Dear Parishioners,
I share with you this great message from our Holy Father:

“There is no greater gift we can give to each other than to know Jesus. That we have encountered Him is the best thing that has ever happened in our lives, and making Him known by our deeds and words is our greatest joy.”

Let us strive to encounter Him this year. I pray that you have a wonderful and blessed Christmas.

Merry Christmas,
Fr. Phil, OSJ
The Vocations Prayer Cross

All parishioners are invited to sign up to receive the prayer cross at any Mass you desire, by contacting John O’Brien at job1938@aol.com or signing up in the vestibule. It is our hope that this experience will encourage each of us to take seriously our vocation as a member of the Body of Christ and encourage ALL of us to pray for the gift of vocations to priesthood and religious life.

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION & MASS

On Wednesday, December 28, the annual Feast of the Holy Innocents Candlelight Rosary Procession and Mass will meet at 5:00 p.m. at the steps of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament (11th & K) and pray for the sanctity of life as we walk to Our Lady of Guadalupe (7th & T) for concelebrated Mass at 6:00 p.m. This March for Life commemorates those male infants of Bethlehem who were killed by decree of King Herod, as well as those innocent unborn babies lost by abortion today. Bring your family, sing with St. Mary’s choir, and walk to Mass praying the rosary. Candles will be provided. Carpools will shuttle people back to their cars. Dress warmly and bring umbrellas if needed. For more information, please call Leticia at (916) 519-0417.

Married Couples!

Today our Savior is born! Merry Christmas and Joy to the World. We have a great way to honor our Savior and that is to make a Marriage Encounter Weekend. It is the greatest gift you can give each other. The weekend will give you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. Upcoming weekends for 2017 are: February 10-12, 2017 in Sacramento; March 31–April 2, 2017 in Reno, NV.; August 25–27 in Sacramento; October 6–8 in Reno, NV.; and November 3–5, 2017 in Sacramento. IT IS NOT TOO EARLY TO REGISTER, CALL NOW! For more information visit our website at: https://www.sacramentowwme.org or contact Terry & Janet at applications@sacramentowwme.org or 916-489-3464.

Mass Intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Dec. 24</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Children of the Parish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>✫Betty Meyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. Dec. 25</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
<td>Christians in the Holy Land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. Dec. 26</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>✫Margie Kelsch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Dec. 27</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>✫Betty Meyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. Dec. 28</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Joanne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. Dec. 29</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>✫Betty Meyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. Dec. 30</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>✫Merle Jesusa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Dec. 31</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Shane Herrinschmidt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cadiz Sagisi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To have an intention mentioned at Mass, please email Maren Cortese at sjmarelloparish@yahoo.com.

A $10 donation is suggested.
Register now for Symbolon Part II morning or evening sessions as noted below. Join us in this 9 week series which engages adults in a systematic presentation of *Living The Faith*. Class consists of two short (but very dynamic) DVD presentations followed by group discussion. Enrollees may switch between the two classes as needed. Topics include the Sacraments, Mass, Catholic Social & Moral Vision, Authentic Love & Sexuality, etc. Note that Part I is not required for this class.

Registration is free with optional workbook. Registrants will be given a one page outline at the start of each class which should more than suffice for the workbook.

Mondays 9:15 – 11:15am beginning Jan. 2 & ending Feb. 27, 2017 – Room 9  ~ or ~  
Tuesdays 6:30 – 8:30pm beginning Jan. 3 & ending Feb 28, 2017 – Room 9

Questions or to register, contact: Joe Hein at jehein42@comcast.net or 916-772-2935.

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**Christmas Tree Recycling**

January 7 & 8th 10 am – 4 pm in Granite Bay

This 27th annual event supports BSA Troop 121 youth scouting programs. As a special service to SJM parishioners you can also drop off your trees in the church parking lot on those days and proceeds will go to the new SJM Troop 115. For details go to www.troop121.com and click on the link to the flyer.
**Parish Announcements**

**Altar Servers**

**Saturday, December 31**
5:00 pm  F. da Roza, E. Stang

**Sunday, January 1**
8:30 am  A. Parsons, Z. Parsons, T. Danti
10:30 am  B. Conner, A. Conner, B. Nicholas
5:00 pm  V. Greenside

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

**Saturday, December 31**
5:00 pm  T. Iway, B. Porter, P. Lopez

**Sunday, January 1**
8:30 am  L. Cadden, M. Weber, M. Gaudio, V. Zimmerman, F. Conaty, A. Weiner
10:30 am  J. Bosco, R. Frederick, J. Kong, D. Lindsay, P. Lindsay, A. Troy, N. Zisa
5:00 pm  TBA

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**Lighthouse CD of the Week: Men and Women Are From Eden**

God’s design for life, love, relationships, and sex is written into our very bodies. With incredible clarity, Dr. Mary Healy explains how the Theology of the Body, Pope St. John Paul II’s deeply biblical understanding of Our Lord’s original plan for men and women, is astonishingly good news for a culture littered with broken marriages, immorality, heartache, and loneliness.

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“We want to see fulfilled the wish that comprises all others: ‘Salvator noster, salvanos: O Savior of ours, save us!’”

- St. Joseph Marello

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Submit your bulletin listings by Thursday at noon, 11 days prior to the weekend you want it listed, to sjmarellobulletin@gmail.com or call (916) 786-5001.
Wishes for a bright and beautiful holiday season and blessed, happy, and healthy 2017 from Loomis Head Start Staff + families.

Dear St. Joseph Marello Parish,

We are so grateful for your extreme generosity. Your kindness makes a world of difference for our most in need families.

We truly appreciate the time, money, and energy your families spend on our families. You bring them an amazing Christmas and joy they would not otherwise have.

For a lot of these families your gifts are the only ones the children get and the parents write from Santa. It is often also the only gifts the parents receive and they are extremely thankful every year.

Much gratitude,
Loomis Head Start
“CHRISTMAS IN JANUARY 2017”
14th ANNUAL EAGLE SCOUT MEMORIAL COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
BSA DISCOVERY DISTRICT - GRANITE BAY TROOP 121

COMMUNITY COLLECTION DRIVE: SAT & SUN JAN 7 & 8, 2017
10AM – 4PM  St. Joseph Marello Parish parking lot
7200 Auburn-Folsom Road, Granite Bay

ITEMS TO BE COLLECTED
- NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS-ESPECIALLY CANNED FRUIT
- CLOTHING, COATS & BLANKETS, FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
- TOYS, GAMES, BIKES, CD’S, BOOKS & SLEEPING BAGS
- PRESCRIPTION EYE GLASSES (ESPECIALLY ONES FOR CHILDREN)
- OLD CELL PHONES
- PERSONAL HYGIENE KITS – To include: travel size toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, soap, comb and a wash cloth and or a small towel in a 1 gallon plastic baggy

PLEASE DONATE ONLY USABLE ITEMS IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION.

EAGLE SCOUT MEMORIAL BLOOD SOURCE DRIVE MONTH
Jan 1-Jan 31, 2017 Call 1-866-82-BLOOD or email www.bloodsource.org to make an appointment at the donation center near you. Just say it is for the Eagle Project Memorial Donor Club # M-336 the holidays always drain the supply of life saving blood and this is a gift that never goes out of style. BLOOD DONORS RECEIVE A FREE PERSONAL 1 TOPPING PIZZA FROM ROUNDTABLE PIZZA WITH ANY PURCHASE.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS THAT WILL BENEFIT:
- THE BLOOD SOURCE – Saving lives in your local community
- SALVATION ARMY/E.SAC ROTARY CLUB-Oak Park Families & Schools
- FOLSOM CITY LIONS CLUB– Folsom Project for the Visually Impaired
- ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – Roseville Food Locker & Soup Kitchen
- HOPE/LINE from Verizon – Survivors of domestic violence
- HELPING HANDS FOR THE HOMELESS OUTREACH

This is a great opportunity to get a head start on those long overdue New Year’s Resolutions and bring some joy to those less fortunate in your community who can put those unwanted gifts and dust collecting items around your home to a great use. “Christmas in January” has become an annual event and our hope is that the joy of giving will be year round. If you are unable to deliver your donations to the collection site or need more information please call Chris or Tim at 916-791-5666 or email to Kdarcev@rcsis.com or on the days of the events you can call 916-838-4515.

Good Turn for America
Novena to the Holy Innocents

Heavenly Father,

By their wordless profession of faith in your Son, the Holy Innocents were given a martyr’s crown in the early days after the Savior’s birth. Knowing how precious they are to you we call on them to join in our prayer for an end to abortion and all forms of violence against children:

1. That all governmental executives, legislators and judges may acknowledge the humanity of every child in the womb and enact laws and policies to defend them, we pray: Lord, hear our prayer.

2. For our own conversion and that of others so that all would recognize and defend the life and dignity of the unborn, we pray: Lord, hear our prayer.

3. Finally, that all innocent children, who are victimized in any way, would experience God’s love and mercy, we pray: Lord, hear our prayer.

For these intentions and in union with the Holy Innocents, we pray as the Lord Jesus taught us: “Our Father, who art in heaven…”

Pray this novena for nine consecutive days any time of the year. Since the Feast of the Holy Innocents is celebrated on December 28th, it would be most appropriate to pray this novena beginning on December 19th so as to conclude the day before their feast.  (Cf. Matthew 2:13-18)