

# ST. GABRIEL CHURCH

2559 40TH AVENUE, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94116

Phone: 415-731-6161 Fax: 415-731-1270 [www.sgparish.org](http://www.sgparish.org)



**Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-5pm  
Fri-Sat 9am-12pm  
Closed Daily for Lunch from 12-1pm**

**Pastoral Staff:** Rev. Andrew Spyrow, Administrator; Rev. Mr. John Hurst, Deacon; Rev. Paul Zirimenya, In Residence; Rev. Wilson Blas, In Residence; Mrs. Gina Beal, School Principal; Mrs. Nancy Becerra, Director of Religious Education; Mr. Matthew Shea, Pastoral Associate.

**Parish Center Support Staff:** Mrs. Cheryl Bailey, Bookkeeper; Mrs. Marie Dimapasoc-Arima, Payroll; Ms. Luana Letele, Secretary.

**Liturgical Support:** Mr. Rob Grant, Music Minister; Rev. Mr. John Hurst, Music Minister; Mr. David Lorentz, Music Minister; Ms. Kristine Sinajon, Music Minister; Mr. Mark Davis, Music Minister; Mrs. Nancy Porter, Wedding Rehearsal Coordinator.

## MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend

Saturday—5pm (Vigil Mass)  
Sunday—8am, 10am & 5:30pm

Weekday

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri—8:30am

## RECONCILIATION

Every first Saturday at 3:30pm in the Church with individual confession and absolution

For information on Baptism, Marriage, Sunday School, Anointing of the Sick, Rite/Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA/OCIA) or Confirmation, please call the Parish Center.

## OUR MISSION

As a worshipping, believing, and caring community, St. Gabriel Parish participates in the mission of Jesus Christ, remembered most intensely at Sunday Assembly through proclamation of The Word and the sharing of the Eucharistic Meal. This Community, so nourished, lives its faith in prayer, education and outreach.

## WELCOME!

Would you like to register in our parish? Go to [www.sgparish.org](http://www.sgparish.org) and click on the "Register Online" link or call the Parish Center and we'll send you a form!

## January 5, 2025 *The Epiphany of the Lord*

**Today's Readings: Is 60: 1-6; Ps 72: 1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3: 2-3A, 5-6; Mt 2: 1-12**



Today is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. For centuries we as Catholics celebrated this Feast on Jan. 6, but the decision was made a number of years ago (at least in the United States) to celebrate the Epiphany on the Sunday which falls between Jan. 2 and Jan. 8.

"Epiphany" means "manifestation." It is on this day that Jesus Christ, the Messiah, is revealed as the light of all nations. Officially

Christmas is not over. In fact, the recommendation of the Church is that on this day those who display a crèche, a nativity or manger scene, should replace the shepherd and sheep with the Magi and their likely animals on which they traveled as well as their gifts. However, that is all secondary to the real meaning of this day.

At Christmas the Messiah Jesus was revealed to the shepherds, who were Jewish. But on this day the Lord is revealed to all nations and to the Gentiles (represented by the Magi). We are all familiar with the star the Magi followed, but we need to understand all that is happening and what it means. This all represents the Light of Christ, a Light which today we honor and commemorate. We are called to be the Light of Christ right now to those around us and those with whom we come in contact. That way we can be the disciples Christ wants us to be.

The poet William Cullen Bryant captures the significance of the star the Magi followed very well when he wrote, "O Father, may that Holy Star, Grow every year more bright, And send its glorious beams afar, To fill the world with light."

*Catholic Stewardship Consultants, [www.Catholicsteward.com](http://www.Catholicsteward.com)*

## OVERCOMING JEALOUSY

Then Herod sent the [magi] to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." (Matthew 2:8)

### **Question of the Week**

**Adults:** *When have you been jealous or fearful of another person? When are such feelings harmful?*

**Kids:** *When have you been jealous because something good happened to another person instead of you? What is the problem with feeling that way?*

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**JANUARY 6 - 12, 2025**

Mon.	8:30 am	Rogelio Marania † & Eden Marania (L)
Tues.	8:30 am	Matthew Manalo (L)
Wed.	8:30 am	No Service
Thurs.	8:30 am	Mike Montague
Fri.	8:30 am	Maureen Mullen & John Burke
Sat.	5:00 pm	Michael, Annie & Shane Cunningham
Sun.	8:00 am	Collective Mass
	10:00 am	For the Parishioners
	5:30 pm	The Mages Family

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

In the coming week we ask your prayers for the following:  
Denise Foley, Debbie Gaffney, and Lottie Gonzales.

**OFFERTORY INFORMATION**

Due to early publishing deadlines, we were unable to print the offertory collection from the weekend of December 28 - 29th. We will have an update for you, as well as the Christmas offertory and the Annual Appeal, in an upcoming bulletin. We thank you for supporting the St. Gabriel community!

**GIVE ONLINE AT: [www.sgparish.org](http://www.sgparish.org)**

Click the Online Giving icon on the homepage to get started or go to the "Donate" tab in the upper right corner, then click the "Get Started" icon. We thank you for your support!

**JOIN US ON FLOCKNOTE!**

Visit our church at [Flocknote.com/StGabrielChurch](http://Flocknote.com/StGabrielChurch)  
OR

Text sgc to 84576 from your phone to subscribe to updates.

*Text STOP to 84576 to stop text notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View privacy policy and conditions at [www.flocknote.com/txt](http://www.flocknote.com/txt).*

**2024 TAX REPORTS**

If you would like a report of your donations to St. Gabriel's for tax purposes, **you must request one**. Please call the Parish Center at 415-731-6161 to arrange to have one mailed to you or email the secretary at [secretary@sgparish.org](mailto:secretary@sgparish.org). Due to the large volume of calls, **please allow 1-2 weeks for your request to be processed and mailed**. All those parishioners who gave a one-time donation of \$250 or more will automatically have their report sent to them on or before January 31, 2025.

***Laughter is the Best Medicine***

*The ship was sinking rapidly. Captain called out, "Anyone here know how to pray?" One man stepped forward, "I do, captain." "Good," said the captain. "You pray. The rest of us put on life preservers. We're one short!"*

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**AN INVITATION**  
**TO THE WOMEN OF**  
**ST. GABRIEL'S PARISH**

On **Saturday, January 11, 2025**, District #1 of the Young Ladies Grand Institute (Y.L.G.I.) will hold a Day of Recollection hosted by St. Francis of Assisi Institute No. 1 at St. Gabriel's Parish Center. Registration is at 9:30 AM and Mass is at 10:00 AM. The day should end no later than 2:00 PM. The registration fee of \$15.00 will cover all expenses for the day including coffee, tea, and dessert. Please bring a bag lunch. The moderator for the day is still to be determined. If you would like to attend, please call Janet McCarthy at (415) 672-1028 **before January 6th** and leave your name and phone number in order to reserve a space. You may also register at the door. All are welcome.



**PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN**

Please pray for our St. Gabriel children who are preparing for Reconciliation for the first time on **January 7th**. May the Holy Spirit guide their hearts to a deeper understanding of God's love and forgiveness. Lord, bless them with courage, joy, and the desire to always seek your forgiveness and grow closer to You. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Savior. **Amen.**

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**  
**JANUARY 18-25, 2025**

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025, observed from **January 18th—25th**, will focus on the theme "Do You Believe?" based on John 11:26. This theme invites Christians to reflect on the transformative power of faith in Jesus Christ, particularly in the light of his words to Martha in the story of Lazarus. The week is an opportunity for Christians of all denominations to come together in prayer, reflecting on the unity that flows from shared belief in Christ as the source of eternal life. Through joint worship and reflection, participants will seek to overcome divisions and grow in mutual understanding and solidarity. This annual event fosters deeper relationships among Christian communities, reinforcing the shared calling to spread the Gospel. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity offers a powerful reminder of the life-giving hope found in faith and the unity it brings.

**21ST ANNUAL WALK FOR LIFE 2025**  
**Saturday, January 25, 2025**  
**Civic Center Plaza**

The Walk For Life is an annual pro-life event aimed at advocating for the rights of the unborn and promoting a culture of life. The event includes a rally with various speakers and a march through our city's streets, which helps raise awareness about the importance of respecting life at all stages. There will be an Information Faire at 11:00 AM. The Rally starts at Civic Center Plaza at 12:30 PM, walking down Market Street (2 miles). The Walk will end at Embarcadero Plaza. For more information, go to [Walkforlifewc.com](http://Walkforlifewc.com). You may also call Mary Fogarty at 415-681-7286 for first-hand experience on attending the rally. She knows the ropes!