




Please join us in welcoming Kathryn Adele Kotarba to our parish community. Kathryn, the daughter of Cara & Scott Kotarba, will be baptized by Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm. on Sunday, December 18th at the 10am Mass.

THANK YOU . . .
 To Fr. Kwiecien and Anarose Schelstrate for organizing the wonderful parish breakfast last Sunday. A thank you also to the Social Committee for their lovely decorations.



All parents with children in pre-school and/or lower grades are encouraged to come to the 4:15pm Mass on December 24th, Christmas Eve. We are planning to have the children involved in the liturgy.

2011 AAA UPDATE
 As of December 8:
 Assessed Amount: \$26,600
 Amount Received: \$17,171 (64.6%)
 Additional Pledged: \$ 300 (1.1%)
 Amount Needed: \$ 9,129 (34.3%)

The 2011 Appeal is ending December 31st. **This is a great opportunity to receive a tax deduction for next year's taxes.** Remember, any monies not raised will need to be paid from our general funds.

ADVENT MASS SCHEDULE
 Wednesdays in Advent 6:15pm
 Tuesdays & Fridays 8:30am

Christmas Eve
 Saturday, December 24th 4:15* & 9:00 pm

Christmas Day
 Sunday, December 25th 8:30 & 10:00 am

* Children & Family Mass

RELIGIOUS GIVE THANKS
 A Benedictine nun writes: "We ask God to bless the faithful who made contributions in order to help us in our retirement." Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests offer their heartfelt thanks and prayers for your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

PLEASE NOTE
 The Parish Office will be closed Monday, December 26 through Monday, January 2, 2012. We will re-open at 10am on Tuesday, January 3rd.

ADVENT SOCK DRIVE
 Sister Katie needs socks for her guests! The Circle of Light has begun its Advent Sock Drive. Socks must be **NEW** white cotton men's socks, crew or tube style. If you cannot get out and shop, you are welcome to donate to the purchase of socks. Please talk to Judi Daddio, Mary Katherine Law or Lynn Jacklevich. It's a little thing, a clean pair of socks, but it means so much.

Welcome to St. Teresa's Parish Community
 We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you here celebrating with us. Whether long-time residents or newly arrived in our parish, we thank God that you are with us. If you are not registered or have changes to your registration, please fill in the form below.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

New Parishioner New Address New Phone
 Send Sunday envelopes Send Monthly Donor Form Moving—remove from mailing list

WE WELCOME YOU TO
ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC CHURCH
 SERVED BY THE CARMELITES

DECEMBER 18, 2011
FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

1490 19TH STREET
 LOCATED ON THE NE CORNER OF 19TH & CONNECTICUT STREETS




PASTOR
 Rev. Michael A. Greenwell, O. Carm.
 PastorStTeresaSF@aol.com

PAROCHIAL VICAR
 Rev. Michael E. Kwiecien, O. Carm.
 mkwecien@stteresasf.org

DEACON
 Rev. Mr. Charles Allen, Jr.
 chuck@stteresasf.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE
 Sr. Maureen O'Brien, BVM
 maureen@stteresasf.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
 Laura Diaz-Flaviani
 lflaviani@pacbell.net

PARISH SECRETARY
 Stephani Sheehan
 stephani@stteresasf.org

OFFICE HOURS
 9:30am to 12:30pm
 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Please visit our website:
stteresasf.org

SUNDAY MASSES
 Saturday Vigil 4:15 pm
 Sunday 8:30 & 10:00 am

WEEKDAY MASSES
 Tuesday 8:30 am
 Friday 8:30 am

MARRIAGE
 Please call six months in advance.

BAPTISM & SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
 Please call the Parish Office for an appointment.

PASTORAL COUNCIL
 Jim Schelstrate Briony Doyle
 Emmy Naranjo-Cabatic
 Steve Miller Ron Labuguen
 David Paquette Rick Pitts

PARISH OFFICE
 390 Missouri St
 San Francisco, CA 94107
 Phone: 415.285.5272
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ST. TERESA'S MISSION STATEMENT
As members of St. Teresa's Parish we fulfill our baptismal commitment by being the hands and heart of Christ in our world. We achieve this commitment by accepting the human dignity of all persons, and by advocating for and serving those oppressed in our society. The community of St. Teresa's finds its strength to fulfill this through participation in the Eucharist, prayer, learning the building of relationships, and action for Justice.

Parish Calendar

Sun, Dec 18 - No Good Shepherd
 - No Faith Formation
 Mon, Dec 19 - Choir Practice, 7:00pm, Church
 Tues, Dec 20 - SVdP Sandwich Tuesday
 7:00am, Parish Kitchen
 - Grocery Distribution
 1:00pm, Sammon Hall
 Wed, Dec 21 - Social Committee
 1:30pm, Avila Hall
 - Mass, 6:15pm
 Sat, Dec 24 - Christmas Eve, Masses at
 4:15 & 9:00 pm
 - AA Meeting
 7:00pm, Avila Hall
 Sun, Dec 25 - Christmas Day, Masses at
 8:30 & 10:00 am
 - No Good Shepherd
 - No Faith Formation
 Mon Dec 26-Mon Jan 2 - Parish Office Closed

PASSINGS

We extend our sympathy and prayerful support to the family of Ken Koh, father of parishioner Eugene Koh, who died Monday, December 12th in Los Angeles.

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

Saturday, December 17

4:15pm The Sick of the Parish
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

Sunday, December 18

8:30am The People of the Parish
 10:00am + Vincent Ceccarelli

Tuesday, December 20

8:30am Little Children's Aid

Wednesday, December 21

6:15pm + Anita Sorokolit

Friday, December 23

8:30am The People of the Parish

Saturday, December 24

4:15pm The Sick of the Parish
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

Sunday, December 25

8:30am The People of the Parish
 10:00am + Ruth Allen

SECOND COLLECTION

December 17 & 18

There is no second collection this weekend.

December 24 & 25

There second collection next weekend benefits the St. Teresa's Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. SVdP plans to use the monies collected in this collection to pay for Christmas donations of warm clothing for the seniors at the convalescent home and Christmas presents for the clients of the Riley Center for Abused Women and the Ozanam Rehabilitation Center.

We have recently learned of a program run by the Presentation Sisters of giving Christmas presents to the workers who assemble on Cesar Chavez hoping to be hired for the day. They assemble bags filled with everyday necessities. They collect unopened toiletries that donors have brought home from hotels. If you would like to participate, Sr. Maureen has volunteered to collect these throughout the year and deliver them to the Sisters.

There are still openings for Liturgical Ministers at the Christmas Eve Masses and for the 8:30 & 10:00 am Masses on Christmas Day. We are in particular need of Ministers for the 8:30am Mass on Christmas Day. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church.

Ministers Schedule for Next Week December 24 & 25

4:15 & 9:00 PM

Lector: SPECIAL	1 Lector: SPECIAL
Bread: SCHEDULE	2 Lector: SCHEDULE
Hosp: FROM	1 Bread: FROM
SIGN-UP	2 Bread: SIGN-UP

8:30 AM

Lector: SPECIAL	1 Cup:
Bread: SCHEDULE	2 Cup:
Cup: FROM	Hosp:
Hosp: SIGN-UP	

Cycle B, The Gospel of Mark, and the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Whether we are in Cycle A, B, or C, the pattern for the Gospel readings for the Sundays in Advent is always the same. The first Sunday of Advent – which marks the beginning of the liturgical year – ironically speaks, not about the beginning of time, but about its end, the Second Coming of Christ. The second and third Sundays of Advent center on John the Baptist, and on the fourth Sunday the Gospel serves as a prologue to the Christmas story. It does not matter whether we are in cycle A, B, or C; this pattern of readings remains the same.

But a funny thing happens this year, in Cycle B. In Cycle B we highlight the Gospel of Mark, and Mark's Gospel begins, not with Jesus's birth, but with his public ministry. Chapter 1 begins with the preaching of John the Baptist, moving immediately to the baptism of Jesus. In Mark's Gospel there is no account of the birth of Jesus, and a similar thing happens in the Gospel of John: after a lengthy prologue, we are introduced to John the Baptist before moving to Jesus's baptism in the Jordan.

This year – after reading from the Gospel of Mark on the first two Sundays of Advent – we suddenly moved to the Gospel of John. In Last Sunday's Gospel, the Baptist "testified to the light", telling the priests and Levites from Jerusalem that he was not the Messiah but that "there is one among you whom you do not recognize" who is, in fact, the Christ.

Why does the Gospel jump from Mark to John? There is a very simple explanation for this: in the beginning of Mark's gospel, there is very little about John the Baptist. In fact, the Gospel reading on the Second Sunday of Advent exhausted the material about John the Baptist in the beginning of Mark's Gospel. In order to be consistent with the pattern of having the Second and Third Sundays of Advent focus on John the Baptist, those who assembled the lectionary drew upon the Gospel of John for last Sunday's Gospel reading.

A similar problem occurs on this Sunday. Because there is no infancy narrative in the Gospel of Mark, the lectionary draws upon the Gospel of Luke for today's material. Today's gospel is the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel approaches Mary and asks whether she will be the mother of the Christ. In saying, "I am the maidservant of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say", Mary's "yes" marks the beginning of the Christmas story.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

Please join us in praying for a complete & speedy recovery for Judi Daddio, who was hospitalized while on vacation in Mexico.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

December 10 & 11

First Collection \$ 1,501