



St. Joseph Catholic Church

Mission San José, Diocesan Shrine of St. Joseph

St. Joseph Catholic School

Mission Statement: Our St. Joseph family is living the mission with Christ through the works of faith, charity and mercy.

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 13, 2024



BEYOND WEALTH AND OBEDIENCE TO THE TORAH

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS

“Who then can be saved?” The astonished disciples of Jesus asked, pondering the rich young man’s inability to attain eternal life despite his wealth and obedience to the Torah (first five books in the Bible). This encounter highlights a profound truth: salvation requires more than outward conformity; it demands a heart that loves God and others.

The rich young man, having kept the Ten Commandments and enjoyed blessing through his wealth, assumed he had secured righteousness and salvation. However, Jesus’ response revealed a critical flaw: the man’s heart lacked love for his neighbors. Despite claiming to observe the Commandments, his mind and heart are fixated on focusing on himself and his personal wealth, leaving no room for others. There is an absolute lack of generosity.

In Jewish law, love for God and neighbor is paramount (Deuteronomy 6:5, Leviticus 19:18). The rich young man’s failure to demonstrate this love rendered his obedience hollow. Jesus emphasizes that even perfect observance of the law, without love, falls short.

The problem lies not in wealth itself but in the heart’s orientation. Possessions can accumulate, blocking our vision of God and others, as seen in the parable of Lazarus and the rich man (Luke 16:19-31). The rich young man’s heart was possessed by the spirit of physical wealth, leaving no room for spiritual and lasting wealth. So what is the solution?

Jesus’ solution is clear: create space in your heart for God and others. Generosity, a vital virtue, enables us to look beyond our riches and see the needs of others.

This is exemplified in Jesus’ selfless gift of salvation, offered to all. In the Jewish tradition, giving 10% of one’s income (Ma’aser) supported the temple and expanded God’s kingdom. Today, we are invited to contribute to building God’s kingdom, the community of the church, and ministries spreading the good news to all and sharing the love of God for those in need. So my friends, remember these:

- Salvation requires a heart that loves, not just outward obedience to the laws and policies! Both are required.
 - Wealth can distract from spiritual priorities if it is not shared. It can be our “god.”
 - Generosity creates space for God and others in our hearts.
 - Giving is essential to building God’s kingdom and saving souls.
1. How do I prioritize love for God and neighbor?
 2. Does my wealth or materialism distract me from spiritual growth?
 3. Am I generous with my resources, time, and talents?

*Dear Heavenly Father,
Help us recognize that true salvation requires a heart that loves. May our wealth and possessions not distract us from your love and the needs of others. Grant us generosity of spirit, that we may create space for you and others in our hearts. Amen.*

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Anthony Huong Le, Pastor
St. Joseph Catholic Church/Mission San José
Diocesan Shrine of St. Joseph

Encountering God



Welcome! Whether you are a devoted parishioner, a newcomer to our faith community, or a guest among us, we graciously welcome you into our spiritual home, where faith and fellowship unite us in Christ's love. Please contact us at 510-656-2364 or parish@saintjosephmsj.org or visit us online at <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org>. We look forward to connecting with you personally to meet and fulfill your spiritual needs.

Baptism



I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Nyah Lane Ruiz

Kai Mitchell Pangelinan Twomey

<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/liturgy/sacraments-2/baptism/>

Holy Matrimony

Benjamin Lopez & Erica Moreno Oct 19

“And the two shall become one.”
Ephesians 5:31



<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/liturgy/sacraments-2/marriage/>

Funeral, Memorial



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

+Vincent Maria Joseph (1yr) Memorial

Fri Oct 11 7:15 PM Main Church

<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/liturgy/sacraments-2/funerals/>

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Saturday Vigil Mass	5:30 PM	Main Church
Sunday Mass	8:00 AM	Mission
	10:00 AM	Main Church
	12:00 PM	Main Church
Mass in Vietnamese	3:00 PM	Main Church
Mass in Mandarin	5:00 PM	Main Church
First Sunday of the Month	7:00 PM	Mission (Ad Orientem)
First Wednesday of the Month St. Joseph Devotion	7:00 PM	Main Church
First Friday of the Month Sacred Heart of Jesus	8:00 AM	Mission
First Saturday of the Month Immaculate Heart of Mary (Anointing Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct)	8:00 AM	Mission
Rosary (Mon-Sat)	7:30 AM	Mission
Daily Mass (Mon-Sat)	8:00 AM	Mission
Divine Chaplet (Mon-Sat)	8:30 AM	Mission
Adoration (Mon-Fri)	9:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Adoration Chapel/ Main Church
Vespers (Mon-Fri) Evening Prayer, Divine Office	6:00 PM	Adoration Chapel/ Main Church
Holy Hour (Thu)	5:00 PM	Main Church
Vespers, Benediction (Thu)	6:00 PM	Main Church
Mass in Vietnamese (Thu)	7:00 PM	Main Church
Confession (Wed-Sat)	7:30 AM	Mission
Confession	By Appt.	Call 510-656-2364

Faith Formation



1st Annual Fun Run Fundraiser Saturday, October 19, 2024

Come one, come all to the 1st annual Faith Family Fun Run on Saturday, October 19, 2024, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM at the MSJ Dominican Sisters' track!

Walk or run with family and friends in this inaugural fundraiser. All proceeds benefit the Family of Faith Ministry which includes *A Family of Faith* program and Sacramental Preparation Programs for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation, Sacrament of the Eucharist and Sacrament of Confirmation.

Have fun with family and friends as you care for your physical fitness and support the spiritual fitness of our brothers and sisters in faith. Gather sponsors, walk or run around the 1/4 mile 'track,' and log the laps. BBQ lunch, courtesy of our Men's Ministry.



Contact Nancy Flores nflores@saintjosephmsj.org or the Parish Office at 510-656-2364. To register and to sponsor Father Anthony, please visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/fun-run/>.

Family of Faith - Registration Still Open!

Encountering Christ as A Family. Nancy Flores nflores@saintjosephmsj.org or visit us at <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/discipleship/family-of-faith/> for more information and to register.

First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Adaptive Faith Formation, Rite of Christian Initiation for Children.

ALPHA - It's Not Too Late!

Come join the conversation on Monday evenings from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM.

Eat. Watch. Discuss. What you think matters!

Contact Nancy Flores at nflores@saintjosephmsj.org.

To register Text ALPHA2024 to 84576 or visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/alpha/>.



Youth Ministry & Confirmation 1 & 2

Registration for 2024 – 2025 is open for Confirmation 1 & 2. Forms are available on our website. Download and fill them out at home, email them back or drop them off at the Family of Faith Ministry Office located in the rectory.

<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/discipleship/family-of-faith/youth-ministry/>

For immediate assistance, email Youth Coordinator, Aaron Loverro, aloverro@saintjosephmsj.org.

R.C.I.A. - Ignite the Fire Within!

What is R.C.I.A.? It is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Do you ever ask yourself...

What is the meaning of my life?

How can I become a part of something bigger than myself? How can I be a better person?

Does God have something to say to me?

Contact Deacon Dick at 510-304-4298 or visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/adult-christian-initiation-classes/>.

Adaptive Faith Formation

Recognizing the beauty and presence of God in each person, our Family of Faith Ministry program welcomes children of ALL abilities. We have dedicated Catechists with Special Education and inclusion experience. We recognize each child's unique talents, abilities, and special needs. For more, visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/discipleship/family-of-faith/>.

Special Religious Education - SPRED Ministry

SPRED assists parishes in the Diocese of Oakland to reach out and integrate children, teens and adults with special needs into the faith and life of the Church through their local parish. For more information, <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/discipleship/family-of-faith/special-religious-education-spred-ministry/>.

FORMED

Featuring the best Catholic video programs, audio talks, eBooks and movies on demand. Suitable for ALL ages, with programs for adults, youth and kids. <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/discipleship/formed/>

Discipleship & Works of Mercy

Hospitality Sunday ~ October 20, 2024

October is Respect Life Month. Celebrate Life, hosted by our St. Joseph for Life Ministry, following the 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 12:00 Noon Masses. Visit us at <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/discipleship/parish-outreach/respect-life-ministry/> to learn more.

The Witness Project

The Witness Project is our sharing of personal stories in witness to God in our lives as presented in short videos. Real people, sharing real experiences. Tell us your story how God has called you in your life. Interested in sharing on film? Sign-up for videotaping and someone from our Witness Project Team will contact you for filming your witness story. <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/witness/>

Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors Wanted

Do you feel the calling to serve the Lord at Mass as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister? Discern with Deacon Dick 510-656-2364, <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/liturgy/mass/liturgy-committee/>.

Homeless Outreach Ministry - Help Needed!

Volunteers needed to distribute grocery bags and clothes to the homeless in Fremont M/W/F mornings. Call Stan Peters 510-468-8017 or <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/homeless-outreach-help/>.

St Vincent de Paul - The Fremont Conference

We are a grass-root level ministry that engages in person-to-person service to the poor and less fortunate in the immediate neighborhood, regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, and marital status. We provide monthly assistance to more than 700 people! <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/service/st-vincent-de-paul/svdp-st-joseph-fremont-conference>.

Sister John Marie's Pantry

Sister John Marie's Pantry needs your help to maintain our ability to assist the community. To contact Sister John Marie's Pantry, please call 510-490-4171 or visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/service/sister-john-maries-pantry/>.

Bereavement Support Group

Are you dealing with the death or illness of a loved one or other life-changing loss? Sharing your story may help to heal and lighten the burden of your loss. Our deanery-sponsored grief support group meets Sundays through Nov. 3 at Holy Spirit Church, Fireside Lounge, 2:30-3:30 PM. Contact Helen Campbell at 510-386-6019.

Oct 13	Sharing a Special Reading
Oct 20	Sharing Memories
Oct 27	Understand Ritual and Healing
Nov 3	Memorial Service
Nov 10	Coping with the Holidays

<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/grief-support/>

Catholic Voting Guidelines

As Catholics, we integrate our faith as the moral framework in exercising our rights to vote for and support political leaders on significant issues affecting local, state, and federal. Passed on by the bishops of California, please read the guidelines to follow at <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/parish-election-guidelines/> during the election season.

Refugee Resettlement News

The Refugee Resettlement Ministry successfully housed Rahim, his wife Zolaikha, and three children. Rahim was a journalist for AP in Afghanistan, but is open to any job that will help pay the rent. The children are registered for school and await placement. For more on how you can help, visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/discipleship/parish-outreach/refugee-resettlement/>

A quick update on Halima who started her Medical Assistant classes September 30th. She texted at the end of her first week: "I passed the English and Math tests. We have lab today, I'm so excited about it! Thank you so much that you guys support me, I really appreciate you." We are grateful to all those parishioners who paid her tuition, books, scrubs and medical kit. Thank you!

Prayer, Devotions, Holy Days

Mass Intentions

Sat	10/12	5:30 PM	+Enrico De Santos, +Clarence Rose, Intentions of Aarav Bhattacharya
Sun	10/13	8:00 AM	+Mildred & Dale Stockton, Intentions of Christie Oswald
		10:00 AM	+Baby Speranza-Camp, Intention of the Siko Family, Intention of Larry Makaipo
		12:00 PM	+James, Evelyn & James II Deiso, Intentions of Maryann Carlin
		3:00 PM	+Peter Tinh & Eugenie Lisa Nguyen, +Dominico Chuyen & Maria Kim Trinh
		5:00 PM	People of St. Joseph
Mon	10/14	8:00 AM	Quy Khac Do
Tue	10/15	8:00 AM	+Deceased members of the Khoa My Vien Do Family
Wed	10/16	8:00 AM	+Do Sam, Deceased members of the Khanh Family
Thu	10/17	8:00 AM	Deceased members of the Quang Family
Fri	10/18	8:00 AM	+Neville Lacy, Deceased members of the Vui Khac Do Family
Sat	10/19	8:00 AM	+Kathy Shelly, +Dennis Dubro

Solemnity of All Saints – A Holy Day of Obligation

Friday, November 1, 2024



8:00 AM	Mission
9:15 AM (School)	Main Church
12:00 PM Noon	Main Church
7:00 PM (Multicultural)	Main Church

<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/all-saints/>

Pray for the Sick

Chris Benya, Amy Benya, Gary Asher, Susan Alioto, Anna Wang, Yuk Ying Chan, Norma Neto, Janet Abriam, Maryann Carlin, Gary Whiteley, Christie Oswald, Meghan Abadacca, Dan Loverro, Sally-N Thomas, Theresa Martin, Jayson Watkins, Monique Morsette, Mary Costello, Zeny Lacey, Michael Roseman, Rey Rara, Matthew Cestaric, Kenny Zulawski, Arlene Zulawski, Catherine Martin, Teresita Lopez, Debora Modica, Pamela Randolph. Please contact the Parish Office for prayer requests at 510-656-2364. Visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/discipleship/prayer-team-ministry/>.

November – the Month of Remembrance

Throughout November, Catholics around the world unite to remember friends and family members, and the community of saints who have gone before us and blessed us by their lives of love, faith and service to others. If you lost loved ones during the past year, please add their names to our online book of Remembrance. Visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/all-souls-day/>.



The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls) - Saturday, November 2, 2024

(No 8:00 AM), 10:00 AM | Mission

Monthly Devotional Masses & Liturgies Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Ad Orientem, Vespers

Fri	Nov 1	8:00 AM	Mission, No 24-Hour Adoration
Sat	Nov 2	10:00 AM	Mission, Multicultural, No 8:00 AM Mass
Sun	Nov 3	7:00 PM	Mission, Ad Orientem, Candlelight, Reception
Wed	Nov 6	7:00 PM	Main Church
Thu	ALL	6:00 PM	English/Vietnamese Vespers/Mass

<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/liturgy/ad-orientem-worship/>
<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/liturgy/vespers/>
<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/mass-schedule/>

Spotlight Ministry: Family of Faith

A Family of Faith. We baptized Catholics are considered family. We are sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters in Christ. Coming to Mass is like going to a family reunion. *A Family of Faith* program is a family approach to passing on the faith (catechesis).

For many adults, learning the Faith meant going to CCD. Religious education mimicked school. Parents dropped off their children and ran errands while students gathered in classrooms with their peers to learn lessons. The responsibility of passing on the faith was left to the catechists.

Family of Faith Year-Long Project:

Journey to Heaven Board (Vazquez and Orallo Families)



We know parents are the primary teachers of their children. They are the most influential people in a child's life. When it comes to passing on the Faith, fathers

especially, have a pivotal role as head of the family, the 'domestic church.' The family approach to catechesis offered at St. Joseph Parish provides the family an opportunity to grow together in faith. Parents and their children meet in small groups (Faith Families) together with other families to learn, discuss and actively live their faith.



The *A Family of Faith* program follows the 4 pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Profession of Faith, The Sacraments, Life in Christ and Christian Prayer. Each year focuses on one pillar allowing families to gain a greater understanding of the teachings of the Church. During the year each family works on a year-long project and participates in service projects where they demonstrate their faith in action through *Works of Mercy*. In short, parents and children connect what they learn about Church teachings to their lives in a real, tangible way.



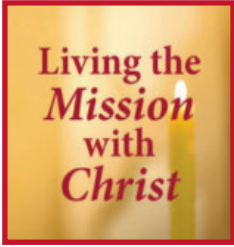
Our Catholic Faith is not practiced in isolation. As St. Mother Theresa said, "We belong to each other" and we read in Romans 12:5 "In the same way, we are many people, but in Christ we are all one body." We are family. We recognize Christ in the other when we serve others. Families in the *A Family of Faith* program serve Christ in the other by partnering with the Homeless Outreach Ministry to pack 'blessing' bags, support the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry by donating to their food drives and serve each other in contributing to a communal snack.

Our Family of Faith extends to include our homebound parishioners. Each Faith Family has a 'senior' buddy whom they support. We recognize we are a family of families from all walks of life; and are all on a journey back to Heaven. We walk together in faith and friendship, after all we are one family.

- Nancy Flores-Mai

Director of Evangelization and Family of Faith

Stewardship and Finance



Sunday Offertory	9/29/2024	
Weekly Actual	\$	17,893.80
Weekly Budget	\$	27,647.06
Year to Date Actual	\$	751,374.72
Year to Date Budget	\$	1,050,588.28
St. Vincent de Paul	\$	4,190.00

The Heart of a Happy Family

Bring home a miniaturized replica of the Holy Family, aglow with contentment and joy, basking in the love of God. Cast in bronze, this statue is available for purchase for \$300.00. All proceeds fund the Carriage house interior renovation and benefit the parish Homeless Outreach Ministry. To watch our YouTube video or purchase a statue, visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/statue/>.



Wedding Feast of the Lamb - 12" x 49" Print

Our magnificent, one-of-kind original oil painting was created by artist Michael Corsini of Pennsylvania. Measuring 7' tall by 50' wide, the Wedding Feast of the Lamb was painted on five canvas panels and joined together during installation. Call 510-656-2364.

\$1227	Print	Framed (signed & sealed)
\$750	Print	Unframed (signed & sealed)

Engraved Brick Sponsorships - Honor a Loved One!

Sponsor an engraved brick to adorn our outdoor Stations of the Cross path. Visit us at <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/brick/> for more information.

Stock, Mutual Funds, IRA Required Distributions

By donating publicly traded appreciated stocks or shares of mutual funds to St. Joseph Parish or donating all or some of your IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMA), you can avoid paying capital gains taxes and receive a tax deduction if you itemize deductions on your tax return. For more information and specific details, contact Gina Mehta at gmehta@saintjosephmsj.org, 510-656-2364 or visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/stewardship/donate/>.

How to Give Online - OSV

Please visit <https://www.osvhub.com/saintjosephmsj/giving/funds> to schedule your regular weekly or monthly contribution and to donate to second and special collections. All major credit cards, as well as electronic transfers from bank accounts are accepted. Online giving is easy to do, safe and secure, and ensures the parish receives a consistent flow of income.



Weekly Plate Collection	Bishop's Ministries Appeal
Mission Museum Renewal	Church Renovation
Second Collections	Special Collections

FlockNote "Text-to-Give" Option

<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/text-to-give/>
Text GIVE and the FUND NAME to 510-647-6027.

2024 Bishop's Ministries Appeal

Many Ministries, One Church – As of 9/30/24 our 2024 Appeal has raised **\$49,747.27** or 69% of our \$72000 goal for the parish. The overall goal for the Bishop's Ministries Appeal is \$3M and supports the 70+ ministries that serve our diocese, as well as the greater, surrounding communities. Support our efforts in the Bishop's Ministries Appeal by praying and by giving. <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/2024-bishops-ministries-appeal/>.

Match Your Donations

Many employers have matching gift programs. Increase your financial support to our parish by leveraging your donation with matching corporate funds. Most companies will match donations to schools and to non-sectarian, non-profit corporations such as CRMSJ (The Committee for the Restoration of the Mission San José). Contributions to St. Joseph School and CRMSJ help fund needed improvements and operating expenses at the school, Mission church and museum. Contact Gina Mehta at gmehta@saintjosephmsj.org or 510-656-2364.

Diocesan Update on Chapter 11 Proceedings

Please visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/bishops-letter> to read Bishop Michael Barber's letter providing an update on the bankruptcy case for our Diocese.

Parish News & Campus Facilities



Important Phone Numbers

Parish Office	510-656-2364
Family of Faith Office	510-657-0905
St. Joseph School	510-656-6525
Mission San José	510-657-1797
Sr. John Marie's Pantry	510-490-4171
St. Vincent de Paul	510-661-9572

St. Joseph School Hiring - Join Our Team!

Learning Support Assistants (2) - part-time

<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/teachers-aid-job-opportunities/> for job description.

Principal Laurie Lopez llopez@sjsmsj.org, 510-656-6525. <https://stjosephschoolfremont.org>

Baby Shower - St. Rose Hospital Birthing Center

Sponsored by St. Joseph School Mission Helpers (5th Grade and TK), baby gifts are collected for new mothers who will never receive a baby shower for their newborns! Items are donated to St. Rose's Family Birthing Center, providing services to expectant moms struggling financially.

New unopened and unwrapped items may be placed in the box at St. Joseph School outside 5th Grade or TK October 7-14, 2024 or dropped in the containers found in the church vestibule. Jennifer Mirinda jmirenda@sjsmsj.org if you have questions. Thank you for helping us support these new moms! Visit <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/mission-helpers/>.

Dominican Sisters Annual Holiday Boutique

Saturday, November 16, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Dominican Sisters Motherhouse. Online Shopping for Signature Items available October 6 through October 27. <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/holiday-boutique/>

Dominican Sisters CES - Sunday, October 20, 10 AM

Join us in the Dominican Motherhouse Wellness Room for the first in a series, Sacred Healing Women's Circle. Easy and Effective Self-Healing Techniques, Integrating Our Rainbow Body Energy Field. For more info on all our special events <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/dominican-sisters-ces/>.

Notice Something Missing?

You may notice a few things missing from the Mission Church. St. Joseph Catholic Church/Mission San José in collaboration with the Committee for Restoration of the Mission San José and the California Missions Foundation, transported six gold-framed paintings along with the Baptismal Font (all dating back to 1809) to an art conservator for testing, analysis, and conservation treatment.



The preservation of these interior objects are integral to Mission San José's plans to maintain and preserve the priceless artifacts as well as the physical structures of California's 14th Mission. These are the first to be addressed as a demonstration of this overall conservation plan. Upfront costs will be paid by the Committee for Restoration of the Mission San José, and treatment costs will likely be paid by the California Missions Foundation, along with private donors pledging their support. You may contribute to this effort by visiting us at <https://www.crmsjca.org/support>. Thank you for your generosity and support.

The Carriage House

The Carriage House has a new roof – Next will be completion of the new siding, rebuilding the exterior porches and stairs, and installing new windows and doors. When exterior repairs are complete, the Carriage House will be painted white to match our other parish campus buildings. Visit us at <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/facilities/facility-updates/> for more information on all our ongoing projects.

Marriage Building Workshop

We invite married and unmarried couples to join the Skills for Sacramental Marriage Building workshop on 10/12 or 11/16. Invest in your marriage today! Visit us at <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/marriage-workshop/> for more info, registration details.



Mission Renewal Project

PART TWO: 21 CALIFORNIA MISSIONS:

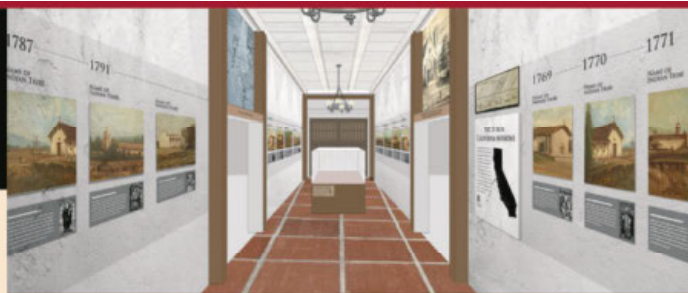
The Missionary Path

Miguel Jose Serra was born on November 24, 1713, the son of a farmer at Petra, Majorca, in Spain's Balloric Isles. He was baptized at the parish church of Saint Peter's, and received his first education at the Franciscan Friary of San Bernardino. Both of these buildings, as well as the rough stone birth dwelling, may still be seen at Petra. On taking his religious vows in 1730 Serra took the name Junipero, after a beloved disciple of Saint Francis of Assisi. Later, the little padre, scarcely over 5 feet tall, who was to become the "Apostle of California" arrived in Mexico. There he and governor Portola planned, how to expand Spanish domain into Upper California by extending the chains of Missions northward.

Due to the uncertainties of the times, the soldier and the priest decided that their first effort, up to present San Diego, would be divided into five segments: three ships and two expeditions by land, all to leave at separate times. Padre Junipero Serra, and the governor riding on mules, were in the second land party. After many hardships crossing the virtual desert, both land parties reached San Diego to find only two of the ships in the harbor, with the crews and soldiers, who were passengers, badly decimated by scurvy. The third ship was never heard from.

Thus began he founding of the famous 21 missions of the California chain along "El Camino Real," the Kings Highway.

This famous California roadway runs the length of the state from San Diego to Sonoma, linking the "jewels" of the mission chain. Later, the name was often



21 California Missions

translated as the "public highway" purposely ignoring the term "royal" as California became a republic, and then a state.

It was once just a foot trail. But as settlements and missions were established and the population grew, the trail became the main inland route for travelers. It was a stage line and eventually a highway, U.S. 101. With only a few detours, the present U.S. 101 is identical to the route the padres used. Its official historic marking is a mission bell the color of tarnished copper, arched over a single sign post with the words "El Camino Real."

The 21 missions that dot the California landscape from San Diego to Sonoma are the relics of an ambitious plan in the European conquest of the New World. The program used by the Spaniards to colonize California was unique among the methods tried in North America. The Spanish monarchy charged the Franciscan Order of the Catholic Church, in tandem with the Spanish military, to secure the western shores of what was called New Spain, establishing missions to convert the native Indian population to Christianity. Each mission would be the beginning of a civilian town, and they would be located at regular intervals upon the entire stretch of the colony. The missions' brief history is one of remarkable achievement and swift decline.

- Andrew Galvan

THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN PARTICIPATE!

You can help out by becoming a Mission Ambassador and leading museum tours, assisting visitors in the new Pilgrim Center or Gift Shop Center, beautifying our Mission Museum grounds, lending a helping hand in events and workshops, or by supporting our project financially. Email us at parish@saintjosephmsj.org, call us at 510-656-2364, or visit us online at <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/category/mission/>.

Mission Museum Ambassadors - Training Session
Saturday, November 16, 2024, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
in the Parish Hall. We need all the volunteers we can invite to serve in various roles as our future Mission Museum Ambassadors. Please extend the invitation to your family and friends.

<https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/ambassadorsign-up/>
or text TOURS2024 to 84576 to join/sign-up and for more info.

Sign-up now! This is the place for your to use God-given gifts, skills and talent. Thank you for being part of our Mission Renewal Project!

Our Spiritual Leaders & Staff

**Pastor**

Fr. Anthony Huong Le

510-656-2364

fatherle@saintjosephmsj.org

**Permanent Deacon**

Deacon Benjamin Lai

510-656-2364

deaconlai@saintjosephmsj.org

**Permanent Deacon/RCIA**

Deacon Dick Bayless

510-656-2364

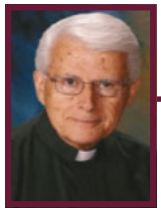
deaconbayless@saintjosephmsj.org

**Principal, St. Joseph School**

Laurie Lopez

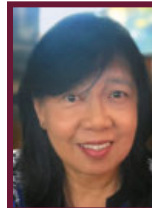
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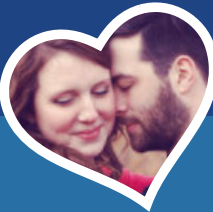
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