Our Mission…
To Be Christ for Others
As Christ is for Us
“Learn it, Live it”

St. Joan of Arc Parish
2601 San Ramon Valley Blvd. • San Ramon, CA 94583-1630
October 23/24, 2010

DAILY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Saturday, 4:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. or by appointment
Saturday Evening Mass (Vigil of Sunday) – 5:30 P.M.
Sunday Masses – 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 A.M. & 12:00 Noon
Daily Masses: Monday through Friday – 9:00 A.M.
Communion Service: Saturday mornings – 9:00 A.M.
Anointing of the Sick: 1st Saturday of the month – 9:00 A.M.
Holy Day Masses – 6:00, 9:00 A.M., 12:10 & 7:30 P.M.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – 7:00 p.m. First Friday of each month
(unless otherwise noted)

REGISTRATION:
Pre-registration Forms can be found on the vestibule counters.
You may drop them at the parish office or in the collection basket.

PARISH OFFICES
Mon.—Thurs., 8 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.; Friday Closed
Phone: 925-830-0600
Fax: 925-830-5059
Email: ParishOffice@sjasr.org

YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICE
Grades 7-12
Phone: 925-830-4720
Fax: 925-830-5059
Email: YouthOffice@sjasr.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE
Pre-School-Gr. 6
Mon.—Thurs., 9:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Fri., 9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
Phone: 925-830-4710
Fax: 925-830-5059
Email: REOffice@sjasr.org

CYO OFFICE
Basketball: stjoancyo@aol.com
Track: www.stistjcyotrackclubspaces.com
Website: www.stjoancyo.com

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We can never get away from comparing ourselves against others in this life. We have to compete with others in the classroom, on the athletic field and in the work place. But we don’t have to despise those who don’t match up to our level of performance.

In our first reading, we hear that God has no favorites. He’s not partial towards the rich or the poor, toward the weak or the strong, toward the plain or the pretty. God sees all people as his children in need of his love and grace.

What a shock it is to hear in our Gospel, that despising others is a worse sin than greed, dishonesty and even adultery. Arrogance is such a terrible sin because it separates us from both God and others. The proud lock themselves away in a prison of self-satisfaction.

We cannot hate others without hating ourselves. The shortcomings we despise in others are usually faults that we must struggle with ourselves. Learning to accept others is an important step in learning to accept ourselves.

Blessings, Fr. Ray
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions
October 24th, 2010

SAT: 5:30 PM  Joe Wloch +
SUN: 7:30 AM  Rose Mara +
      9:00 AM  Ugliero and
      Mary Anzioiotti +
      10:30 AM Members of our Parish
      12:00 PM  Atanacio Mardo +
MON:  9:00 AM  Norma Loaiza +
TUES: 9:00 AM  Alegria Fernandez +
WED:  9:00 AM  Frank Barry +
THURS: 9:00 AM Marie Gaffney +
FRI:  9:00 AM  Ann Kopas +
SAT:  9:00 AM  Communion Service

Pray for those who are sick or suffering:
Elfi Ashouri, Bill Finnegan, Stanley Zielezniak,
Father Declan Deane, Clare Dowling, Heinz Miller,
Robert Ambrose Sotelo, Tom Pult, Ann Otis, Bob
and Ann Grau, Honey Giblin, Nicholas Policar, Janet
Bertolero, Michael Sweet, Marie Island, Gerry Sharkey,
Marylou Cisneros, Michael Buitrago, John Moran, Mike
Theriault, Anthony Yazurol, Evelyn Maita, Sabrina
Franklin, Marisa Lynne, Mary Roberts, Joyce Davis,
Harry Leung, Br. David Brennan, F.S.C., Bill McGullam,
Nadine Durant, Julian Uceda, Teresita Resley, Rosie
Yaya, Ken Solis, Margaret Hock, Matin Moghadam,
Mike Boyle

Pray for our deceased:  Esteban Tenefrancia, Myni
Leong, Tessie Garcia Seli, Patty Lynch, Armando
Abesamis, Jack Stewart

READING FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Eph 4:32 — 5:8; Lk 13:10-17
Tuesday: Eph 5:21-33 [2a, 25-33]; Lk 13:18-21
Wednesday: Eph 6:1-9; Lk 13:22-30
Thursday: Eph 2:19-22; Lk 6:12-16
Friday:  Phil 1:1-11; Lk 14:1-6
Saturday:  Phil 1:18b-26; Lk 14:1, 7-11
Sunday:  Wis 11:22 — 12:2; Ps 145;
         2 Thes 1:11 2:2; Lk 19:1-10

TOWARDS A MATURE FAITH

Continuing with our reflections on Cardinal Newman,
let us consider further the principles from which he
developed his thought. As indicated last week, one of his
guiding principles was the emphasis on learning to see
the whole. In his work, The Idea of a University, he
makes clear that the goal is to encourage a quality of
mind. From this principle it is obvious that for Newman
the purpose of an education is to develop a mind that is
able to discriminate intelligently by perceiving
relationships and distinguishing links that will provide a
more comprehensive view of life and faith while avoiding
the pitfalls of narrow rationalism and overly-romantic
idealism.

In Newman’s view reality is composed of many
dimensions including the physical and spiritual, the
scientific and the poetic, a moral conscience and faith.
From this it is easy to see why Fr. Imbelli states “Thus
Newman’s approach to knowledge is radically
personalist.” (Ibid. p. 16) It calls for the complete
integration of the whole person, for it is only through this
effort that we can truly appreciate the mystery of life. As
Fr. Imbelli puts it, “Tutored by Newman’s careful and
expansive teaching, the contemporary believer can learn
anew both reverence and gratitude: reverence for the pied
beauty of reality that offers itself so generously to human
experience and reflection; gratitude for the intimations it
provides of mystery that both transcends and beckons.”  (p. 16). Next week we will explore Newman’s
understanding of Christ for himself and for all of us.

Peace,
Deacon Charlie

T-Shirts and Sweatshirts
still available!

There is still time to purchase your St. Joan of Arc
Spirit Wear! Stop by the Parish Office, Monday thru
Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Limited sizes and colors left…

Sweatshirts:  navy: Adult M, L, XL, 2XL
             $35            Youth M

T-Shirts:  white or navy: Youth M,
           $15            Adult S,M, L, 3XL
             white: XL, 2XL
MARK YOUR CALENDARS:
a special event for LIGHT teens and parents!

"What parents want from their teenagers . . . what teenagers want from their parents"

Monday, November 15, 7-8:30 p.m. in the gym

With special guest speaker Steve Saso

 Teens and parents: do you ever find yourself in conflict? Does the arguing affect your relationship? This seminar is designed for building bridges and strengthening the parent-teen relationship. Communication techniques are taught that facilitate understanding and invite dialogue between parent and teen. The session involves integrating ten vital needs both parents and teens want in order to build a lasting, loving and trusting relationship.

TEENS: You’re coming to LIGHT on Monday night anyway . . . On November 15, bring your parent(s)! You will be glad you did!
Session requires both parent and teen attendance

Don’t miss out on the Halloween Edgestravaganza!

October 27th from 6:50-8:30.
Food, Games, Prizes, and Fun!
A special treat for those in costume!
HELP NEEDED once again!

Once again we are in need of a volunteer. This time we lost a Kindergarten catechist who got a job and had to leave our ministry. Is there anyone in the parish who can help us from 4:45 to 5:45 every Monday? We have 12 Kindergartners who need someone to guide them through their Kindergarten classes. If you can help us teach these young people how much God loves them your rewards will be great in heaven.

If you can help please contact
Maureen Tiffany at 830-4710 or mtiffany@sjasr.org
Thank you.

LIGHT needs rugs!

If you have a large rug (not a carpet remnant) that you would like to donate, we could use it! And we need a lot!

Please drop off any rugs in the youth center. Thanks!

October is “RIGHT TO LIFE” month!

If you took a baby bottle to help the Valley Pregnancy Center, please return it next week.
(It doesn’t matter if it has money in it or not. We would just like them returned.)

Thank you

WCC meets this Sunday, October 24 in the gym at 10 a.m.

Letters for children eligible for First Communion went out last week. The first part of the process is preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please return the forms as soon as possible. If you did not receive a form and you feel that your child is eligible, please contact the RE Office.

The ROCK meets this Thursday, October 28 at 6:15.

Tiny Treasures Play Group...
Parents and Children meet Thursdays 10:00 to 11:30 am in Classroom 2 & 3
(unless otherwise noted)

October:
28 Halloween Party

Questions: Call Sabrina at 456-0569
Both the first reading and today’s Psalm say clearly that the Lord hears the cry of the poor. Have I been given the gifts – of time or money or abilities – to be the means by which God answers their need?

“for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”
- Luke 18:14

Do we exalt ourselves? We do if we think that we get credit for any of the good things in our lives. As stewards it is important that we remember that every good thing on this earth is a gift from God. We should be humbled by God’s abundant generosity. Our hearts should be filled with gratitude.

The Second Collection for next weekend, October 30/31 will be for St. Vincent de Paul.

Weekly Goal: $28,000

October 16/17, 2010 Collections
Envelope Users $ 10,018.00
Loose Checks $ 3,115.50
Loose Cash $ 2,638.50
OTHER* $ 5,200.00
Total Sunday Collection: $ 20,972.00
Excess/(Shortfall) $ (7,028.00)

*Other includes EFT, Employee Giving Campaign, On-Line Banking

We invite you to remember St. Joan of Arc Church in your will and estate planning. Thank you!
**Pastoral Council Corner**

Have you ever had a conversion moment? Have you experienced or are you experiencing a time in your life when God’s presence or Jesus’ message had such relevance to your personal life that you changed your behavior? Have you ever seen yourself become more confident or flexible or patient or hospitable or fair as a result of that experience? After what you would call a conversion experience, have you ever found your slightly or profoundly changed self becoming more generous with your time, your material things or even with your own inner-life?

A conversion, in a faith setting, is our response to the invitation of the Holy Spirit to turn our hearts toward God and experience a deeper communion with Him. Through Jesus Christ, God is constantly inviting us to see Him, to hear His message and to apply it to our lives through our own intellect and emotional life as well as through faith sharing with others. When we truly make this effort, the Holy Spirit has the opportunity to turn our hearts, in small and big ways, toward the face and love of God. And when we have received this gift, when our hearts have been turned and “converted”, we are then called to not to keep it to ourselves but to share it with others, to give out of the abundance that we have received.

A conversion experience can be life-changing or last for a little while. The important thing is to persist in seeking to be converted to the message and the love and the activities of our God. We must, as best we can, try to place ourselves in opportunities to have felt experiences of the living Christ which lead to deeper communion with God. These experiences can occur in countless ways and places: in nature, in liturgy, in song, in relationships, in retreats or faith-sharing meetings or service days, in art or sport or reading or building, in family life or in the workplace or in our neighborhood.

Ministry, service to others in the name of God, is then the fruit of the persistence that happens after our turning, our conversion. It is an expression of a time or times in our lives when the unseen love of the living God has become so valuable to us that we have to share our gratitude and love with others in a real, active way. If we have had a conversion moment or moments, we know that we can’t not share our new perspective and excitement with others. If we can look back on our faith highs and lows throughout our lives, and say that we haven’t had a true conversion moment with our God yet or lately, now is the time to look into creating that opportunity for ourselves.

God is ready and waiting for us to look at Him. And on the other side of that view, our parish and our world are ready and waiting to receive the fruit of our new converted, turned heart – the heart that is filled up and overflowing with the amazing and powerful love that we see when we look at our God. What are we waiting for?

Your Pastoral Council Members:

- Joe Torkildson (Co-Facilitator) 984-3211 DrTork@sbcglobal.net
- Ruben Ocampo (Co-Facilitator) 275-1420 r pocamp2@pacbell.net
- Karen Archer (Recorder) 837-7221 rancher369@aol.com
- Kim Cummings 828-1697 cummings04@comcast.net
- Monica Pacheco 858-5644 monjohnni@me.com
- Rodger Powers 510-599-1963 rodger_powers@comcast.net
- Tom Pursiano 820-3995 tompurs2292@aol.com
- Wendy Rooney 785-8273 rooneyw@comcast.net
- Edith Wong 831-2875 edithwong5@gmail.com

**"Family to Family Ministry"**

Catholic Charities is interested increasing our parish team of families who are inspired by the Gospel to help the poor. Some parishioners have been involved in this ministry for more than a year and found it very rewarding.

Each new team member will receive training and then work with the team to help a family that has been screened by a case manager. They will help this family-in-need for 12-18 months with mentoring, access to services and small donations (food, clothing, PG&E bill, etc).

If you are interested in this rewarding new ministry sign up with a staff member from Catholic Charities on Oct 30-31 after Mass.

**AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP**

We are a group of parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and interested parties, who gather on the fourth Monday evening of the month for education, sharing and support. All are welcome.

We all can look forward to...Monday, October 25
From 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
In the Parish Office Conference Room
Please R.S.V.P. to Sue Walsh at sbwjobs1@mac.com

**PEOPLE OF LIFE**

"The life I touch for good or ill will touch another life, and that in turn another, until who knows where the trembling stops or in what far place my touch will be felt"

-Frederick Buechner
Adult Faith Formation

St. Paul tells us that we must grow in our faith. Not only in our feelings about our faith, but also in knowledge. **St. Joan of Arc’s Adult Faith Formation** programs are getting ready to begin this year’s schedule and hopes to give all adults on their faith journey to join with us in bettering our understanding and commitment to that faith. Please join us for one or more of these programs during the coming year.

- **Adult Confirmation** – Tuesday evenings Oct. 5 through December 7; Confirmation on January 29 at the Cathedral of Christ the Light
- **Catholics Coming Home** – Begins October 12
- **Catholics at Work** – September through December and February through May
- **Stewardship** – 3rd Tuesday, September through April
- **Order of Christian Funerals** – Fr. Ray and Janét Whitaker – Oct. 26 7 p.m.
- **Advent Program – An Evening with Dan Schutte** – November 30, 2010 7 p.m.
- **Spirituality for Adults**—Thursday evenings in Advent
- **Christmas Brunch** – Dec. 4, **Women’s Retreat** – Feb. 5 and **Morning with Mary** – May 14
- **Small Faith Communities** – On-going
- **Feminist Theology** – May 2011
- **Men’s Retreat** – Saturday - Date TBD
- **Catholic Social Teaching** – Date TBD
- **Introduction to Scripture Studies** – Deacon Charlie & Renee Bhatia -- Spring
- **Lenten Program** – Date TBD
- **St. Augustine’s Confessions** – 6-week class with Renee Bhatia -- Dates TBD

**St. Joan of Arc Book Group**

This month the book group is celebrating All Saints Day by reading *My Cousin the Saint: A Search for Faith, Family and Miracles* by Justin Catanoso. It is a delightful book that looks at a twentieth century saint, how his life affected his family and the process of canonization.

We will meet to discuss it on Thursday, November 11 at 9:30 a.m. in Classroom 1.

Please call Meg Monaghan at 803-8830, or email her at mmonaghan@pacbell.net if you have any questions.

**Catholics Coming Home**

**Questions about the Church?**

Inactive with your faith?

Away from the Church, hurt, confused or angry because of your experience? Please consider our invitation to come and talk with us.

St Joan of Arc in San Ramon invites you to an 8 week series that can answer your questions, and help you with your journey of faith. Learn about our Loving and Forgiving God. We will meet Tuesday evenings 7-8:30pm, St Joan of Arc Parish in Classroom 1.

Contact: Deacon Charlie (925) 830-0600, cstanton@sjasr.org or Renee at rmbhatia@aol.com

**Through Death to Life**

When the time comes for ourselves or a loved one to move on to our heavenly reward, the Church provides us with a liturgy that serves to praise God for the life he has given and comfort to those who remain. **Join Fr. Ray and Janét Sullivan Whitaker** as they provide insights and understanding of Catholic Funeral Rites including the vigil, the funeral mass, and the burial.

Tuesday evening, October 26th
7:00 p.m. in the Church
Mass of Remembrance
on
All Souls Day—Dia de los Muertos
Tuesday—November 2, 2010 7:00 p.m.

Please join us in remembering our beloved dead. Invite your family and friends.
Bring a picture or memento to place on our Altarcito

ALTARCITO

Day of the Dead (Dia de los Muertos)
The Day of the Dead began as an Aztec celebration originally celebrated in August, where it was believed that the spirits of the dead would return once a year to be reunited with their loved ones on earth. Skeletons and skulls were used as symbols for death and rebirth, reminding us mortals that death is a part of life. Instead of fearing death, the Aztecs embraced it and considered it a “moving-on” to a higher level of consciousness. When the Spaniards came and converted the Aztecs, the Aztecs incorporated the symbol of the crucifix into the celebration, which the Spaniards moved to November 2nd, All Souls Day.

Altarcito (Small Altar)
A Dia de los Muertos altar (altarcito) is meant to honor the memory of someone who touched your life. This can be anyone from the family pet, a loved one, or one of the Saints. Anyone who had a positive impact on your life can be a subject of your Day of the Dead altar. Pictures of the deceased are placed on the Dia de los Muertos altar along with their favorite drink and food which is to nourish the spirits after their long journey from beyond the grave. Candles to light their way home and water to freshen-up after their long trip back are also placed on the altar. Trinkets that they were fond of, symbols they would understand, and gifts are left to communicate to them that they are always in the hearts of those left behind, and that they are still part of the family even though they aren’t physically with us any longer.

Families often spend time at the cemetery with loved ones, bringing food and drink along with all the other necessities for a picnic. However, at this picnic the deceased is the guest of honor. Dia de los Muertos is a time of joy because we know that we are surrounded by those we love—both living and dead.

Father Ray would like to invite all parishioners to begin bringing in their photos of loved ones to the parish office. They will be placed on the Altarcito next weekend and remain until the end of November. PLEASE put your name and phone number on the back of your picture for easy reference.

CALLING ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS!!

BRASS!! * WOODWINDS!! * STRINGS!! * PERCUSSION!!

Players are needed for The Great Saint Joan of Arc Festal Orchestra
This exciting new parish ensemble will provide music for Christmas Eve Masses, Friday December 24th.
Rehearsals begin in November.

Please contact Janèt Whitaker in the parish office 925-830-0600 x227
For more information and to reserve a spot in this exciting new group!