John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

Matthew 3:1
Putting up and Blessing the Christmas Tree

Growing up, it was always fun to put up the Christmas tree...well, fun for the most part. The most difficult thing to do was to get the lights on the tree (and then get them to work)! Once that happened, all heck broke loose as we started hanging the ornaments, placing the star on the top of the tree, and then the painstaking job of putting tinsel on the branches. To this day, I am sure that our Mom re-organized the tree after we kids went to bed so that it would have some semblance of beauty for the Christmas Season. Recently I found a “Christmas Tree Blessing” that you might wish to use as you set up your Christmas tree this year:

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
before whom all the trees of the forest sing for joy,
for you have come to rule the earth and all its peoples
in your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.
By his death on the cross and his rising in glory,
the tree of our defeat has become our tree of victory,
and the pure light of Christ forever gladdens our waiting world.

We ask you to send your blessing upon this tree
which we have decorated in honor of your Son’s birth.
Let it help us to celebrate this holy season
as living branches of Him,
and bear the fruit of good works for your glory,
this day and every day, both now and forever. Amen.

This blessing works for both real trees and the store bought variety 😊.

2019 Opportunities for Generosity

Each year we try to put out some very practical needs in the parish, offering them as “Opportunities for Generosity” as we come to the end of the calendar year. You can be assured that your generous gift will be used only for the opportunity you choose. Thanks so much for your consideration:

Faith Formation Scholarships (no one is turned away due to inability to pay)
- Elementary Registrations: 10 @ $200.00 each
- Confirmation Registrations: 16 @ $160.00 each
- Confirmation retreat fees: 14 @ $225.00 each

Facility Needs
- 18 round light-weight tables for the parish hall and upper room @ $300.00 each
  (we are replacing the older, heavier, and broken wooden tables)
- Plumbed in Coffee Maker for the hall kitchen: $1,200.00 for machine and installation

Liturgical Supplies
- New Sunday Lectionary (Book of Readings) @ $175.00
- New Sunday Roman Missal (Priest’s Altar Book) @ $195.00
- New Ordinary Time Green Banner set @ $2,500.00 (remaining from $5,000 total)

Liturgical Music for the Holidays
- Flute and String Trio for Christmas Eve Masses (6pm, 8pm, 10pm) @ $600.00 for each Mass
- Brass Quintet for Easter Morning Masses (9am, 11am) at $1,000.00 for each Mass

If any of these opportunities strike your fancy and you’d like to cover the cost for them, please contact Bev Fisher, Business Manager, at 949 249 4099 or bfisher@st-timsrc.org

*Items in red have been Donated*
As a new liturgical year begins this Advent, are you ready for a deepening of your relationship with God? What new things does God desire for you in this new season? A new liturgical year comes with a change in the readings we hear proclaimed every Sunday. This Advent, we begin a year focused on encountering Jesus through the apostolic testimony contained in the Gospel of Matthew. All are invited to come and learn more about this Gospel and how to understand the unique voice St. Matthew brings to our understanding of Jesus as a Jewish man, a Rabbi who revealed Himself to be a rebellious Messiah: Emmanuel, God with us.

This three-part series will be on Sundays, December 1st, 8th & 15th from 12:15-2pm in the Hall and will be facilitated by Matt Zemanek, Director of Adult and Youth Faith Formation. If you have any questions, please contact him at mzemanek@st-timsrc.org. All are welcome, and be sure to bring your Bibles (preferred translation: NABRE—New American Bible, Revised Edition). Childcare is available with advance notice to Marya Wallace, mwallace@st-timsrc.org. There is no cost to participate. All are welcome. We hope to see you there!
The Giving Tree

We invite you to join us this Christmas in reaching out to those in need. The Giving Tree, sponsored by St. Vincent de Paul is decorated with gift suggestions in the church. These donations help several organizations:

Mary's Path in Tustin shelters, empowers and equips unwed teen mothers and their babies for lives of hope, dignity and self-sufficiency.

Beyond, run by the Sisters of St. Joseph in Orange, joins Mercy House by helping homeless women in transition with temporary housing, training and support to find jobs.

Hope for Kids helps find and support host families for children whose families are in crisis and who need transitional help. They also assist disadvantaged youth by raising funds for college scholarships.

The School Sisters of St. Francis serve the needy in poor parishes in Southern Texas near the Mexican border in a number of capacities as they help the poor, the disadvantaged, and the abused.

The St. Timothy Conference of St. Vincent de Paul assists local families in need with gift cards for gas, grocery stores, Target, Walmart, and fast-foods.

St. Timothy Food Pantry helps 80 to 90 families a week with food and basic items such as diapers and toilet paper, and soap. Our needs are for Costco or Smart and Final gift cards that help to supply some of the needs not covered by donations such as baby diapers, baggies for food items such as produce, and for rice and beans.

The San Felipe Homeless are the homeless men and women in the Capistrano Beach, San Juan Capistrano and Dana Point areas. Many are day laborers who do not have the means to rent rooms. Once a year, through the Giving Tree, St. Timothy partners with Welcome INN (Interfaith Needs Network) to provide these brothers and sisters with the gifts of sweatshirts, jeans and a bountiful meal in January on the Feast of the Three Kings.

To participate, just visit the Giving Tree in the back of the church, take an ornament, and return the ornament with the designated gift card to the box by the tree or at the parish office.

A Reflection on the Sacred Mysteries

“Before we begin to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins and ask God’s forgiveness.” We hear something like this invitation from the celebrant near the beginning of every Mass. I typically let the reference to “sacred mysteries” sail past because I’m much more focused on the “sins” part. Yet over the course of the Mass, from the introductory rites, the liturgy of the Word, the homily and the profession of faith to the liturgy of the Eucharist and the concluding rites, there is truly a celebration of the sacred mysteries of our faith, mysteries which are so profound and so beyond our capacity to explain that we can only try to describe them through metaphors and poetry and song. Still we believe, trusting in God’s love.

Our love affair with God was once described by Pierre Teilhard de Chardin like this: God does not offer Himself to our finite beings as a thing all complete and ready to be embraced. For us, He is eternal discovery and eternal growth. The more we think we understand Him, the more He reveals Himself as otherwise. The more we think we hold Him, the further He withdraws, drawing us into the depths of Himself.

Mass should never be just a time of standing, sitting, kneeling and reciting familiar prayers, but a time for awe and wonder, a time to contemplate the mystery of a triune God who not only transcends our universe but at the same time dwells within that universe and in each one of us; the mystery of the Incarnation, “God with us” (some theologians speculate that God might have taken on a human form even if Adam had not sinned, simply because He loved us so much); the mystery of a God who suffered and died on a cross for us and who rose again in victory over sin and death; the mystery of the transforming of bread and wine into the body and blood of his divine Son and the gift of that body and blood to each of us for our spiritual food; and underlying all of these unfathomable mysteries is the greatest mystery of all, the mystery of the God whose love and whose mercy have no limits. (by Bill Kramer)

So let us kneel. Let us give thanks. Let us pray.
ST TIMOTHY YOUTH
@sttimsyouthministry

LIFE NIGHTS
SUNDAYS 6-8PM / UPPER ROOM
Questions? Contact Vanessa Serna: vserna@st-timsrc.org.

THIS SUNDAY: PURPOSE
All high school teens are welcome to join us for a Life Night on discovering your purpose in the Upper Room from 6-8pm. Dinner is included & all are welcome!

12.08 - LIFE NIGHT Issue Night
12.11 - Year 1 Confirmation, 7-9PM
12.13 - Off-Campus Social: Ice Skating! Check IG for details!
12.15 - NO LIFE NIGHT
12.22 - NO LIFE NIGHT
12.29 - NO LIFE NIGHT

DROP-IN
Every Thursday from 3-5pm the Youth Room is open to teens in high school. Come get help with homework, play Smash on Nintendo Switch, play pool or ping pong, eat food & relax.

YEAR 1 RETREAT
Our Year 1 Confirmation retreat is coming up on January 10-12, 2020. Please pray for all of the teens and leaders who will be attending, that they all have a transformational experience!

FRIDAY NIGHT ICE
Join us on Friday, December 13th at the Aliso Viejo Ice Palace for a night of skating and fellowship from 7:30-9:30pm. Bring $20 for skates and admission, consent forms are on Instagram!

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY @thrive_yam
THURSDAYS 7:30 - 9PM / YOUTH ROOM / 18+

Are you looking for a consistent young adult community where you can meet new people and grow in your relationship with Jesus? THIRVE is a weekly young adult ministry that seeks to build community through fellowship, prayer, lectio divina, and discussion about our lives, current events and our faith. All are welcome and invited to join us as we seek to live out our Catholic faith in the world.
Advent traditions create memorable moments in the parish community.

One of these traditions is the Blessing of the Advent Wreath on the first Sunday of Advent and the lighting of the Advent candles as we anticipate the nativity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

St. Nicholas visits the Elementary Faith Formation classes in honor of his Feast Day, Dec. 6th.

Msgr. John and Fr. Joseph blessed tangerines and the children listened to the traditional story from St. Nicholas, the Bishop of Myra.
You are invited to join in celebrating
The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Thursday, December 12 at 6:00 a.m.
Bilingual Mass
Followed by a reception in the Hall
Mary appeared to Juan Diego in a small village
near Mexico City December 12, 1531.
She is the patroness of the Americas.

Children’s Faith Formation
Schedule of Classes

Sun. 12/8 Tiny Tims 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
      Tiny Tims 11:00 - Noon
Tues. 12/10 Elementary 4:00 - 5:15 p.m.
      Elementary 5:45 - 7:00 p.m.
      R.O.C.K. 5:45 - 7:00 p.m.
Wed. 12/11 Elementary 5:00 - 6:15 p.m.
Sun. 12/15 Tiny Tims 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
      Tiny Tims 11:00 - Noon
Tues. 12/17 Elementary 4:00 - 5:15 p.m.
      Elementary 5:45 - 7:00 p.m.
      R.O.C.K. 5:45 - 7:00 p.m.
Wed. 12/18 Elementary 5:00 - 6:15 p.m.
Fri. 12/20 C.L.U.B. 6-7-8 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Sun. 12/22 Tiny Tims 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
      Tiny Tims 11:00 - Noon

Merry Christmas!
Classes will resume the second week of January 2020.

Christmas Eve Liturgy
December 24 at 4:00 p.m.

Please sign up to participate.
All children, ages five and older, are welcome to participate in a small choral performance during the 4:00 p.m. Liturgy on Christmas Eve.

There will be one required practice on Wednesday, December 18 from 6:15—7:15 p.m. in the Church.

For more information, kindly contact the Children’s Faith Formation Office at 949-495-4126.
**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Saturday, December 7**
5:00 p.m. James & Theresa Nguyen,†
and Manuel De Los Reyes,†

**Sunday, December 8, Second Sunday of Advent**
7:00 a.m. Pasquarelli Family,† and Minck Family
9:00 a.m. For the People of St Timothy Parish
11:00 a.m. Fortune Sagra, living and Randy Urista, living
5:00 p.m. Norma Manuel, living & Anne Lin†

**Monday, December 9**
8:30 a.m. Mrs. Maloney,† and Mr. Fronke,†

**Tuesday, December 10**
8:30 a.m. Josephine DeMarco,† and Paul Gruver,†

**Wednesday, December 11**
8:30 a.m. Restitute Libiren,† and John & Martha Nguyen

**Thursday, December 12, Feast of Our Lady Guadalupe**
6:00 a.m. Guadalupe Gutierrez,† and Mary Tran,†
8:30 a.m. For Vocations to the Priesthood,
Diaconate and Consecrated Life

**Friday, December 13**
8:30 a.m. John Hobbs,† and Sherrie Oldham, living

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**Presider Schedule**

**Saturday, December 14**
5:00 p.m. Monsignor John Urell

**Sunday, December 15, 3rd Sunday of Advent**
7:00 a.m. Father Bernard Johnson
9:00 a.m. Father Joseph Truong
11:00 a.m. Father Joseph Truong
5:00 p.m. Monsignor John Urell

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**Weekly Parish Offering December 1, 2019**

Cash/Checks $17,809
EFT $11,651
TOTAL $29,460

Thank you for your continued generosity!

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**Attention:** The parish offices will be closed Monday, December 9 and will reopen Tuesday, December 10.

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**Prayer for the Sick**

Liza Schuman Aber
Javier Acuña
Godofredo Armosado
Pam Ayers
Jerry Baker
Ed Baon
Bob & Gina Berman
Urania Botiller
David Bowman
Bill Brooks
Shannon Castagno
Toni Castagno
Jerry Cara
Karen Caruso
Penelope Ceballos
Dave Celestin
Hunter Ciccarelli
Chavez Family
Roseann Coons
Jairo De Leon
Riley Dockerty
Ellen Doyle
Alicia Escobar
Don Flood
Robert Friago
Vwayne Froboese
Joe Garcia
Lydia Garcia
Geraldine Gaudiaud
Bodie Glasscock
Ken Glasscock
Helene Gorritti
Dick Goudreau
Ed Gowen
John Grady, Sr.
Suzan Hazard
Lily Hazbun
Ginny Horaney
Sue House
Dianne Hurst
Lance & Amy Ishmael
Pamela Johnson
Kevin Keane
Duane Kinkade
Socorro Labit
Lorraine LaSala
Rochel Lavine
Henry Lawrence
Robert Leroux
Pat Lister
Reynaldo Lim
Zenaida Loyola
Al Lubrano
Rose Mary Malak
Helen Malke
Luis Mantilla
V. Marie
Cody Marschak
Kim Marschak
Jennifer Martin
Patty McCarthy
William Mitchell
David Molta
Eddy Morales
Clara Moshenko
Ma. Victoria Nacario
Sandra Nunez
Luke O’Heiden
Kathleen O’Regan
Richard Ornelas
Kyle Osborne
Martha Paez
Janet Panichi
Russell Patrick
Adela Perez
Edgar Perez
Barbara Perrella
Alan Pfister
John Pola
Dennis Preston
Maximo Punzalan
Jojo Ramirez
Thomas Reyes
Patrick Roux
Roland Rubalcava
Jack Samuels
Anna Senkowski
Henry Shahinian
Rodney Shaffer
Carol Sheley
Barbara Smith
Howard Smith
Andrew Soto
Susan Thomas
David Troy
Elizabeth Villa
Ana Villegas
Carol Virgulak
Patty Walsh
Blair Wilkinson
Devin Greer Zachry
PARISH MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of Saint Timothy Parish is to form loving disciples of Jesus Christ who make a difference.

CLERGY:
Pastor: Monsignor John Urell
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Joseph Truong
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Ken Hobbs
Sunday Visitor Priest: Rev. Bernard Johnson, O. Praem

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE:
Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,
11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS:
Tuesday: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration:
Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Parish Office Hours:
249-4091
Mon., Tues. & Fri: 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Wed. & Thurs.: 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Sat. & Sun.: 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Visit our Parish website for more information www.st-timsrcc.org
Follow us on Facebook fb.com/sttimothycc

Christmas Choir
It's time once again for our annual Christmas Eve Choir! We sing for the Midnight Mass which actually starts at 10:00 p.m. We will have three rehearsals on the following Wednesdays:
December 11 & 18, 7:30pm

There is a lot of music to sing but we have a large group that returns each year and that helps to make it very special. It does help if you have sung in a choir before and if you know your voice part such as soprano, alto, tenor or bass. If you would like to sing for Christmas Eve please e-mail Bob De Carlo, cantorbob2772@gmail.com. Thanks again and I hope we can once again join our voices together in praise and worship as we celebrate this season of our Lord's birth! God Bless!

Advent Season Penance Services in Local Parishes

Monday, December 9 7pm St. Edward the Confessor, Dana Point
Tuesday, December 10 7pm Corpus Christi, Aliso Viejo
Monday, December 16 7pm St. Timothy, Laguna Niguel
Tuesday, December 17 7pm Mission San Juan Capistrano
Wednesday, December 18 7pm Our Lady of Fatima, San Clemente