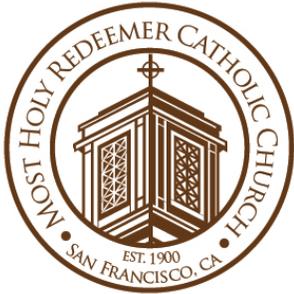
**Our Mission at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church**

Most Holy Redeemer Parish is a Roman Catholic Christian Community. The parish draws people from isolation to community, from searching to awakening, from indifference to concern, from selfishness to meaningful service, from fear in the midst of adversity to faith and hope in God.

The community of Most Holy Redeemer shares God's compassionate love with all people. The parish offers a spiritual home for senior citizens and youth; single people and families; those who are straight, gay, lesbian, and transgender; the healthy and the sick, particularly persons with HIV.

As a parish community, we celebrate God's loving presence in our lives. In worship and sacrament, especially the Eucharist, we are nurtured and challenged to extend God's kingdom of justice, truth, love and peace by growing in the spirit of Jesus, the Most Holy Redeemer.

*God's Inclusive Love Proclaimed Here!*



**MOST HOLY REDEEMER  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
100 Diamond Street  
San Francisco, California

Phone (415) 863-6259  
[www.mhr.org](http://www.mhr.org)

**Pastor**

Fr. Matt Link, C.P.P.S.  
frmatt@mhr.org

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

Ty Henderson, Director of Music  
ty@mhr.org

**PARISH OFFICE**

Michael Poma, Business Manager  
mpoma@mhr.org

Cristy Torres, Administrative Assistant  
office@mhr.org

**PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Michael Kirkland  
Richard Levy  
Trudy Miller  
Cyndy Zimmer  
Shaan Bijwadia  
Marnie Pira

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

Marc Colelli, Chair  
Steve Adams  
Micaela Connery  
Stephen McCarthy  
John Solaegui  
Diane Trewin

**LITURGY COMMITTEE**

Ty Henderson, Chair  
Jacque Grillo

Pablo McLachlan  
Sr. Marilyn Morgan  
Curtis Murray



**Collection - Week of December 3, 2023**

Saturday 5pm -	\$222.00
Sunday 8am -	\$346.00
Sunday 10am -	\$912.00
Sunday 6:30pm -	\$115.00
Misc. -	\$662.00
<b>VANCO -</b>	<b>\$887.00</b>
<b>Total -</b>	<b>\$3,144.00</b>
<b>Budgeted -</b>	<b>\$4,200.00</b>
Thanksgiving -	\$591.00

*Thank you for your  
generosity!*

*Give online*



**MASS TIMES**

**Daily Mass:** 8am (Mon ~ Fri)  
**Saturday Vigil Mass:** 5pm  
**Sunday Masses:** 8am, 10am & 6:30pm  
**Holy Days:** 8am & 7pm  
**Reconciliation:** Saturdays 3:45pm - 4:30pm  
(or by appointment)

**THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH**

**DEC 4 — DEC 10**

**Daily Mass**

Monday - Friday 8:00am

**Monday**

Centering Prayer 7pm (Zoom)

**Wednesday**

Wednesday Night Supper

Taize - 7pm

**Thursday**

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass - 7pm

**Saturday**

Vigil Mass - 5pm

**Sunday**

Masses: 8am, 10am & 6:30pm

*Join us for Coffee Hour after the*

*8am & 10am Masses*

**Livestream the 10am Sunday Mass**



**DEC 4 — DEC 10**

**Mon:** Is 2:1-5 Mt 8:5-11  
**Tue:** Is 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24  
**Wed:** Is 25:6-10a Mt 15:29-37  
**Thu:** Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21, 24-27  
**Fri:** Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38  
**Sat:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8  
**Sun:** Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8



***Our Mass celebrants  
will remember the following intentions  
during the celebration of the Eucharist:***

**Saturday, December 2**

5pm Eric Jonathan Maliksi

**Sunday, December 3**

8am Andy Whelon †

Joanna Kennedy †

10am MHR Parish

6:30p Alfredo Reyes

**Monday, December 4**

8am Alvin Bruce †

**Tuesday, December 5**

8am Rita, Al & Barbara Ludeman †

**Wednesday, December 6**

8am Wednesday Night Suppers

**Thursday, December 7**

8am Julius Benedict Villena

**Friday, December 8**

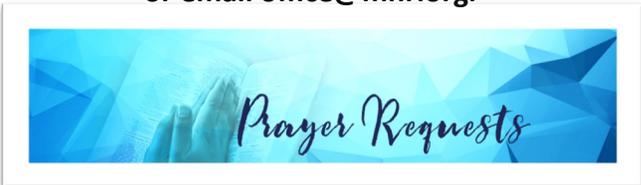
8am Robert Lacsamana †

**Saturday, December 9**

5pm Leigh Thorup-Murray

*Altar Flowers in Honor of:  
Jacque Grillo  
in Celebration of his Birthday*

To schedule a Mass Intention  
or sponsor the weekend altar flowers,  
please call the parish office at 415-863-6259  
or email [office@mhr.org](mailto:office@mhr.org).



**Ryan Zuniga, Robert Capocassali, Christian Irizary,  
Joshua Filho, Leigh Thorup-Murray,  
and John Johnson**

# December 3, 2023 : 1st Sunday of Advent

I made my first Communion when I was 8. I had waited long for it, was dressed up in a dress, veil and shoes, all of them white. I was ready for the big moment. Then, Msgr. Higgins gave the homily. He admired how we were dressed, "Little princes and princesses," and told us that it was a great day.

Then he said something I have never forgotten. He said, "Today is the least important time you will ever receive Communion. Every time after this will build on it and be fuller of grace." His homily also works as an Advent message that tells us: "The unknown future will bring more than we can imagine. Just keep getting readier!" That sets us off on a journey of hopeful anticipation.

As we begin Advent, we might recall some of our most memorable experiences of anticipation. Was it waiting for the birth of a child or the day of the wedding? Perhaps something seemingly much more mundane like the end of the school year, the moment when your date was to pick you up or meet you at the restaurant. Waiting reminds us that, like it or not, we don't control the universe.

At the same time, we won't discover the new unless we are open to it. Advent anticipation adds open-ended hope to all our anticipation. We keep growing, therefore the future is both unpredictable and promising. Sometimes, it seems that Advent is designed to be confusing. Theologians call it a time of "already and not yet." Today's Gospel captures that dilemma perfectly. Jesus says, "Be on the lookout!" For what? For the coming of something you can't predict, something that will take you by surprise at the least expected moment!

Jesus consistently avoided the trap of giving details about the end times. (They were — and still are — in an unpredictable process of becoming.) Nevertheless, he offered somber hints when he described the unpredictable time to come for him. He said it would come, "in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning." Those were precisely the hours leading up to his passion. Jesus was arrested while praying in the evening. His interrogation by the religious leaders took place after that, presumably around midnight. Cockcrow was the moment for Peter to deny knowing him. In the morning, the Sanhedrin handed him over to Pilate.

Those were the moments for which he was watching. The disciples remembered this clearly because those worst of times blossomed into the resurrection. For what are we supposed to be watching? Although Isaiah asks God to rend the heavens, he describes God much more gently as our father, the potter, our redeemer forever.

Today's Psalm speaks of God the shepherd who watches over the tender vine. This leads us to sing, "Lord make us turn to you, show us your face and we shall be saved." We realize that just knowing our God is all we need because, as Paul said, God is faithful and calls us and continually makes us capable of communion with the Son. When we are growing, that communion also keeps growing.

The Jesuit mystic Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1957), talked about how to move in this continual journey of becoming more. He wrote:

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.

We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay.

We should like to skip the intermediate stages.

We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new.

And yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability — and that it may take a very long time.

Sometimes we are tempted to look to the past as an ideal age: "If only I had lived in the time of Abraham or Jesus, or the days of the Latin Mass or ... [fill in the blank]." That's not what Jesus did. He knew the treasures of his tradition, he cherished them, but he knew that time moves in only one direction, therefore what is to come, hard as it might seem to be, promises to be more than this or any moment of the past.

Our season of Advent — this year the shortest possible because Christmas falls on a Monday — invites us into hopeful anticipation. While we wait "for the revelation of our Lord," we will need to learn to appreciate Jesus' hours of passion and Teilhard's disturbing "stages of instability." We can appreciate them as hope-soaked promises in a process of growing in grace. Advent is the time to anticipate what we cannot yet see, and to trust that it will come. Each day's grace will build on the last.



*The Immaculate Conception*  
**OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**-DECEMBER 8-**

*This Friday*

**Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**December 8, 2023**

**Mass at 7:00 pm**



COMMUNITY  
LIFE

Visit us:

On the web: [www.mhr.org](http://www.mhr.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/mhrsf](https://www.facebook.com/mhrsf)

Instagram: [mhrcatholicsf](https://www.instagram.com/mhrcatholicsf)

Centering Prayer is meeting via Zoom on Monday evenings @ 7:00pm.  
Email [centering@mhr.org](mailto:centering@mhr.org) for Zoom login details.

Bible Study on upcoming Sunday readings meets via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7pm.  
Email [biblestudy@mhr.org](mailto:biblestudy@mhr.org) for login and for more information.

Christian Healing Prayer Group: Please join us on the first Monday of each month at 2pm in the Library. Email [markwbass@yahoo.com](mailto:markwbass@yahoo.com) for information.



## MOST HOLY REDEEMER HIV/AIDS SUPPORT GROUP

### Volunteers Needed:

We are looking for volunteers to call, visit and/or help our people.

If you are interested in volunteering,

please contact Pete Toms at 415-612-0651 or email [asg@mhr.org](mailto:asg@mhr.org).





## ***Hope Beyond Hope***

### **An Advent Day of Reflection**

**December 9, 2023**

**9:30 - 3:00 PM**

**Sonnino Mission House**

**2800 Milvia St**

**Berkeley, CA 94703**

***To reserve a place:***

**510-798-7156**

***RSVP* by**

***December 1, 2023***

*During the darkest periods of history,  
quite often a small number of men and women,  
scattered throughout the world,  
have been able to reverse the course of historical evolution.  
This was only possible because they hoped beyond all hope.  
Roger Schultz, Abbot of Taize*

The Advent season is filled with stories of people who “hoped beyond all hope.” From the prophet Isaiah envisioning a tiny sprout growing from a dead stump to Mary saying yes to a plan only God could conceive, Advent shakes loose the seeds of hope planted deep inside our souls. As the world continues to bear the scars of war, polarization, and exclusion, Advent advises us to remember how God transcends the bitter divisions that cause us to despair and offers us the opportunity to “hope beyond hope” that a new day of peace, justice, and equality for all will dawn.

The Missionaries of the Precious Blood invite you to join us at Sonnino Mission House for a day of reflection and prayer as we seek to “hope beyond hope.”

We will begin at 9:30 with a light breakfast, welcome and opening prayer. There will be input, time for personal reflection, and dialogue. Lunch will be provided. Please call to reserve a space.

#### **Presenters**

*Father Joe Nassal* is the author of eight books including *The Conspiracy of Compassion*, *Rest Stops for the Soul*, and *Premeditated Mercy*. He is vice-provincial of the U.S. Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood and has been engaged in retreat, renewal, and reconciliation ministry since 1988.

*Father David Matz* is director of Sonnino Mission House. He ministers with Spanish-speaking persons, immigrants, and the LGBTQ+ community. He accompanies and advocates for those who are on the margins of society, offering hospitality and a safe place.

#### ***Donations Accepted***

**Sonnino Mission House is a ministry of reconciliation and renewal of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, United State Province.**

**We seek to be a safe place of healing and hope  
for those who are on the margins  
of faith communities and society  
and those who journey with them.**