

Saint Athanasius Church

160 No. Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View, California 94043
e-mail: athanasius@comcast.net — website: www.saintathanasius.com
Office: (650) 961-8600 Fax: (650) 968-5633

Rev. Oscar D. Tabujara, Pastor
Fr. Estanislao Mikalonis, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Leonel Mancilla

PARISH OFFICE: Tuesday - Friday 961-8600
HOURS: 9:00 am. - 12:30 pm, 1:30-5:00 pm
Jenniffer Garlit (Parish Secretary)
e-mail: jgarlit@dsj.org

ADULT ED/EVANGELIZATION 967-7939
Mike Cavera (Pastoral Associate)
e-mail: mikepcavera@yahoo.com

OFICINA DEL MINISTERIO HISPANO 967-7900
Rosa Maria Mancilla (Director)
e-mail: stahispano@sbcglobal.net

CATECHETICAL MINISTRY 967-7971
Victor Valdez (Director- P.T.)

YOUTH MINISTRY 793-3380
Alicia Baturoni (Coordinator)
e-mail: abaturoni@dsj.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:30, 10:30, 12:00, 5:30,
1:30 (Spanish)
Vigil (Sat eve): 5:30, 7:30 (Spanish)
Monday - Friday: 6:45, 9:00 a.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m.
Holy Days: 6:45, 9:00, 12:10, 7:30

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

English Baptisms Call Parish Office
Spanish Baptisms Llamame a la Oficina Hispana

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual Celebration: Saturdays, 4:00 -4:30 p.m. in English
and 6:30-7:15 p.m.- Bilingual
Any time by appointment with the priest, please call the
Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples wishing to celebrate marriage should contact the
priest at least six months before the proposed wedding
date.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

Information on parishioners who are ill, hospitalized, or
homebound, should be communicated to the priests as soon
as possible.

FAMILY PRAYER HOUR Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
FIRST FRIDAY Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament, 9:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.
St. Athanasius Youth Group (SAYG)
<http://sayg.blogspot.com> or contact Alicia Baturoni at
650-793-3380, abaturoni@dsj.org

SENIOR GROUP

2nd Tuesday each month - 12 noon, Parish Hall

RESPECT LIFE GABRIEL PROJECT

Every first Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. in the Rectory

ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTIONS

Community Pregnancy Center (650) 964-8093
836 West El Camino Real, Mountain View, CA 94040
Project Rachel (Post Abortion Help) (888)-HOPE-790

(888)-4673 790

WELCOME TO ALL NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you to our Parish and invite you to register with us as soon as possible.
Fill in the details below and drop in the collection basket, or at the rectory.

NAME: _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS: _____
E-mail: _____ Envelopes:

SAINT ATHANASIUS MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA

Our Advent Penance Service and God Knows How Many Cracked Pots There Are

As we prepare for our Advent and Christmas Penance Service, I remember a beautiful story that a friend once shared with me. I could not find my copy so I called her up and fortunately she found it in her collection and mailed me one with a colorful slide show that made it even more powerful. I think it came from Chinese wisdom stories.

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole, which she carried across her neck. One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection and miserable condition that it could only do half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house." The old woman smiled, "Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house."

Each of us has our own unique flaw...But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take each person for what they are and look for the good in them. End of the story.

I find this story very insightful as we confront ourselves with our weaknesses and strengths and come before God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We thank him for the gifts of strengths in life that He has given us. We ask forgiveness for the "cracks" that we have added of our own making to those Adam and Eve, our first parents, had passed on in our DNA as sinful human beings. Certainly, as this compassionate woman was to her ashamed imperfect cracked pot, God knows about the cracks and "brokenness" in our life. Aren't we glad God doesn't throw cracked and broken things in the trash? "Every person on this earth is broken or has cracks in one way or another. Betrayal by someone, physical ailments, financial difficulties, employment issues, trauma, addiction, abuse...a list of the variety of hammers that shatter the human hearts is long and brutal." And in his wisdom and love, he allowed the cracks to nourish the seeds that brought forth flowers in the pathway of life. He allowed the cracks and "brokenness", our sins, our imperfections, to remind us of his promise to bind the wounds of the brokenhearted. He allowed these to remind us of the beauty that He finds in every crack in our life that has driven us to reach out to Him.

SO PLEASE COME WITH YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TO OUR ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE ON DECEMBER 16, WEDNESDAY, AT 7:30PM. CELEBRATE WITH US GOD'S MERCY AND BE READY FOR CHRISTMAS.

Fr. Oscar Tabujara, Pastor

2nd Collection Today For The Religious Retirement Fund

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat (12th)	9:00	_____	5:30	_____	
Sun (13th)	8:30	Charles Lundine—†			
		Caroline Magro—†			
	10:30	People of the Parish			
	12:00	_____			
	5:30	_____			
Mon (14th)	6:45	_____			
	9:00	_____			
Tues (15th)	6:45	Basilo M. Oriel—†			
	9:00	Ben Ploshay—†			
Wed (16th)	6:45	_____			
	9:00	Nascimento De Souza—†			
Thu (17th)	6:45	_____			
	9:00	_____			
Fri (18th)	6:45	_____			
	9:00	_____			
Sat. (19th)	9:00	_____			
	5:30	Fernando C. Santos—†			



†—Deceased
T—Thanksgiving
S.I.—Special Intention
B—Birthday

Please Pray For The Seriously Ill

Johnny L. Alapar, Faith Bernard, Kamau Burt, Helen Cang, Jorge Castrillo, Emilio & Gabriela Da Rosa, Daniel De Quina, Connie DiStefano, Sam Dolan, Brian Flynn, Henry Guerrero, John Healy, Marie Ibrahim, Don Jensen, Roselin J. Fernandez, Frank Lai, Peggy McKinney, Gloria Mattioda, Javier Monroy & Family, Gerald Lupe Munoz, Sade Otudeko Carroll, Emer O'Keefe, Emily Pepper, Kieko Poso, Debbie Raybourn, Eva Sachen, Fay Siciliano, Nanci Smith, Andrea Soria, Joseph Tung, Katrina Underwood, Marilyn, Jane Allen, Jessica Cruz and her baby Kevin LeWayne Briscoe, Yatira Werene

Death Anniversary Remembrance Week of December 13, 2009

Emma Koszowie, Manuel Cervantes, Thomas Comer, Filemon De Vera, Bernard Ploshay, Margaret Wacker, Bryant McGrath, Jose Prado, constancia Agbulos, Luisa Dasalla, Nicholas De Vito, Amelia Giusti, Steve Alcala, Margaret Bohn, Marian Sanders **May they rest in peace**

Remember to honor our advertisers listed in the back of the Sunday Bulletin. Remember to tell them you saw their ad in St. Athanasius Bulletin!

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 13, 2009

St. Athanasius Parish Advent Schedule

Dec. 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration, Las Mañanitas (Parish Green), 5am, 5:30am Apparition of OLG followed by Mass, 7am in Spanish, **Saturday Mass at 7:30pm, Spanish**

Dec. 13 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Noon, Serenade (Parish Green), 12:30pm Apparition of OLG followed by **Sunday Mass at 1:30pm**

Dec. 16 Advent Reconciliation Service, 7:30pm, bilingual



SAVE THE DATE!!!!

St. Athanasius Christmas Music Concert

Come and celebrate the spirit of the season at our Annual Christmas Music Concert on **Friday,**

December 18th at 7:00pm in the Church. We will also have supervised fun activities for children in the vestibule during the concert. Refreshment will be served following the concert. For more information contact **Jennifer at the Parish Office (650) 961-8600.** This event is sponsored by our **Parish Pastoral Council.**

SIMBANG GABI

The Fil-Am Association of St. Athanasius is preparing for the beautiful tradition of novena of early dawn advent Masses "SIMBANG GABI" to be held on December 22nd, 23rd & 24th at 5:30 AM (3 days for a start this year). **ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED** to come and experience this well celebrated faithful tradition of welcoming the birth of Jesus. After each mass, we will all gather at the Parish Hall to share a simple breakfast, featuring some delicacies.

So mark your calendars and set your alarm clocks. We hope to see you at our historic first "SIMBANG GABI"!

For information:

Carol Wilson 650-440-3413 Julie Hidalgo 650-964-0191
Avelino Limbo 408-594-1994 Millie Dewitt 650-796-7299

This Week's Offering: \$8,368

Identify: \$6,056

Unidentify: 2,312

Year To Date Total: \$151,542.85

2nd Collection/Parish Maintenance: \$1,770

THANK YOU!

"Give to the Most High as he has given to you, generously, according to your means.

For the Lord is one who always repays, and he will give back to you sevenfold"

Sirach 3



Experience the Gift of Healing this Advent!

Advent is a perfect time to examine our lives anew in light of the gift of God's unspeakable love manifested in Jesus' First Coming, the Incarnation. We find strength in the Church community when we publicly express sorrow for our sins. Through the power of forgiveness, Jesus heals us today. Experience His healing power by joining us in the church next **Wednesday, December 16th at 7:30pm for a Communal Reconciliation Service.** The service will be bi-lingual and will conclude with the opportunity for individual confession. Several confessors will be available that evening to hear your confession.



Families at Christmas

Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity. We hope to have collected all the Christmas gifts by *today* (Dec. 12/13th) so that we can distribute them to their respective families on Friday. Thank you again for blessing another family. Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas!

Two Signs of Hope During Advent!

Last Sunday at 10:30 Mass we welcomed one young woman, who has been learning about our faith for the past few months and now is seeking to be fully initiated through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. We accepted her into the Order of Catechumens through a Rite known as the **Rite of Acceptance.** Her name is **Jamie Martinez** and she was supported by her Sponsor, Daisy Mendoza. Along with Jamie, we also welcomed **Nicole White**, who is already part of our church through Baptism but is seeking to complete her Confirmation and First Eucharist. Nicole, was supported by her Sponsor, Maribel Vignato, who is also a member of our 5:30 Sunday choir. Jamie and Nicole were greeted by Fr. Stasys and the whole community gathered for Mass. They pledged publicly to accept and to live according to the Gospel and to accept the Cross of Christ. As a faith community, we pledged to support them, along with their sponsors, through our prayers and example, on their journey of faith. We prayed over them and signed them with the Cross of Christ, asking God to lead Jamie to the baptism of new birth and Nicole to fully embrace her Catholic faith through Confirmation and Eucharist. We hope that over the course of the next couple of months you can get to know Jamie and Nicole, and help them to continue to feel welcomed and accepted here at St. Athanasius. Our community is blessed and enriched to have such faith-filled people seeking a spiritual home with us during this season of hope.

Durante este año, que es el Año de Los Sacerdotes, me gustaría compartir con ustedes un tributo que fue presentado por el Grupo del Encuentro Matrimonial en Español, en apreciación al ministerio de los sacerdotes. Esta bien emotivo y espero que les guste.

Padre Oscar, Pastor

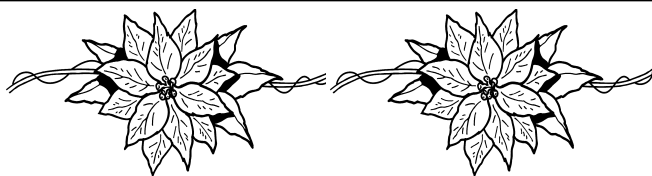
Aquí tienen un poema compuesto por unos amigos celebrando nuestro sacerdocio.

Mira las palmas de tus manos y recuerda el día en que el Obispo ordenante las bendijo y te envió a nosotros para que nos amaras y sirvieras. Recuerdas los planes que tenías ese día para esas manos para unir y administrar tu gente? Piensa en cuantos niños esas manos han bautizados. Piensa en cuantos niños esas manos han preparado para su primera comunión y su confirmación. Piensa en los cientos de homilias y platicas espirituales esa manos han escrito cuidadosamente escogiendo las palabras que transformarían vidas. Piensa en las innumerables horas que esas manos se han levantado para dar la bendición para perdonar en el sacramento de la confesión. Ahora piensa en la última misa y muchas más, cuando tomaste el pan y el vino con esas manos, y los transformaste en el cuerpo y sangre de Jesús. Piensa en las manos, nuestras manos, en las que tu pusiste el precioso cuerpo y la copa con la preciosa sangre.

Piensa en los retiros, los días y las noches de renuevo que con esas manos preparaste. Piensa en la gente a quien con tus manos uniste y tocaste, enviaste desde esas experiencias con un nuevo entendimiento y amor para con los demás y la iglesia. Piensa en las veces que esas manos han tocado en oración en un círculo de amor. Piensa en las manos jóvenes y nerviosas, que has unido en el sacramento del matrimonio. Piensa en los enfermos del cuerpo o de la mente, que han venido en busca de ayuda y que se han ido con esperanza viva en sus corazones. Piensa en los moribundos en quien con tus manos los has bendecidos hacia la casa eterna. Hoy, nosotros la gente bendecimos tus manos, nuevamente con amor; con el amor de toda tu familia Católica. Si algún día, en el futuro, si te sientes solo y desilusionado, por favor recuerda estas palabras. Levanta tus manos y míralas, y recuerda como ellas nos han dado el pan de la vida, como ellas nos han traído esperanza a nuestras vidas y como nos han reconfortado, sanado, secado nuestras lágrimas de nuestros rostros y nos han recibido nuevamente en un abrazo amoroso de Dios y de su Iglesia.

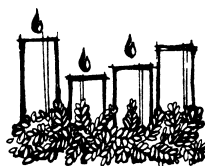
Nosotros queremos estar dispuestos a tomarte de la mano y podernos de pie en la esquina más ocupada de la ciudad y gritar al mundo, "Miren todos! Este es el sacerdote a quien amamos".

Esas manos tuyas, son las manos de Las Sagradas Ordenes. Las tomamos en reverencia y no podríamos vivir una vida Cristiana sin la ayuda de esas manos... sin ti. Gracias por tu sacerdocio. Gracias por amarnos, tu "novia" y servirnos fielmente. Estamos orgullosos de que seas nuestro amado padre.



NECESITAMOS DONACIONES DE NOCHE BUENAS

Para el día de Navidad necesitamos noche buenas para adornar el altar, al igual que personas que quieran venir a decorar la iglesia el día 24 de Diciembre a las 10 de la mañana. Las flores las pueden traer entre la semana. Apúntese con Rosa María o con Mike Cavera.



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CELEBRA

Este domingo, Dios canta y se regocija por nosotros. Leemos hoy en Isofonías que Dios "se llenará de júbilo por tu causa, como en los días de fiesta" (Isofonías 3:18). Sabemos mucho de cantar en festi-

vales. Ya nuestros oídos resuenan con los cantos y villancicos que anticipan la época navideña.

Pablo nos recuerda la fuente de este doble regocijo: Dios, tu poderoso salvador, está en medio de ti (en palabras de Isofonías). Por ser así, nos dice Pablo, podemos alegrarnos y estar en paz. No tenemos que inquietarnos, porque la paz de Dios custodiará nuestros corazones y pensamientos.

Un villancico antiguo representa la Navidad como "el día de mi baile" y nos urge a tomar parte en el baile. ¿Por qué todo el regocijo? Porque "el Señor está cerca" nos recuerda Pablo (Filipenses 4:5). Entonces apunta a la otra razón para el baile: el amanecer de la promesa de paz, la paz que sobrepasa toda inteligencia, y que ya está al alcance de la mano.



DE



El día Viernes 18 de Diciembre nuestra parroquia estará llevando a cabo su concierto navideño a partir de las 7 de la tarde. Traiga a toda su familia a disfrutar de los cánticos navideños, que con mucho gusto, vienen a presentar los diversos grupos musicales. Al final de la presentación, se servirán bocadillos para chicos y grandes.

MISAS PARA FIESTAS NAVIDEÑAS

Misa de 24 de Diciembre a las 7 de la tarde

Misa de 25 de Diciembre a las 1:30 de la tarde

Misa del día 1o. De Enero a las 12 del mediodía

Por favor tome nota y pase la voz.

LA FE NOS SUMERGE

La fe cristiana no nos separa del mundo, sino que nos sumerge en él.

Obispo Oscar Romero: *Discurso en la Universidad de Lovaina*

Vision Statement for St. Athanasius Parish

St. Athanasius church is a gathering place of worship and community for the parish family. We come together with the guidance of the Holy Spirit to live our Christian life, with and for the people of God, through sharing, learning and serving.

Visión de la Parroquia de San Atanasio

La Iglesia de San Atanasio es un lugar de oración y comunidad para la familia parroquial. Con la guía del Espíritu Santo, nos reunimos para vivir una vida Cristiana, con la gente y para la gente de Dios, compartiendo, aprendiendo y sirviendo.

Catechetical Program (Religious Education)

Our parish catechetical program is a blend of the Generations of Faith and the catechetical textbook series *Blest Are We/Bendecidos*. This process provides an integrated and comprehensive approach to forming the faith of children, youth and adults blended with a systematic approach to sharing faith with children and youth. It is the basic preparation program required for children and youth who are seeking to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation. **For more information, please contact Victor Valdez at the Catechetical Office, 650-967-7971.**

Sacrament Preparation for Children & Youth

Preparation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation/First Eucharist (Grades 1-12) and for Confirmation (Grades 9-12) is a two-year process. Students are required to participate in both the catechetical sessions and the specific preparation sessions for the sacrament to be celebrated. **For more information, please contact the Catechetical Office, 650-967-7971.**

Saint Athanasius Youth Group (SAYG)

Open to students in grades 9-12. This program gives high school students a way to participate in the parish community while having fun and deepening their faith. SAYG meets twice a month during the school year. For weekly updates and a calendar of events, visit <http://sayg.blogspot.com>. **To join contact: Alicia Baturoni at 650-793-3380 or abaturoni@dsj.org.**

Adult Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist

Through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) non-baptized adults and baptized Christians of other denominations are welcomed into the Catholic Church. The process is adult oriented and sensitive to the experiences and questions people have. We also invite *baptized Catholics* who have not completed their initiation into the Church (through Eucharist and Confirmation) to prepare for the celebration of these sacraments. For more information: call **Mike Cavera at (650) 967-7939.**

St. Athanasius Blog

Visit the official St. Athanasius Blog to stay in touch with your fellow parishioners! It is a private blog that only registered users can read and write. To register, send your email address to **Dr.AaronRulison@gmail.com**.

Family Prayer Night

We need only to look around to see the tremendous pressures facing our families and how those pressures pull our families apart. There's little doubt that we live in a society of instant everything, one of the major contributions to family deterioration. Family Prayer Night is a response. It is a way for families to set aside an hour a week to be together in the presence of God, to pray and appreciate the most important people in our lives. Join us every Tuesday in the Church, 7-8pm for Adoration, Benediction and Prayer.

Baptism of Children

Parents are invited to contact one of the parish priests to set up an initial interview. Parents and Godparents are required to attend a Baptismal preparation session prior to the Baptism. Baptisms of children (in English) are normally celebrated on the second Saturday of each month. No date can be set until the interview with the priest. Children age 7 or above are required to participate in our Generations of Faith program to prepare for this sacrament. To arrange a Baptism in Spanish, see **Rosa Mancilla after mass. For Baptism in English call rectory @ 650-961-8600.**

Quinceañeras

This service is offered only to registered and active parishioners who have received first communion. Please make arrangement 6 months before the event. Please call **Rosa Mancilla at 650-967-7900** for more information.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Parish volunteers serve the most needy of our society. By donating food, money and most especially their time at our parish food pantry. Our food pantry is open for three days a week for one hour each day. Volunteers are greatly needed to work in the pantry from 1-4 hrs each month. To find out how you might help call **650-562-1000** and leave a message

P.I.A. (Peninsula Interfaith Action)

PIA is a local, interfaith, non-profit, organization that empowers faith communities to work together to identify and take action to change unfair and unjust situations in our neighborhood/city. Our parish PIA committee is making a difference in our local community and could use your participation. Call **Phillip Cosby (650) 906-9641** for more information

Respect Life/Gabriel Project

Working together, these two groups support the sacredness of all human life through direct service to women in crisis pregnancies, education, advocacy and direct action on behalf of human life. The Gabriel Project "Sign of Life" in front of our church gives an "800" number that refers callers to the nearest pro-life pregnancy center for counseling and support. Come to a meeting and see how you can help. For more info. call **Carmel Caligaris (650) 967-3807.**

St. Athanasius Justice and Peace Group

Our mission is to promote justice and peace for all people in accord with the Social Justice teachings of the Catholic Church. We do this through education and direct action and we are committed to prayer and study to further our mission. Call **Mike Cavera for more information (650)967-7939.**