



# Mission San Diego de Alcalá

December 13, 2015



**PASTOR:** Rev. Peter M. Escalante  
**ASSOCIATE PASTOR:** Rev. Bill Springer  
**DEACONS:** Ernest Grosso, Bill Vasquez  
**PARISH OFFICE** 10818 San Diego Mission Road  
San Diego, CA 92108-2429  
**Telephone:** (619) 283-7319  
**Fax:** (619) 283-7762  
**Website:** [www.missionsandiego.org](http://www.missionsandiego.org)

**VISITOR CENTER/GIFT SHOP:** Rhonda Sosa, Manager  
(619) 281-8449

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/OUTREACH TO SICK:**  
Sr. Margaret Kelly, OP  
Director, (619) 624-0900

**YOUTH MINISTRY**  
**Jr. & Sr. High School:** Joseph Bernens  
Director, (619) 640-0481  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Gene Regard  
(858) 487-7457

**MISSION CHOIR:** Frank Schuld, President  
(619) 464-0401  
Howard McCullough, Organist  
(858) 208-9515

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Dean Gipson  
(858) 761-1073

**USHER COORDINATOR:** Cecil Boyd  
(619) 282-6575

**DOCENT COORDINATOR:** Anthony Tarantino  
(619) 920-9323

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Grand Knight  
(619) 787-3226

**MISSION-AIRES:** Rozalynn Laffoon, President  
(619) 587-0425

**PARISH COUNCIL:** Sylvia Benitez, President  
(619) 449-4345

**SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE:** Michael Peddecord  
(619) 286-9625

**SUNDAY MASSES:** 5:30 p.m. (Saturday -  
Congregational Singing)  
7:00 a.m.  
8:00 a.m. (Congregational Singing)  
9:00 a.m. (Folk Music) St. Francis  
10:00 a.m. (Congregational Singing)  
11:00 a.m. (Congregational Singing)  
11:00 a.m. (Spanish) St. Francis  
12:00 noon (Mission Choir)  
5:30 p.m. (Congregational Singing)

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** 7:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

**ADORATION IN LA CAPILLA**  
**First Friday** 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
**First Saturday** 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 4:00 - 5:00 & 6:30 p.m. or by  
appointment.

**BAPTISMS:** Deacon Ernest Grosso (619) 448-7931  
deacongrosso@missionsandiego.org  
Deacon Bill Vasquez (858) 279-8418  
deaconvasquez@missionsandiego.org

**MARRIAGES:** Preparation with priest/deacon at least 9  
months in advance.

**MSGR. HALTER ARCHIVES:**  
(619) 283-6338  
Hours - Tuesday and Thursday  
from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon  
library@missionsandiego.org

**NAZARETH SCHOOL:** Dr. Colleen Mauricio, Principal  
(619) 641-7987

### Third Sunday of Advent



John tells his hearers to share their possessions with the needy; be honest; do not threaten or accuse others falsely

(Luke 3:10-18).

### Holy Door



Mission San Diego de Alcalá has been chosen as one of five sites in the Diocese of San Diego that will host THE HOLY DOOR during the Year of Mercy. The Mission will mark the opening of this event at the Noon Mass on Sunday, December 13. After the 11:00 a.m. Mass the Church will be locked and those attending the noon Mass will gather outside the main entrance of the Church for a brief ceremony and opening of The Holy Door. The congregation will then process into the Mission Church for the Liturgy.

A holy door or *porta sancta* has been used since the fifteenth century as a ritual expression of conversion. Pilgrims and penitents pass through it as a gesture of leaving the past behind and crossing the threshold from sin to grace, from slavery to freedom, and from darkness to light. Often these rituals are associated with prayer, pilgrimage, sacrifice, confession and indulgences. But the door finds meaning only when the believer associates the door with Christ. Jesus is the Door!

More information will be forthcoming regarding The Holy Door and the Year of Mercy.

### Senior's Men Group

Did you know the Mission has a senior Men's Group that meets for lunch on the 3rd Thursday of each month? Lunch takes place at various restaurants in the nearby area. If you would like to be added to our contact list, call Fr. Peter (619) 283-7319 or email [frpeter@missionsandiego.org](mailto:frpeter@missionsandiego.org). The December lunch will be on Thursday, December 17 at 11:00 a.m. and will be hosted by Fr. Peter at the Parish Rectory. Please RSVP by Monday, Dec. 14. All Senior men are welcome!

### Martha and Mary Guild

We welcome volunteers to join us as we meet one morning a week for an hour or two to give our beautiful church some tender loving care that it so richly deserves. The Mission is blessed with an amazing maintenance staff but as part of the Martha and Mary Guild, we will assist with more intricate dusting and attention. We plan to begin with coffee, planning and prayer and then proceed to do lightweight cleaning to the pews, kneelers, railings and sanctuary. Men and women of all ages are welcome to join. If dusting is not your choice come join us anyway for coffee and prayer and socializing. Please call either **Karen Rebelo (858) 277-6243** or **Janet Bartel (858) 560-9312**.

### From Fr. Alex DePaulis



Hello Mission San Diego Parishioners! I am blessed to be with you. Let me introduce myself and share with you some of my journey. Believe it or not, I was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada (can anything good come out of Las Vegas). I did the normal things boys do, school, sports, work, etc.

When I was 21, I transferred to Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, California. I graduated with a B.A. in Management Information Systems, and worked for a few years programming for a small company, and then network tech support for Qualcomm. I was raised in different Protestant denominations growing up, but a few years after college God began leading me to become Roman Catholic. I felt a call to the priesthood and entered into the house of priestly formation in San Diego in 2009. In 2010 I was sent to Mt. Angel Seminary for post graduate studies in theology. Finally, in 2014 I was ordained a priest for the diocese of San Diego. I look forward to meeting many of you, and I thank Fr. Peter, Fr. Bill, and all of you for welcoming me into your community at the Mission.

~Fr. Alex de Paulis

### Retirement Fund for Religious

Aging religious need your help. In the United States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brother, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies, usually for little to no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous, envelopes are in the pews.

### Youth Ministry

Our final youth meeting before Christmas is this Sunday, Dec. 13 after 5:30 Mass in La Sala. Bring a friend.

We will have no meetings Dec. 20 and 27 as we observe Christmas Break. We will resume Youth Group Jan. 3, 2016 with a Youth Mass at 5:30 and meeting in La Sala.

Save the Date: Retreat is Feb. 12-14. Registration forms are in the Youth Office. Registration forms due Jan. 24.

**Mr. Bernens (619) 640-0481**  
[youthministry@missionsandiego.org](mailto:youthministry@missionsandiego.org)

### Christmas Project For the Poor Children in Tijuana

We will again collect backpacks, pens, pencils, notebooks, paper, erasers, sharpeners, rulers, pencil boxes and colored pencils. Each year in December, 1,000 children come for a Christmas party and receive a backpack with school supplies. Please drop off school supplies outside the back door of the Religious Education Center by December 18th. The sisters greatly appreciate all your effort on behalf of the poor.

Thank you and God bless you, Sr. Margaret Kelly.

**Stop Assisted Suicide**

Stop Assisted Suicide in CA before it's too late! Earlier this year, through a Special Session, the CA legislature passed assisted suicide, allowing doctors to prescribe overdose medication to terminally ill patients. Join a coalition of physicians, nurses, disability-rights organizations, and people of all faiths to stand for the lives of our elderly and dying and oppose assisted suicide! This weekend, petitions will be available for signature outside of Masses. Signers must be registered to vote and can only sign once.

Why Oppose Assisted Suicide?

- Sends the Wrong Message: Legalizing suicide for the terminally ill, while discouraging it for the rest of the population, teaches that the lives of the ill and disabled do not matter to our society.
- Will Worsen Patient Care: Patients in other states, like Barbara Wagner in Oregon, are being denied treatment prescribed by their doctors, and instead offered drugs for assisted suicide.
- Will increase Non-Terminal Suicide Rates: Suicides skyrocket when assisted suicide is legalized. Oregon's suicide rate for non-terminal people increased 49% after assisted suicide became legal.

Treatments that offer reasonable hope of benefit that may be obtained without excessive pain, expense or burden are considered "ordinary means". Treatments that do not offer reasonable hope of benefit and cannot be obtained without excessive pain, expense or burden are considered "extraordinary means".

Assisted suicide is the intentional taking of life and is never permissible. Withholding "extraordinary means" of medical treatment is morally permissible, allowing nature to take its course and death to occur naturally.

Respecting the sacredness of life, each person decides the benefits and burdens of treatment according to their own physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health at the time of the decision.

When confronted with highly emotional life-and-death decisions, Catholics should gather all the facts, consult with their physician and family, reflect on Catholic teaching and pray.

**Mission Deanery Lenten Penance Services 2015**

Immaculata..... Mon. Dec. 14.....7:00 p.m.  
 Mission San Diego..... Mon. Dec. 21.....7:30 p.m.  
 St. Columba..... Mon. Dec. 14.....6:00 p.m.

**Adoration**

There will be no First Friday Adoration on January 1st due to the holiday.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Dec. 13 Third Sunday of Advent**  
 Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18
- Dec. 14 St. John of the Cross**  
 Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
- Dec. 15 Weekday**  
 Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
- Dec. 16 Weekday**  
 Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23
- Dec. 17 Weekday**  
 Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
- Dec. 18 Weekday**  
 Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
- Dec. 19 Saturday**  
 Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
- Dec. 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
 Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

**Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcalá Choir presents:  
 The 39<sup>th</sup> annual Candlelight Meditation**

Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 19 and 20 @ 7:30 p.m. in the Mission Church. This year's Candlelight presentation will feature songs, carols, and Scripture readings of the season. Featuring; the Mission Choir, accompanied by Organist Howard McCullough, the Classic Brass, Percussion ensembles, Soloists, and Readers all directed by Gene Regard.

A reception is held following in La Sala. A free will offering will be taken.



**MISSION-AIRES CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON  
 Tuesday, December 15  
 11:30 a.m., California Room**

Please join us for our annual Christmas luncheon and make a child happy by bringing a new unwrapped toy to place under the Christmas tree for the underprivileged children from Holy Family Parish. Our catered menu will include ham, scalloped potatoes, corn, tossed salad, fruit salad, and for dessert, chocolate cake and pineapple upside down cake. Drinks and rolls and butter are also included. Entertainment will be provided by the Pacificaires, led by Eunice Williams.

The price is \$10 for members and \$11 for nonmembers. Be sure to sign up for the luncheon by Sunday, December 13 1:30 p.m. in the Gift Shop.

We look forward to sharing a part of the Christmas season with you. Doors open at 11:00 a.m.

**Thank you for supporting our bulletin advertisers. They make our Sunday bulletin possible. While we cannot guarantee the work or integrity of each advertiser, we presume that they share our ethics and values.**