



Fr. Patrick and our Children's Choir wish you a very Merry Christmas!

**Fr. Patrick Mullen, Pastor**

5205 Upland Road, Camarillo, CA 93012  
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e-mail [parish@padreserra.org](mailto:parish@padreserra.org)  
[www.padreserra.org](http://www.padreserra.org)



**Liturgies**

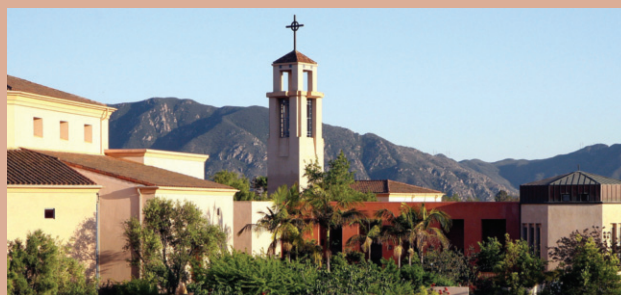
Monday - Friday 8:00am  
Saturday 5:00pm  
Sunday 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**

Saturday 3:45 - 4:45pm

**Blessed Sacrament Chapel Hours**

Sunday - Friday 8:00am - 9:00pm  
Saturday 3:00pm - 9:00pm  
First Friday Adoration 2:00pm - 7:00pm



**Parish Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 7:00pm  
Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Saturday 1:15pm - 6:15pm  
Sunday 8:00am - 1:00pm

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(805) 482-2611 [www.smmschool.net](http://www.smmschool.net)

## Landings: Recycled Catholics

If you are an inactive Catholic or attend Mass infrequently you might consider Landings. We are a group of "recycled" Catholics who, for different reasons, were away from or had issues with the church and came back to regular attendance and active participation.

We share our faith journeys and want to hear your stories. We also discuss contemporary Catholic themes and have resources available for questions about the Catholic Faith and the Church.



**This 10-week Landings series begins:**  
Thursdays, January 26-March 30  
7:00pm, San Juan Bautista Room

We invite you to come and explore the possibilities!  
Information: 482-6417 x341 or [teresa@padreserra.org](mailto:teresa@padreserra.org)

## Christmas Dinner Prayer

God of all gifts, we thank you for the many ways you have blessed us this day. We are grateful for each of those who are gathered around this table.

We ask you to bless us and our food and to bless those we love who are not with us today.

In our gratitude and love, we remember your humble birth into our lives and pray for those who are without enough to eat. We remember the stable in which you were born and pray for those who have no place to live. We remember your challenging message of caring and giving and we pray for peace in families and nations throughout the world. We bless you and give you thanks in your Spirit who brings our hearts to life this Christmas Day and forever. Amen.

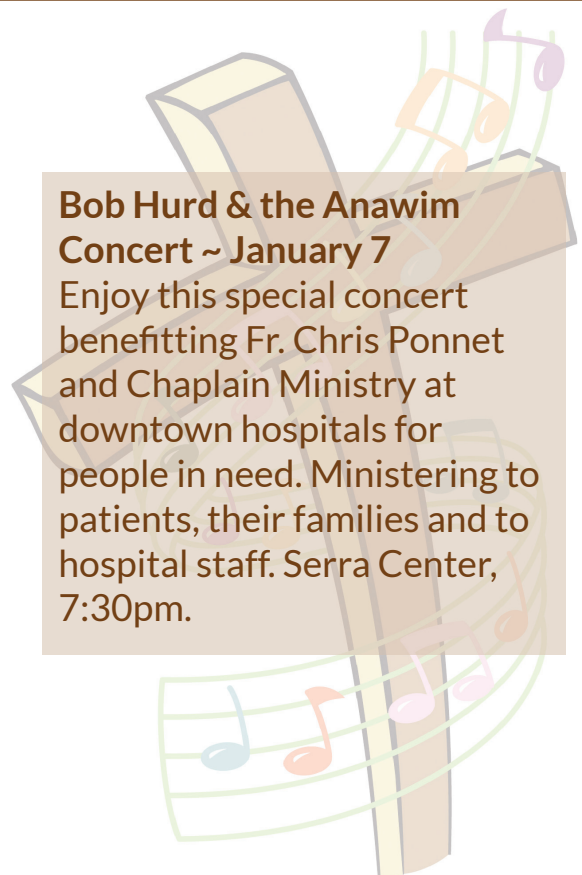


## Pot Luck New Year's Eve Party ~ December 31

Ring in the New Year! Bring a favorite dish to share, decorate your table (please no glitter or confetti), and fill the Serra Center with family and friends. There will be music, dancing, a no-host bar and a room full of good cheer! What could be better than a FREE, Family Friendly, Pot Luck New Year's Eve Party at Padre Serra with the entire Parish Community. Festivities begin at 7:00pm. Watch the ball drop at 9:00pm (N.Y. time zone) and again at midnight. See you there! Information: [alan@padreserra.org](mailto:alan@padreserra.org), 482-6417 Ext 348.

## Bob Hurd & the Anawim Concert ~ January 7

Enjoy this special concert benefitting Fr. Chris Ponnet and Chaplain Ministry at downtown hospitals for people in need. Ministering to patients, their families and to hospital staff. Serra Center, 7:30pm.



## Babies and Hearts

The birth of each new baby changes *everything*, especially the first one born to new parents. Even when they are planned and long awaited, they catch us by surprise. Their beauty captivates us; their cries dominate us; their needs reshape our hours. How could it be any other way? For most of us, it's the birth of our first child wherein we learn how selfless we can be, and just how much we can care. Our romantic loves often take years to achieve what a pregnancy and birth initiates for us in our first glance at a tiny, scrunched-up face.

How is it, though, that we remain so entirely fixed on the ancient birth of Jesus? His tiny needs aren't ours and we can't hear his infant cries. And yet, even in a very secular age, our world dresses up, both bodies and homes, spends fortunes, and parties long into the dark over the memory of this little baby's birth. Even the non-Christian world has been swept away by the force of our enthusiasm for the Christ-Child.

Points for our consideration: How do we take this baby seriously *after* all the tinsel has been tossed? Do we succumb to all the wonderful, cultural and yet not spiritual fluff surrounding the holiday? Do we move beyond the surface charm to the amazing message given us by the Father through the birth of this Child?

It's this last one that I'd like to dwell on for a moment with you. An enfleshed God, a human God, an infant God says so much about how highly the Father values what *we* are. God is not ashamed to take on our newborn helplessness, our hungers and passions, our griefs and hopes, our sweat and our loves, altogether. Who would have done this except a God that loved very deeply and so earnestly hoped, that in our meeting with his Son, we might come to know and want to enter into the deepest possible relationship with him?

And so we make our way to the manger, and we remember an ancient birth. We recall God's hope, and ours. We move from our past childlike confusion about the significance of the day, overwhelmed as children are by the presents, the overshadowing figure of Santa and lights and trees, and we dwell on the significance of *this* particular Babe. This Infant teaches us, as all children do, how much we can love, but even more, how deeply and divinely we are loved. Let's wrap ourselves up in that heavenly swaddling, settling into the warm embrace of a God who will not let us go.

This priest wishes you, and all you care for, a Christmas of the deepest joys, and a New Year of answered hopes, enveloped by God's love for you.

Merry Christmas, friends!

*Fr. Patrick*

Fr. Patrick  
Pastor





## Adults

### Cancer Support Group ~ December 27

*Embracing Your Journey* provides hope, empowerment, love and prayer in a comforting atmosphere of encouragement. It is a safe environment for people touched by cancer to connect with others in a productive and spiritual way. Meets every 4th Tuesday, 7:00pm. Lou Ann 551-8014.

### Seasons of the Spirit ~ January 4

Our women's spirituality and friendship group welcomes the New Year with Bishop Robert Barron's video series *Untold Blessing: Three Paths to Holiness!* All women are invited Wednesday 10:00am for session *Finding the Center Part II*, how Christ is with us in all the phases of life, followed by faith sharing. Bring a friend! Helen, 482-6932.

### Bereavement Support Group ~ January 5

We provide a caring, supportive environment for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Meets every 1st & 3rd Thursday, 9:00am. Betty Bright-Martinez, bbright41@verizon.net, 482-0156.

## High School Teens

### 4:12 (pronounced four one two) ~ January 4

All high school teens, meet Brett and the peer leaders in San Juan Capistrano room (near the bell tower) from 7:00 to 9:00pm.

## In the Community

### Cathedral Exhibit now through January 15

*The Life of a Swiss Guard: A Private View*, a photographic journal of the daily life of a Swiss guard, includes their free time, training, uniform dressing, personal relationships plus artifacts, memorabilia, uniforms, swords. [www.olacathedral.org](http://www.olacathedral.org).

### OneLifeLA ~ January 21

Family friendly event celebrating the beauty and dignity of every human life from conception to natural death includes inspiring speakers, live music, entertainment, food trucks and service organization exhibits. Requiem Mass for the Unborn at 5:00pm at the Cathedral. Free registration: [www.OneLifeLA.org](http://www.OneLifeLA.org).

### Santa Clara High School ~ January 7

Placement testing for 8th graders 9:00am-12:00pm. RSVP [ranney@SantaClaraHighSchool.com](mailto:ranney@SantaClaraHighSchool.com) 483-9502 x147. Serving Ventura County since 1901.

## Children

### Altar Server Training ~ Begins January 8

Think about becoming an altar server! Mr. Shadduck is offering his annual training on seven Sundays in January, February and March for boys and girls grades 5 through 10. Learn about the order of the Mass, how to move, carry things, keep stillness and silence, as well as about all the responsibilities to support the presider and the whole assembly. Contact

Robert\_Shadduck@msn.com or just show up at 2:30pm, San Juan Capistrano room.



### Stay and Play!! ~ Resumes January 8

Miss Nicole will honor Christmas and New Year's holidays, so please, all tots come to church! Every other Sunday, Miss Nicole lovingly cares for your little one (12-36 months) while you go to Mass. This no cost service is available during the 9:00am and 11:00am masses in San Juan Bautista room on the right side of the courtyard. Stop by next year and see all the toys and fun and meet Nicole. You are welcome to stay to be sure your toddler is settled in.

### Little Church ~ Resumes January 8

Sunday preschool and kindergarten during the 9:00am and 11:00am masses. Great activities, prayers, friends, songs and fun. Info: Elaine edenham1@aol.com. Register your child as soon as they turn age 3.

### Spark! ~ Resumes January 9 and 11



**Grade 5 children made sock babies to remember baby Jesus, the most important "Gift" from God.**

### Three:Sixteen ~ January 4

Middle School Ministry! Kids will learn about the Epiphany, when baby Jesus – our Messiah – is revealed to the world through the visit by the Magi, and service to moms and babies. Meets 6:30 to 8:00pm.



## Becoming Catholic ~ RCIA



### Married to a Catholic?

Have you been attending church with your spouse, even raised your children Catholic, but never took that step to inquire about becoming Catholic yourself? Perhaps you just want to learn more about your spouse's faith. We have a casual group for people in your situation. Contact Catherine Shaddock: catherine@padreserra.org or (805) 482-6417ext 331.

## Faith Sharing



### Reflection questions for every gathering around any table.

*Luke 2:1-14 ~ Christmas ~ Good News of Great Joy*

How am I sharing the Good News with family, friends and neighbors? What do I need to do or change this coming year so that I may be a sign of God's love and joy for others?

## Protect the Children



### Be Safe Throughout the Holidays

Keep an eye on children everywhere ... in the malls, crossing the street, at parties. Notice where their parents or guardians are to ensure they have a caregiver. It will give you peace of mind. Smile warmly. If you feel compelled to share a nice comment, do it through their parent., i.e., "What nice manners your son/daughter has!" "He/She is waiting so patiently." It is helpful to parents to hear positive things about their little ones.

## Our Giving — Time, Talent and Treasure

### One Can Make a Difference

Remember our friends and neighbors served by our food pantry. All the items you place in the boxes in church are taken over to our centralized storage at St. Mary's Chapel on Sunday afternoon. Every Monday food is bagged and distributed to Camarillo families in need.



### Pray for Our Sick

Sonia Allan, Kathy Berger, Doris Bueker, Gloria Dickie, Alison Drenning, Nick Folino, Robert Henson, Tina Herford, Kevin Hernandez, Julio Limon, Dr. Horace Lopez, Linda Lynch, Mary Lyon, Bambi Moya, Ailish McAlorum, Margaret Pegg, James Purcell, Benita Ramirez, Michael Ann Rockenstein, Juan Sanchez, Arceli Sarino, Dorothy Simmons, Ellen Tyree & Connie Williams. (Names are refreshed monthly.)

### Remember Our Dead

*Prayers and sympathy to family and friends of those who have died recently.*

*May they enjoy peace in their life with Christ Jesus.*

### Prayer Opportunities

Daily Readings: [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)

Morning Prayer: Monday – Friday 7:45am, Church

Rosary: Monday – Friday 8:30am, Church

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Wednesdays 6:30pm, Church

Centering Prayer: Wednesdays 6:45pm, Brides Room

Adoration: First Fridays 2:00pm-7:00pm, Chapel

Prayer Chain: prayers anytime

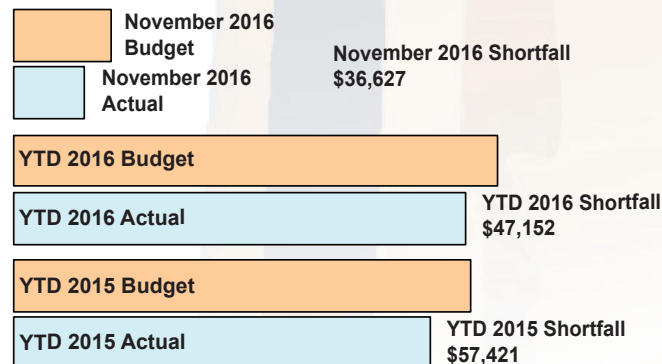
Bette 482-0067 [bette.church@hotmail.com](mailto:bette.church@hotmail.com)

Shirley 482-2617 [brownshehorn@gmail.com](mailto:brownshehorn@gmail.com)

Mass Intentions: Monthly schedules are available in the parish office, and [www.padreserra.org](http://www.padreserra.org) and the QR code.



### Fiscal Snapshot



## Other Notes

### Staff Takes a Holiday!! ~ Two four-day weekends!

Please note we will be back in the parish office from 8:00am to 7:00pm on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 27 and 28 and on Thursday, December 29 from 8:00am to 5:00pm. We will be out again on December 30 and return Tuesday, January 3. Prayers and Blessings!!

### Lost and Found

Missing a jacket, car keys or glasses? Come to the front office or email [anne@padreserra.org](mailto:anne@padreserra.org). Items remaining after January 1 will be donated.



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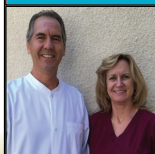
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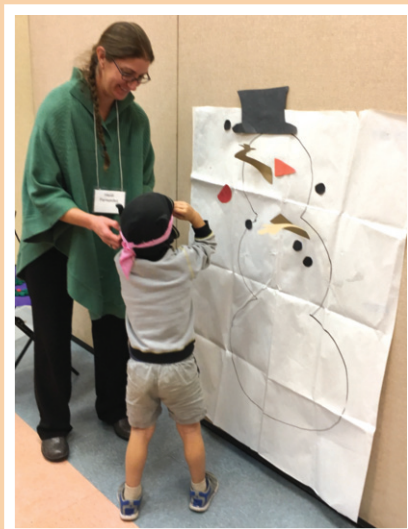
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## Scenes of the Season at Padre Serra Parish



(Photo credits: choir Patricia Nicole V. Baguinon, all others taken by PSP staff)