

Holy Scripture tells us that eight days after His Birth, Our Lord was circumcised and received His Name, Jesus. Thus, it was in humiliation and suffering that Jesus took His Holy Name. He came to earth to save us by those humiliations and sufferings. Our Lord was pure and free of original sin. However, He underwent the rite of circumcision to give us a model of humiliation. We too must undergo humiliation and suffering to be His disciples. We must undergo spiritual circumcision which entails suppression of our corrupt nature that tends toward evil because it is difficult, without grace, to distinguish between good and evil. This requires a stern determination to practice acts of mortification, including fasting and praying, to rid ourselves of all that is not in accordance with the desires and teachings and example of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. St. Paul taught "They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the vices and concupiscences." During this season, and especially on the Feast of the Circumcision, January 1, we pondered that Jesus planned everything from eternity, including the shedding of His Precious Blood only a few days after His birth. We might further ponder that Jesus, Our Lord, had plans for ourselves from all eternity as well. We are free, however, to reject His Teachings and place ourselves into hell. God does not send us to hell. We ourselves make the free choice to spend eternity in hell rather than serve God. One need only observe the arrogant men who seek pleasure and wealth and reject God. To avoid such an outcome, we must work to obtain victory over our inclinations and sensual nature. In other words, our spiritual circumcision must last a lifetime.

The month of January begins with a Holy Day, the Octave Day of the Nativity. The feast is dedicated both to the first bloodletting of Our Lord, when He subjected Himself to the ignominy of circumcision, in accordance with the Mosaic Law, and constitutes the oldest Marian feast celebrating the Maternity of Mary. The prayers of the feast are taken from an ancient feast day of the BVM which was long ago celebrated in Rome. The Collect and Postcommunion are from the Votive Mass of the BVM. The Gospel relates the Circumcision. Next Sunday is Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. The Gospel of the octave day is repeated, and the emphasis is placed upon the name "Jesus" given to Our Lord, in accordance with Jewish custom, at His circumcision. The feast has been celebrated on the Universal Calendar of the Church since the XVII Century. January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany, has the same status in the Eastern portion of the Church, as Christmas in the West. This feast has been celebrated since at least the III Century. The Wise Men of the East followed the mysterious star over Bethlehem, found and worshiped Our Lord. The importance of the feast consists in His being found by the Gentiles. Pray for our beloved US that the forces of secularism, evil and atheism may be turned back.

**Behold, Mary hath brought forth unto us the Savior who John beholding cried out: Behold the Lamb of God. Behold Him Who taketh away the sins of the world. Alleluia. (II Vespers, Octave Day of the Nativity, Feast of the Circumcision)**

**Mass Sunday**

**7:45 a.m.; 9:30; 11:00 and 5:30 p.m. (Five Wounds 9:15 a.m.)**

**Tuesday Mass: 10:00 a.m.**

**Friday Mass: 6:30 p.m.**

**Oratory Of Our Mother Of Perpetual Help**

Institute of Christ the King sovereign priest

1298 Homestead Road, Santa Clara, Ca 95050

TEL: 408-248-4330—Web: ourmotherofperpetualhelp.net

**Fr. Jean-Marie Moreau, rector**

1219 Excelsior Ave., Oakland, CA 94610

TEL: 510-482-2053

**Fr. Pedro Ottonello, Chaplain**

2217 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, CA 94301

510-521-4929



The Blessed Mother watched over the tabernacle of the humble crib where Her Divine Christ Child lay in poverty unknown and unloved by the world. If the Blessed Mother were here today, she would find an abandoned tabernacle where almost nobody visits Him, where He is neglected, where he is exposed to sacrilegious Communion. We should ask Mary to direct our prayers to some abandoned tabernacle, somewhere in our country or the world, and try to console Our Savior for the neglect and outrages He receives even in the Most August Sacrament of the Altar. Offer all your words, sorrows and sufferings to Our Lord in reparation for the blasphemous neglect of an increasingly pagan world. Attempt to spread the devotion so that there will be no abandoned tabernacles anywhere. Daily the world grows farther from the Way, the Truth and the Life. Try to bring it back to the correct path through your prayer and sacrifices before the tabernacle.



## PerPetual help Weekly NeWslEttEr

Month of the IMMaculate conception of the BVM—Sun. in the Oct. Of the nativity—Comm. St. John Ap. EvAng.--27 DEC 2009, Vol. 2, No. 52



As a vital and happy follow-up message from Christmas, today's Mass establishes our dignity as "sons" and "heirs" of God, Whom we can call "Father" because of "His Son, made of a woman," Mary (Epistle). Jesus actually "leapt down from heaven...with beauty...with strength" (Introit) to "direct our actions" in His Name (Prayer). Hence, the Gradual offers our "good word" of gratitude.

The Gospel prophecy that Jesus is "a sign which will be contradicted" indicates what we also may expect as "Sons of God" yet it strengthens our hope, that if we but live with Mary at "Nazareth," then the last words of the Gospel concerning Jesus may also be applied to us, "the Child grew and waxed strong, full of wisdom." The Offertory, Secret, and Postcommunion speak of final victory because "they are dead who sought the life of the Child" (Communion). Feast of St. John Apostle and Evangelist, the Beloved Disciple, is commemorated in the Mass.

**Holy Day of Obligation: Octave Day of the Nativity, Feast of the Circumcision, 1 JAN:** The first Mass of the new year celebrates two feasts, one of Jesus, the other of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Jesus immediately sheds a few drops of His Precious Blood as a pledge of His complete blood-letting later on to redeem us. (Gospel). By His Circumcision Jesus is marked as a victim for sacrifice, Who will take our "government upon His Shoulder" (Introit), and therefore "all the earth hath seen salvation" (Gradual, Communion). Why He gave Himself is explained in the Epistle, namely to "redeem and cleanse us." Secondly, Mary's maternity of Jesus and of us is acknowledged by the Prayer which implores her aid on our behalf to share in His Life; and for this purpose, may our sacrificial offerings (Secret) and sacramental reception Postcommunion "wash away our guilt" by her intercession. Masses of Holy Day at 8:00, 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. Start off the new year with Holy Mass, a visit to the crib, where the Divine Infant is there full of love for you.

**Last Sunday:** Faithful totaled 160, donations were \$1,564.00. Building fund donation was \$90.00, funeral donation was \$100.00. Five Wounds attendance was 127 and \$470.00 was collected as donations. May Our Divine Savior, the Infant Jesus, Mary and Joseph, extend many Christmas blessings to you for your generosity.

**Masses this week: Tuesday, 29 DEC, V Day in Oct. of Nativ., comm. St. Thomas E.M., 10:00 a.m.; Wednesday, 30 DEC, VI Day in Oct. of Nativ., 10:00 a.m.; Thursday, 31 DEC, VII Day on Oct. of Nativ., comm. St. Sylvester I Pp. C., 10:00 a.m. (Fr. Luan Tran will be visiting from Oregon this and saying Masses this week.) Fr. Tran will also celebrate the 10:00 a.m. Mass 1 JAN 2010. If you are in Oregon, stop by for the Tridentine Mass at St. Birgitta's Parish in Portland, where Father is assigned by the Archdiocese to offer the traditional Mass. (Web site for St. Birgitta's is [www.latinmasspdx.org](http://www.latinmasspdx.org)). First Saturday: 2 JAN, Votive Mass of the Immaculate Heart of the BVM, 10:00 a.m.**

**MASS INTENTIONS:** 11 DEC, Mary B. Rezendes, by Helen Rezendes; 4 DEC, Maria de Los Angeles, by Helen Rezendes; Cornela Nilan, 20 DEC, by

Eleanor Irving; Irish and Mac McCabe, by Patrick Clark.

**Donation:** If anybody is able to donate a used automobile to the church, a tax-deductible item, for benefit of Mr. David Webb, one of the talented and dedicated cantors, who sings his heart out at the Masses, please contact Patrick Clark on Sunday after the Masses or by e-mail at [Liturgy@speakeasy.net](mailto:Liturgy@speakeasy.net). David is disabled and unable to work but has enough money for gasoline and insurance. Or perhaps a fund might be established to help this worthy cause. Anybody have other ideas?

### lesu decus angelicum:

O Jesus, Thou the beauty art of angel worlds above! Thy name is music to the heart, enchanting it with love! Celestial sweetness unalloyed! Who eat Thee hunger still, who drink of Thee still feel a void which naught but Thou can fill!

O my sweet Jesus! hear the sighs which unto Thee I send! To Thee my inmost spirit cries, my being's hope and end! Stay with us, Lord, and with thy light illumine the soul's abyss. Scatter the darkness of our night and fill the world with bliss. O Jesu! spotless Virgin flower! Our life and joy! to Thee be praise, beatitude and power, through all eternity! Amen.

### INDULGENCED PRAYER FROM THE ROMAN BREVIARY, PLENARY INDULGENCE IF SAID DAILY FOR A MONTH.

**Christmas:** The priests extend their blessings to all during the Season of the Nativity. Many thanks to those who worked so hard to make things beautiful through cleaning and placing, singing and serving, for the beautiful floral donations and arrangements. The beautiful Christ Child holds out his arms in thanks for those who worked, who visited Him in the Masses, at the humble crib and received Him in Holy Communion. The Nativity is a Time of happiness and love and an example for others who don't know Him to be attracted and fall into His Open Arms of Mercy and Love and into His Holy Catholic Church. Perhaps there was a new mood in the country—sick and tired of the denial of Christmas—and it seemed political correctness took a backward step this year. Perhaps a small retreat of secularism. Attendance at Christmas Masses was 125. Christmas donations totaled \$5,665.00 of which \$2,200.00 was earmarked for the building fund, one thousand for auto repairs to Fr. Ottonello's automobile, which was side-swiped by a hit and run driver as Father pulled out of the parking lot of a church in Oakland. Thanks to our Holy Mother Mary who extended her protection to Father and saved him from being killed or severely injured. May Our Mother Mary, her Holy Infant, and St. Joseph extend the joys of the Christmas Season to you for your generosity. Pray for recover of the health of Bishop McGrath's sister, living in Ireland, who may be in danger of death. Pray also for all those sick of the chapel, particularly those unable to come to Mass due to chronic illness, that Jesus may relieve their pain and anguish.