

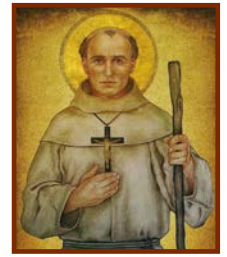
# Mission San Diego de Alcalá

10818 San Diego Mission Road, San Diego, CA 92108-2429

Phone: (619) 283-7319 Fax: (619) 283-7762

Website: [www.missionsandiego.org](http://www.missionsandiego.org)

December 9, 2018



Saint Junípero Serra  
Founder, 1769



**Rev. Peter M. Escalante, Pastor**

**Rev. Bill Springer and Rev. Billy Zondler, Associate Pastors**

**Deacon Ernest Grosso**

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
(619) 283-7319  
Fax: (619) 283-7762

#### VISITOR CENTER/GIFT SHOP

Rhonda Sosa, Manager  
**Hours**, 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m.  
(619) 281-8449

#### MSGR. HALTER ARCHIVES

**Hours** - Tuesday and Thursday  
10 a.m.—12 p.m.  
(619) 283-6338  
[library@missionsandiego.org](mailto:library@missionsandiego.org)

#### SUNDAY MASS TIMES

5:30 p.m. Saturday— Congregational Singing  
7:00 a.m.  
8:00 a.m. Congregational Singing  
9:00 a.m. Folk Music in St. Francis Chapel  
10:00 a.m. Congregational Singing  
11:00 a.m. Congregational Singing  
11:00 a.m. Spanish in St. Francis Chapel  
12:00 noon Mission Choir  
5.30 p.m. Congregational Singing

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

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturdays 4:00 - 5:00 & 6:30 p.m.,  
or by appointment, please call the Parish Office.

#### ADORATION IN LA CAPILLA

**First Friday** 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
**First Saturday** 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.  
Call the Parish Office to volunteer.

#### BAPTISMS:

Please call the Parish Office at  
(619) 283-7319

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

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

## Mass Readings and Intentions

### Sunday, December 9 Second Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6;  
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

**7am** Sally Lucero    **8am** Jeanne Kelly  
**9am** Arlene Cecil    **10am** Margaret Rea  
**11am** Harold Mattison    **11amSp.** Daniel Valdez  
**12pm** Edith Benne    **5:30pm** Parishioners

### Monday, December 10

Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26

**7am** Alice Collins    **5:30pm** Jane Rockwell

### Tuesday, December 11

#### St. Damasus I

Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13;  
Mt 18:12-14

**7am** Bobby Letzelter    **5:30pm** Pat Malecki

### Wednesday, December 12

#### Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day

Zec 2:14-17; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

**7am** Marilyn Banting    **5:30pm** Jeanie Cull

### Thursday, December 13

#### St. Lucy

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

**7am** Nick Gonsalves    **5:30pm** Nestor Rinonos

### Friday, December 14

#### St. John of the Cross

Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

**7am** Hildegard Johnston    **5:30pm** Nick Fontana

### Saturday, December 15

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19;  
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**7am** In Thanksgiving  
**5:30pm** Adele and Joseph Nahas

### Sunday, December 16

#### Third Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

**7am** John Trujillo    **8am** Jane Popelski  
**9am** Dennis & Kathy LaHood  
**10am** Patricia Bueno  
**11am** Abelardo Rodriguez    **11amSp.**  
**12pm**    **5:30pm** Ricamor Custodio



### AWAITING THE SALVATION OF GOD

The world does not seem big enough to contain the jubilation of the first reading. In the Gospel reading, the Roman empire isn't big enough, either. The great powers of Rome are named and made to stand waiting for the arrival of God's salvation. And we find Paul meditating joyfully on what really matters.

According to Baruch, the city of Jerusalem is like a person standing on tiptoe looking for God's salvation, which is coming from the east. Those who were led away on foot, heads down, now come back, a proud people. Why, the very way is smoothed out. The path is lined with fragrant, lush trees.

It can't get any better than this, can it? Well, yes, it can. For a voice calls out in the desert. Here is the beginning of the salvation of God.

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### Events this week at the Mission . . .

**Monday, 12/10 . . .** Martha and Mary Guild, Mission Church, 9:30am  
Centering Prayer, California Room, 7pm

**Tuesday, 12/11 . . .** MissionAires Luncheon, California Room, 11:30 am  
Marion Prayer Group, California Room, 6pm

**Wednesday, 12/12 . . .** OLG Feast Day Breakfast, La Sala, 6:15am  
OLG Feast Day Danzantes, Mission, 4:30pm  
OLG Feast Day Blessing of Children, Mission, 5:15pm  
OLG Feast Day Mass with Mariachi, Mission, 5:30pm  
OLG Feast Day Dinner, California Room, 6pm  
Young Adults Bible Study, Fr. Serra, 6:15pm

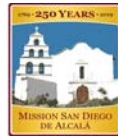
**Thursday, 12/13 . . .** RCIA, California Room, 7pm  
Mission Choir Practice, Mission Church, 7pm  
Sr. Mary's class on the Mass, La Sala, 7pm

**Friday, 12/14 . . . .** Nazareth's Children's Mass, St. Francis Chapel, 8:30am

**Saturday, 12/15 . . .** Lectors Practice, Mission Church, 9am  
Spanish Prayer Group, Alcalá Room, 4:15pm  
250th Jubilee items sales, after all Masses  
Simbang Gabi Novena and Mass, Mission, 5:30pm  
Mission Choir Annual Candlelight Meditation, 7:30pm



## 2019 Jubilee Corner



We've had many inquiries about creating a place of honor on our Mission campus where you may provide a donation in exchange for a tile, or brick and have it engraved and permanently displayed. As you might expect, we must be respectful of the historic architecture and protect the Mission's spiritual legacy as we consider various options for the location. We recently toured the campus with a preservation architect who has graciously agreed to provide us with recommendations. You can look for more information to be available after the new year.

Reminder that our Committee will be outside of all Masses on Saturday, December 15 and Sunday, December 16 with lovely 250th logo merchandise available for sale. We have t-shirts, custom-designed calendars, embroidered polo shirts, embroidered caps, full-color silk screened tote bags and Mission Bell Tower pendants and tie tacks in several metal choices. Prices range from \$15 for calendars and t-shirts to \$290 for 14k gold tie tacks/lapel pins. Proceeds from these sales all are returned to the Mission for inclusion in our 250th projects. A special thank-you to the volunteers who are assisting with the sales.

**Jubilee Steering Committee:** Fr. Peter M. Escalante, Chairperson; Janet Bartel, Culture; Carol Gamara, Education; Linda Hewett, Spiritual; Rachel Peniche, Sponsorships; Becky Tallarida, Social; Veronica Meyers, Treasurer; Blanche Cumiskey Walsh, Volunteers. You can contact any committee member by emailing [250jubilee@missionsandiego.org](mailto:250jubilee@missionsandiego.org).

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day**—There is great excitement as our **Hispanic American community** plan the feast day of **Our Lady of Guadalupe. Wednesday, December 12** will be filled with traditional celebrations like Mananitas (5:30am); a Gathering with sweet bread and hot chocolate (6:15am); Danzantes (4:30pm); a blessing of the children (5:15pm) and Mass with Mariachi (5:30pm), followed by dinner (6pm) in the California Room! Did you get your dinner tickets yet? Call Maria Elena Garcia at (907) 351-9722 or [meg25959@yahoo.com](mailto:meg25959@yahoo.com).

**Girl Scouts Troop #4889** will be collecting gently used jackets for needy families. They will be accepting them outside of the St. Francis Chapel after the 9 a.m. Mass on December 16. Thank you for your help.

**The Flu Season is here!** Last year San Diego had over 300 deaths due to the Flu. Most experts believe that flu viruses spread mainly by droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land on people who are nearby. Less often, a person might also get flu by touching a surface or object that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, eyes or possibly their nose. In localities where the outbreak of the disease has been the most significant, bishops have suggested several liturgical adaptations in regard to such practices as the distribution of Holy Communion and the exchange of the Sign of Peace in order to limit the spread of contagion.

Here at the Mission, our priests, deacon, and ministers of Holy Communion will always be especially careful to practice good hygiene. Ministers of Holy Communion will wash their hands before Mass begins; as well as use an alcohol-based anti-bacterial solution before and after distributing Holy Communion. The Lay Ministers will not receive from the chalice during the flu season. It is suggested that parishioners not hold hands during the Our Father or shake hands during the Sign of Peace. We ask if you're sick to please stay home. And if you are sick please don't use the Holy Water fonts. Thank you for helping keep us all stay Flu-free.

## Welcome New Parishioners

**Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mackey**

*Registration Forms are available in the Gift Shop or our Web Site.*

### Aging Religious need your help.

Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your collection gift today for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Special envelopes are in the pews. Please be as generous as you can. *Thank you.*

### What's In An Advent Penance Service?

As we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas we want to be ready to accept his love and be able to do whatever he asks of us. In order to do so, the Church encourages the parish community to come together to hear the Word of God, to pray and to sing in a formal liturgy. Gathered together we recognize our individual sinfulness and the harm it does to the whole community, and so, pray for one another as well as for ourselves. With song, prayer and scripture we ready ourselves for the opportunity for private confession and absolution. **Our Penance Service is Monday, Dec. 17 at 7pm in the Mission Church.**

### Christmas Eve Children's Liturgy, 4:00pm in the St. Francis Chapel

All children, ages 3-12, are invited to participate in the dramatization of the Gospel for this Liturgy. ***There will be one practice after the 9am Mass, Sunday, December 16.***

### Reporting Sexual Abuse

—Mission San Diego and the Diocese of San Diego are committed to fostering a safe environment for all our children. Any complaints about sexual abuse by a member of the clergy or by a parish or Catholic school employee or volunteer should be made by contacting Lisa Petronis, (858) 490-8353 or at [www.sd.catholic.org/en-us/diocese/contactvictimsassistance.aspx](http://www.sd.catholic.org/en-us/diocese/contactvictimsassistance.aspx).

## *What's Happening at the Mission and around the Diocese . . .*

**Angel Giving Tree**—Our annual Angel Giving Trees, to supply toys for needy families through our sister parish, Holy Family, has been very successful once again this year. Gifts are due **TODAY, Sunday, December 9**. Please do not wrap your gift. Families from Holy Family's list of needy families will choose the gifts for their children. This parish project is sponsored by our *Social Action Committee*.

### **Mission-Aires Luncheon—Tuesday, December 11, 2018— 11:30am in the California Room**

**\$10 Members—\$15 Non-Members.** You are invited to join us at **9:30 a.m.** for our yearly decorating of our Christmas tree. For our Christmas celebration luncheon at 11:30 am, please bring an unwrapped toy for the children of Holy Family Church. Gift cards are also welcomed. The luncheon will begin with a business meeting followed by our Opportunity Drawing and lunch of Ham with all the trimmings with cookies and ice cream for dessert. An excellent pianist, Vincent Young, will be entertaining us. Membership fee of \$15 for the 2018/2019 season is still being accepted. Please sign up and pay in the Gift Shop by 1pm **TODAY, Sunday, December 9**. See you December 11!

**Thursdays, December 13—December 20 at 7-8:30pm in La Sala.** Sister Mary Kiely is hosting a 7-week Bishop Robert Barron video study on "The Mass" which began November 8. Walk through the Liturgy with Bishop Barron and be transformed through insights on this most privileged and intimate encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ. See how the Mass brings us out of the fallen world and into the heavenly realm, how it resonates with a call from God and a response from his people, the Church and most importantly, how we are intimately joined with the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus through the Holy Eucharist. This course will help you understand how to fully, consciously, and actively participate in the source and summit of the Christian life.

**Mission Choir Christmas Meditation, Saturday, December 15 and Sunday, December 16 at 7:30pm in the Mission Church**—You are invited this Christmas season to a very special evening at Mission San Diego. Our Choir will present the 42nd Candlelight Meditation in the historic Mission Church. This beautiful setting brings a joyous spirituality to the Christmas season, with a concert of traditional and contemporary music and seasonal Scripture readings to celebrate Christmas. For those who have never attended the Meditation, we invite you to fill your heart and mind with the peace and joy of Christmas. The Mission Choir is under the director of Gene Regard. The organist is Howard McCullough.

**Simbang Gabi at Mission San Diego de Alcalá**—Nine (9) nights of Filipino traditional Masses to celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Saturday, **Dec. 15** and Sunday, **Dec. 16**. Mass will be at 5:30pm in the Mission Church; Monday, **Dec. 17** through Friday, **Dec. 21**, Mass will be at 6:30pm in St. Francis Chapel. Saturday, **Dec. 22**, and Sunday, **Dec. 23**, Mass will be at 5:30pm in the Mission Church. On the ninth day, Sunday, **Dec. 23**, before the Mass, there will be a luncheon from 3:00-5:00pm in La Sala. Want to be involved? Call Emma Pearlman (619) 200-5374.

**Save the Date**—The 250th Anniversary of Mission San Diego de Alcalá will include the revival of the Old Mission Cup Golf Tournament to be held on **April 26, 2019** at Admiral Baker Golf Course. It will feature a best ball scramble tournament on the North Course, land that was originally part of the Old Mission. The entry fee will be \$100 per person (\$360 a foursome) and includes the use of a golf cart (for 2), a continental breakfast on the patio, a putting contest, various special contests on the course and golf prizes. The tournament will commence at 12:00, preceded by an introduction ceremony and blessing and registration on the patio outside the Golf Shop. Registration and continental breakfast will begin at 10:00. Putting contest will be available throughout the registration pre-tournament period. Following the tournament, there will be a tournament celebration dinner at the Mission. More information email [joejanbart@aol.com](mailto:joejanbart@aol.com).

**250<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Mission Bus Tour Pilgrimage**—Great News! Fr. Billy Zondler is going on the Bus Tour! Please call Marion Kelley at (858) 277-2971 to make a reservation. The price is \$1,499 per person, double occupancy, and they leave the Mission Church **May 14, 2019**. Marion will give you the details.

**Communion for the Sick and Homebound**—If you or a family member are ill and unable to attend Mass and would like one of our *Lay Ministers to the Sick & Homebound* to bring you Communion, please contact the parish office. If you feel called to this ministry, please inquire at the parish office for information and training.

**Mission Deanery Advent Penance Services 2018**

|             |                          |                 |
|-------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| December 10 | Immaculata               | 7:00pm          |
| December 10 | Sacred Heart (OB)        | 7:00pm          |
| December 11 | Ascension                | 7:00pm          |
| December 11 | St. Catherine Laboure    | 4:00 and 7:00pm |
| December 12 | St. Mary Magdalene       | 7:00pm          |
| December 15 | Immaculate Conception    | 8:30am          |
| December 17 | Mission San Diego        | 7:00pm          |
| December 18 | All Hallows              | 7:30pm          |
| December 18 | Our Mother of Confidence | 3:30 & 7:00pm   |
| December 18 | St. Columba              | 6:00pm          |
| December 19 | St. Therese of Carmel    | 7:00pm          |

**DECEMBER 14, 15, 16 and 21, 22, 23 4:00-8:00 PM**  
**Tickets \$14.99 Adult, \$9.99 Child** “Imagine walking at dusk with a hot chocolate in hand, in the cool of a December evening surrounded by brilliantly lit trees, magical cottages, and Santa’s workshop...Experience the magic at **Noah Homes** for the **Enchanted Village**: A brand new festival of trees & lights in San Diego. **Noah Homes** is a 501c(3) nonprofit that has served adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1983. We now have 90 residents and 10 homes, and work to achieve our goal of maximizing each individual’s independence in a community environment that fosters dignity and respect, as well as personal and spiritual growth. Our **Enchanted Village** will be an opportunity for us to share our Noah Homes community with San Diego, and to employ some of our residents! For more information on the event, contact information, volunteer opportunities, or to purchase tickets, please visit [www.NoahHomes.org/EnchantedVillage](http://www.NoahHomes.org/EnchantedVillage).”

**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT**—Start the New Year off right and give your marriage a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Celebrate the love you have for your spouse and help build, expand, and deepen that relationship. Sign up for the upcoming **January 18-20** weekend at the Courtyard Marriott in Rancho Bernardo. Food and lodging are provided. There is a \$75 fee and a voluntary donation requested at the end of the weekend. For many couples ‘their weekend’ is one of the most significant experiences of their marriages. **Sign up today at [www.wvme-sandiego.org](http://www.wvme-sandiego.org)**

**Spring Forward, Saturday, January 26, A Parish Leadership Conference—Guest Speaker—Fr. Tony Ricard of New Orleans.** Register online at [www.sdatholic.org/oecmsd](http://www.sdatholic.org/oecmsd), there will be no at-the-door registrations. Cost is \$35 per person or \$125 for a group of 5 from the same parish. Conference is from 9am to 3pm, at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8200 Gold Coast Dr. San Diego, 92126.



**Volunteering** is a good way to stay healthy and active. The Mission has many opportunities. Best ones to start with are the Gift Shop and Docent Program. Call Rhonda (619.281.8449) or Janet (858.560.9312) to get started today.

*Directory of Ministries and Groups*

- 250th ANNIVERSARY . . . . . 250jubilee@missionsandiego.org
- ALTAR LINENS GUILD . . . . . Peggy Stolberg (619) 203-5871
- ALTAR SERVERS . . . . . Dean Gipson (858) 761-1073
- AMERICAN FILIPINO ASSOC. . . . . Emma Pearlman (619) 200-5374
- BAPTISMS . . . . . Please call the Parish Office at (619) 283-7319
- BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY . . . . . Dr. Roberta Flynn (619) 980-9244
- BIRTHLINE . . . . . Barbara Melkerson (858) 292-4848
- CANTORS . . . . . Justine Lee (619) 972-7380
- CENTERING PRAYER . . . . . Ardy Woodmansee (858) 279-7278
- DOCENTS . . . . . Janet Bartel (858) 560-9312
- FESTIVAL OF THE BELLS . . . . . Misty Suposs (619) 985-2114
- FINANCE COUNCIL . . . . . Cheryl Doss (619) 279-6138
- 9 AM FOLK CHOIR . . . . . Molly Nocon (619) 890-7607
- GIFT SHOP/VISITOR CENTER . . . . . Rhonda Sosa (619) 281-8449
- HOSPITAL OUTREACH . . . . . Carmen Falcon (619) 916-8476
- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS . . . . . GK Ernesto Guzman (619) 890-0021
- COLUMBIETTES (Auxiliary) . . . . . Lisa Worthington (619) 871-7044
- LECTORS . . . . . Virginia McCarron (818) 519-1769
- MARTHA AND MARY GUILD . . . . . Karen Rebelo (858) 277-6243
- MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY . . . . .  
 . . . . . Spanish-speaking—Laura Alcaraz (619) 855-0017
- MISSION-AIRES . . . . . Sylvia Benitez (619) 449-4345
- MOTHERS OF FAITH . . . . . sdmissionmothers@gmail.com
- MSGR. HALTER ARCHIVES . . . . . Tony Falcon (619) 283-6338
- MUSIC DIRECTOR . . . . . Gene Regard (858) 487-7457
- MISSION CHOIR . . . . . Frank Schuld, President (619) 464-0401  
 . . . . . Howard McCullough, Organist (858) 208-9515
- OUTREACH TO SICK . . . . . Sr. Margaret Kelly, OP (619) 283-7319
- PARISH COUNCIL . . . . . Crystal Carr (619) 916-6598
- PARISH OFFICE . . . . . (619) 283-7319
- RACHEL’S WOMEN’S CENTER . . . . . Kathy Estey (619) 723-0584
- RELIGIOUS EDUCATION . . . . . (4 yrs old—8th Grades and Children’s  
*Sacramental Classes*) . . . . . Carol Gamara (619) 624-0900
- RCIA/ADULT FORMATION . . . . . Fr. Bill Springer (619) 283-7319
- SENIOR MEN’S GROUP (MMC) . . . . . Pete Corrao (619) 582-9386
- SPANISH/BILINGUAL PRAYER . . . . . Ronaldo Palacios (202) 210-2072
- SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE . . . . . Mike Peddecord (619) 286-9625
- TASTE OF THE MISSION . . . . . Becky Tallarida (619) 300-2965
- USHERS/HOSPITALITY . . . . . Cecil Boyd (619) 203-4309
- WEDDINGS . . . . . Call the Parish Office to begin the process
- YOUNG ADULTS . . . . . Ximena Olea (619) 750-8417
- YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES . . . . . KellyTriggs@yahoo.com
- YOUTH MINISTRY (Sr High) . . . . . V. J. Brion (619) 640-0481

*Bulletin Items* . . . Please submit one week in advance of bulletin date to [LindaHewett@missionsandiego.org](mailto:LindaHewett@missionsandiego.org).

Visit [www.missionsandiego.org](http://www.missionsandiego.org) for more parish news!

**Thank you for supporting our 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. These ads are now included on our web site.

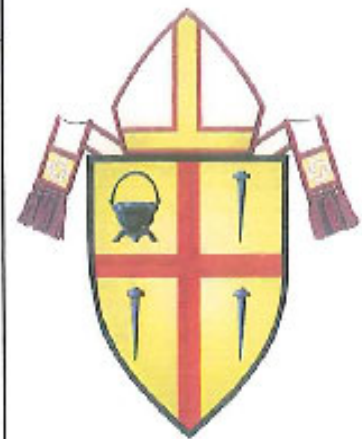


## PROTECT AND HEAL

The priests, educators and staff members of the San Diego Catholic Diocese have no higher responsibility than to protect the children and young people entrusted to their care. That's why, starting in 2003, the Diocese and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops adopted a series of reforms to prevent the abuse of children and young people.

### Under these rules:

- The diocese practices a policy of "zero tolerance." Any priest credibly accused of abusing a minor will be reported to law enforcement and immediately removed from ministry. In addition, his faculties will be revoked and he will not be able to publicly function as a priest in San Diego or any other diocese.
- Similar policies apply to any teacher, staff member or volunteer. No one with a credible accusation of abusing a minor will be employed by the Diocese.
- All clergy, religious women, staff and volunteers dealing with children and young people, more than 3,000 at the diocese, are:
  - ▶ Subject to a background check and finger printing that includes continuous checking of federal, state and local criminal databases.
  - ▶ Required to go through Safe Environment training and to renew their training every five years.
- All children attending Catholic schools or receiving religious education classes at parishes receive age-appropriate Safe Environment training annually to help them to protect themselves and to encourage them to report inappropriate behavior by their peers and adults. Around 50,000 children receive this training every year.
- Every year, the diocese must submit a report to the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops on how it is complying with these procedures, and every three years the diocese undergoes an on-site audit by an independent auditor. The diocese has been in compliance since its first audit in 2005 and passed its most recent on-site audit last year in 2017.



**DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO**

As part of these reforms, the diocese also created an Independent Review Board to evaluate allegations of abuse and to recommend to the Bishop disciplinary action. The board includes members of law enforcement, mental health, judiciary, a pastor and a social worker. One of the board members is a survivor of clergy sexual abuse.

*(Continued)*

## VETTING OF CLERGY

**Seminarians:** All seminarians are required to comply with the Safe Environment requirements for adults. In addition, part of their formation includes a battery of psychological testing that is reviewed by a board that includes lay experts.

**Visiting priests and deacons:** All priests and deacons who visit or come to minister from outside of the diocese must present in advance a Statement of Suitability issued by their bishop or superior indicating that:

- ▶ The priest or deacon is a person of good moral character and reputation.
- ▶ They know of nothing that would in any way limit or disqualify the priest or deacon from this ministry.
- ▶ They are unaware of anything in his background that would render the priest or deacon unsuitable to work with minors.

## HOW WE RESPOND TO A REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE

All reports of abuse are taken by our Victims Assistance Coordinator.

The coordinator immediately will file a report with child protection authorities or local law enforcement, in accordance with Mandated Reporter laws.

The coordinator explores how to assist a victim toward greater well-being. This can include counseling sessions, a meeting with the bishop and financial compensation when appropriate.

The coordinator forwards all reports of abuse to the diocese's Chancery Office.

- Chancery Office reports to law enforcement all cases where the accused is alive and there is any sense of credibility to the accusation.
- The Independent Diocesan Review Board engages a professional investigator to investigate the accusation and to present a report.
- The Independent Diocesan Review Board makes a finding of fact as to whether the allegation is accurate and makes a recommendation as to whether the accused should be barred from ministry in the Church.

Even as these measures are strictly implemented, the diocese's leadership never forgets the terrible wounds the victims of past abuse suffered, as well as their families and parishes. They are doing everything in their power to heal those wounds and to ensure such abuse never happens again.



### TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE

To report sexual abuse by clergy or church personnel, please contact the diocese's Victims Assistance Coordinator at (858) 490-8353.