St. John The Baptist Catholic Church

Parochial Administrator
Fr. Michael Ritter

Parochial Vicar
Fr. Joshua Sia

Deacons
F. Paul Sajben
Jesus Padilla Campos
William Bruening
Stephen Schwartz

Notre Dame Catholic School
Grades TK-8
Principal: Kelly Stewart
Phone: (530)342-2502
Website: ndschico.org

Notre Dame Preschool
Director: Shelly Brown
Office: (530) 487-7330
Website: ndschico.org/preschool

St John the Baptist Church
435 Chestnut St.
Chico, CA 95928

St. James Mission
Faber and Holland
Durham, CA
Mass: Sunday 9am

December 15, 2019 | Third Sunday of Advent

The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom. 
_They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song._

~ Isaiah 35:1-2

Parish Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 11am - 4pm
Phone: (530) 343-8741  Fax: (530) 345-8602
Email: office@sjbchico.org
Website: www.sjbchico.org
Mass Schedule/Horario de Misas

Daily Masses/Misas Diarias
Monday-Thursday/ Lunes a Jueves
7:30am English/Inglés
Fridays/Viernes -8:30am/English/Inglés
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays
6:00pm English
Wednesday 6:00pm Spanish
Lunes, Martes, Jueves y Viernes 6:00pm Inglés,
Miércoles 6:00pm Español.

Saturday Vigil/Vigilia de sábado
5:00pm English/Inglés, 7pm Spanish/Español

Sunday/Domingo
8:00am, 10:00am, 5:00pm English/Inglés
12:00pm Spanish/Español

Penance/Confesiones
Saturdays/ Sábados 3:30 - 4:30pm
Monday-Friday/ Lunes-Viernes 5:30pm-5:55pm
Or anytime by appointment/O llame a la oficina para hacer una cita.

Anointing of the Sick, call the parish office/Para la unción de los enfermos llamar a la oficina parroquial (530)343-8741

Liturgical Tidbit
The Advent Preparation

Adventus in Latin simply means coming or arrival.
During the time of advent, we are waiting for the arrival of our king, but what kind of preparation should we do? Usually in Lent we have a pretty good idea what we need to do; fast from various things, do acts of charity, pray more, etc. But I don’t think it’s very clear what we should be doing in Advent, especially because nowadays it’s such a commercial holiday that the spiritual side of it gets drowned with these waves of distractions. In this time of waiting, what should we do? Let’s go back to the words of Isaiah, which John the Baptist also echoes: “Make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth.” It is very important to think about that spiritually. When you’re traveling, mountains are not your friends. It makes traveling more difficult. When there are mountains, automatically they form valleys. So have there been some things that you’ve over emphasized this past year that they’ve become a distracting mountain? Have you been too overly concerned about money, success, anger, frustration, or pride? And again, keep in mind that if there are mountains, automatically, they form valleys. What are those things that you’ve under-emphasized this past year? Have you been practicing the corporal works of mercy? Have you developed your relationship with Christ through prayer? Remember Jesus Christ is a real person who’s trying to find you. Make his paths straighter, so that he can encounter you more readily. Flatten out those mountains and fill up those valleys, so that your heart and soul will be open for the birth of Christ.

Please keep in your prayers/ Mantengamoslos en nuestras oraciones:
For their health/ Por la salud de:

For the repose of their Souls/ Por el Descanso de sus almas:

If you or someone you know needs prayer please contact the parish office (530) 343-8741 or email at: office@sjbchico.org. The names will remain on the list for 3 weeks.
The Knights of Columbus: Fourth degree will be hosting their annual Candy Sale to support their scholarship program. Members of the Knights will be outside after the masses today and every Saturday and Sunday until Christmas.

Parish News

Upcoming Mass Cancelations
December 19th: NO 5:30pm Confessions and/or 6pm Mass. Notre Dame School will be hosting their annual Christmas Program.
December 26th-27th: NO morning and/or evening confessions and/or Masses.

The Knights of Columbus: Fourth degree will be hosting their annual Sees Candy Sale to support their scholarship program. Members of the Knights will be outside after the masses today and every Saturday and Sunday until Christmas.

Operating Income & Expense (updated weekly)
Ingresos y gastos operativos (actualizados semanalmente)

<table>
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<th></th>
<th>Received</th>
<th>Needed</th>
<th>Shortfall</th>
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<td>St John’s</td>
<td>$ 14,406</td>
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<tr>
<td>St James</td>
<td>$ 865</td>
<td>$ 840</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,271</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,375</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 0</strong></td>
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Retirement for Religious Fund: St John’s $2,833  St James $207

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;
Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Friday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Parish Bulletin Submissions: The holidays are fast approaching and with shorter work days, we need all Christmas and New Year’s bulletin announcements earlier. Please submit announcements to bulletin@sjbchico.org at least 2 weeks before.
The Parish Library has many materials available to check out for Advent and Christmas. Come by and see what we have and enjoy coffee and treats and fellowship after the 8 am and 10 am Masses! We have a new Brother Francis DVD for children: "The Days of Advent - Celebrating the Coming of the Lord". We also have Christmas DVDs for the kids. For the adults: "The Bells of St. Mary’s", "The Nativity", and others. We have a new book mentioned by Fr. Mike recently: "Love Your Enemies—How Decent People can Save America from the Culture of Contempt" by Arthur Brooks. It is thought-provoking and gives insight on engaging in a civil way with those we disagree with! "Grateful American- A Journey from Self to Service" - an autobiography by Gary Sinise that fills us in on the development of his acting career, his conversion to Catholicism and his passion for improving the lives of our nation's veterans. "The Space Trilogy" by C.S. Lewis - If you enjoyed Chronicles of Narnia, you will enjoy C.S. Lewis’s outer space adventures! As with everything Lewis writes, there is a background of spiritual underpinnings. "Common Sense Catholicism - How to Resolve Our Cultural Crisis" by Bill Donohue. This is a no-nonsense analysis of our confused societal thinking about human freedom as it applies to everything from sex to economies. Mr. Donohue’s remedy is a renewed embrace of the social teaching of the Catholic faith and the natural law philosophy that underlies that teaching.

**BOOKKEEPER’S CORNER**

Tax Season is just around the corner. Please help us save on postage by registering to have your Tax Letter sent via EMAIL at sjbchico.org/register.

Left your cash or checks at home? Don’t panic there is an easier way to donate! A new ONLINE GIVING PORTAL is now available. Please visit sjbchico.org/give

*Note: If you are currently giving on our old online giving website, please cancel your account before moving to the new portal. The old website will no longer be used.

TEXT to GIVE to St John at 530-404-5115.
Set up your account once then text 530-404-5115 the amount of your donation.
YES, It really is that easy!

Do you shop on Amazon? By going to smile.amazon.com/ch/45-3854885 Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Pastor of St John the Baptist Parish - Chico A Corporation Sole. Remember, always start at smile.amazon.com

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

As we prepare our hearts to receive the Christ Child this Advent Season, let us remember that we can give no better gift to others than Jesus, the Word made flesh. Consider giving the gift of the invitation to become Catholic to someone you know who may be considering entering into a deeper relationship with Christ. Perhaps you could invite them to attend Mass with you during Advent or the Christmas season.

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is for persons in need of baptism, those baptized in another Christian tradition who desire to become Catholic, and those baptized Catholic adults in need of First Communion and/or Confirmation. RCIA inquirers are always welcome! Please call the office at 343-8741 ext. 210, check out our website at sjbchico.org/RCIA, or email Lori Smith at loris@sjbchico.org for more information about becoming Catholic. It’s never too late to join us!

**CATHOLIC LADIES RELIEF SOCIETY:** It is your thoughtfulness and generosity that made it possible to give out 210 Thanksgiving Baskets to those in need. All of you, that support the Chico Community Food Locker, are a healing, holy presence to families and individuals that are in desperate conditions. We thank God every day for what we are able to do because of you—and we do a lot. Any Questions, Yvonne Hawkins, 898-1266.

**St. Vincent de Paul (SvDP):** continues their service to those in need in our community. We have made 50 home visits in the past two months to assist with utilities, rent assistance/eviction prevention, food, clothes, and other needs. Recently, we supplied a family with a car seat so that they were able to take their newborn baby home from the hospital. We also continue to help our Camp Fire friends with many of the same services. In addition to the 50 home visits mentioned above, we made 55 Camp Fire designated home visits. We ,14 SvDp members, so appreciate the generous support we receive from our parishioners and pastors without which we would have nothing to serve with. Thank you, we are grateful, as are those we help. We welcome new volunteers to join us in our service to the poor. Please call us at 530 680-7917 for more information.

*Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy.*

— Isaiah 35:10
**Próximas Cancelaciones de Misas**

**19 de Diciembre:** NO 5:30pm Confesiones y / o Misa de 6pm. La escuela Notre Dame estará llevando acabo su programa anual de Navidad.

**26-27 de Diciembre:** NO confesiones y / o misas por la mañana y / o por la tarde.

El cuarto Domingo de Adviento y Navidad son AMBOS días santos de obligación. Las parroquias que normalmente tienen Misas los Domingos por la noche las reemplazan con misas de Nochebuena. Es importante tener en cuenta que asistir a la misa en la víspera de Navidad NO cumple con la obligación de asistir a la misa el cuarto domingo de Adviento. El 1 de Enero de 2020, que también es Lunes, es una solemnidad, pero NO un día santo de obligación.

**De La Contadora:** La temporada de impuestos está a la vuelta de la esquina. Ayúdenos a ahorrar en gastos de envío registrándose para que le enviemos su Carta de Impuestos por CORREO ELECTRÓNICO en enero en https://www.sjbchico.org/register

¿Dejó su efectivo o cheques en casa? ¡No se asuste, hay una manera más fácil de donar! Nuestro nuevo PORTAL DE DONACIONES EN LÍNEA está en funcionamiento. Visite https://www.sjbchico.org/give * Nota: Si actualmente realiza donaciones en nuestro antiguo sitio web de donaciones en línea, cancele su cuenta antes de pasar al nuevo portal.

**TXTO PARA DAR a San Juan al 530-404-5115. Configure su cuenta una vez y luego envíe un mensaje de texto al 530-404-5115 del monto de su donación.**

¿Compras en Amazon? Al ir a https://smile.amazon.com/ ch/45-3854885 Amazon donará el 0.5% del precio de sus compras elegibles de AmazonSmile a la Parroquia Pastor of St John the Baptist — Chico A Corporation Sole. Recuerde, siempre comience en smile.amazon.com

**Capilla de Adoración**

**HORAS DISPONIBLE QUE NECESITAN COBERTURA**

**Lunes:** 10AM, 11AM **Martes:** 1AM, 2AM, 9AM, 11PM; **Miercoles:** 12AM, 1AM, 2AM **Jueves:** 12AM, 1AM, 2AM, 5AM, 8AM, 3PM **Viernes:** 12AM, 9AM, 10AM 2PM, 3PM. Favor de llamar a María Perez al (530) 332-0792 para programar una hora con Jesus.

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**Tercer Domingo de Adviento 15 de diciembre de 2019**

Volverán a casa los resecatados por el Señor, vendrán a Sión con cánticos de júbilo, coronados de perpetua alegría.

— Isaías 35:10a

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**Tidbit Litúrgico**

**La Preparación de Adviento**

Adventus en Latín simplemente significa venir o llegar. Durante el tiempo de adviento, estamos esperando la llegada de nuestro rey, pero ¿qué tipo de preparación debemos hacer? Por lo general, en la Cuaresma tenemos una idea bastante buena de lo que debemos hacer; ayunar, hacer actos de caridad, orar más, etc. Pero no creo que sea muy claro lo que deberíamos estar haciendo en Adviento, especialmente porque hoy en día es una fiesta tan comercializada que el lado espiritual se minimiza con tantas distracciones. En este tiempo de espera, ¿qué debemos hacer? Volvamos a las palabras de Isaías, que Juan el Bautista también pronunció: “Endereza sus caminos. Cada valle se llenará y cada montaña y colina se volverán bajas. Los caminos sinuosos se deben hacer rectos, y los caminos ásperos se allanarán”. Es muy importante pensar en eso espiritualmente. Cuando viajamos, las montañas no son nuestras mejores aliadas. Hacen que el viajar sea más difícil. Cuando hay montañas, automáticamente se forman valles. Entonces, ¿ha habido algunas cosas que ha enfatizado en exceso el año pasado que se han convertido en una montaña de distracciones? ¿Te ha preocupado demasiado el dinero, el éxito, la ira, la frustración o el orgullo? Y de nuevo, tenga en cuenta que si hay montañas, automáticamente, forman valles. ¿Cuáles son esas cosas que subestimaste el año pasado? ¿Has estado practicando las obras corporales de misericordia? ¿Has desarrollado tu relación con Cristo a través de la oración? Recuerde que Jesucristo es una persona real que está tratando de encontrarse. Endereza sus caminos, para lo que pueda encontrar más fácilmente. Aplana esas montañas y llena esos valles, para que tu corazón y tu alma estén abiertos para el nacimiento de Cristo.

**Flores Navideñas:** estamos aceptando donaciones para flores navideñas. Su donación puede ser en honor de un ser querido o en acción de gracias. Los sobres están en el vestíbulo en la parte posterior de la iglesia. Por favor devuelva los sobres de donaciones a la oficina de la parroquia o póngalos en la canasta de recolección.
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925.239.1401

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Bob Perry
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