

# St. Joseph of Cupertino Catechetical Ministry

## Family Letter—November 2011

Dear Families,

Classes are now in full swing and we enjoy the life and love your families bring to the program.

Our second graders have begun preparing for the first of three sacraments they will celebrate for the first time this school year— the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Their First Reconciliation will be in the Church, Tuesday, December 6 at 7 p.m. Please join us and their families in praying for their continued blessing and faith!

The Alviso fliers went home on October 30. Please bring your donations in by Monday, November 14! We will be delivering the donations on Thursday, November 17 in the morning. Please let the office know if you wish to come help and meet the families we've adopted.

Yours in Christ,

Tam Tran  
Director of Catechetical Ministry

Huong Tran  
Administrative Assistant



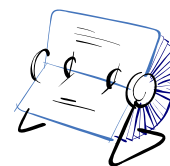
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**All Saints' Day** On November 1, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints. Catholic saints are holy people and human people who lived extraordinary lives. Consider gathering as a family on this holy day to pick a saint who might be your family patron saint. There are many wonderful men and women whose virtues and faith show us how to live with charity, compassion, and forgiveness as members of a family. Adopt this saint, learn all you can about him or her, and invoke this saint's guidance and wisdom through the years.

### Season of Advent & New Roman Missal



On Sunday, November 27, we begin a new liturgical year and the season of Advent. The First Sunday of Advent is not the beginning of the Christmas Season. Rather, it's the beginning of a time when we focus on faithful anticipation. We anticipate and long for the coming of Jesus as our loving Lord at the end of time. We anticipate the celebration of Jesus' birth, when he came into the world as our Lord and Savior. And we anticipate the coming of Jesus in our walk of faith every day, especially in the celebration of the Eucharist and in our acts of love, charity, and justice toward others.

This year the Church is introducing some revised translations of liturgical prayers. These revised prayers will be taught in the Sunday classes, grades 2 and up, during November and each child will receive a mass booklet that explains the changes and includes the revised prayers. Our parish has been keeping adult parishioners apprised of this coming change through bulletin inserts.

### Parish Events

Nov. 2—Catholic Women: Saints & Role Models, Brother Bill Bolts, SM to present at 7pm in Community Center

Nov. 9—Understanding the Catholic Approach to the Bible, Fr. Greg Kimm to present at 7pm in Community Center

Nov. 15—Heaven, Hell, Purgatory, Fr. Fran Smith, SJ to present at 7pm in Community Center



Luke 15: 4-6

## Sacrament Preparation

Family interviews for children preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Full Initiation will take place between November 28 –December 4. Families can schedule a time with either Tam Tran or with Veronica Hernandez (School Religion Coordinator). Please schedule a time if you have not done so.

Children who have been preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will celebrate their First Reconciliation on Tuesday, December 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the church. The Celebration will be a communal celebration, followed by individual confessions. If you have any questions about what will be expected, please call Tam at 252-7653 ext. 60. Information about that evening will be sent out when students return from Thanksgiving break.



The junior high group will continue to prayer for our seminarians like they did last year. While there were three transitional deacons last year, we have just one being ordained in June!

Please. Please. Pray for vocations! As you can see, we will only have one new priest by next summer.

Please join the junior high group in praying for Anthony Uytingco. His ordination to the transitional diaconate was on October 29. To read more about Anthony, visit <http://dsj.org/vocations/vocation-office/meet-our-seminarians/mr-anthony-uytingco>



## Early Childhood Education News

Our Three-year-olds are exploring the gifts of movement and speech this month. Our Four-year-olds are exploring the gifts of their family and friends. The Kindergartners learn about Baptism, Prayer and going to Church. First grade is exploring their second unit on the first person of the Trinity, *Our Loving God*.

All levels will be celebrating the holiday of Thanksgiving and the children will be putting on a special **Thanksgiving Prayer Service** on November 20, just for all of you parents! An invitation will be sent home on November 13!



## Parish Thanksgiving Food Collection

During the month of November, our parish will be collecting food for Thanksgiving food baskets. The need grows each year and we need to offer help again this year. The sixth grade will help with filling the food baskets at 11:00 a.m. on November 20. If you would like to help out also, please come and join us. There are lots of things to do and many hands do make light work. If you can participate, please call 252-7653 and let us know so the coordinators of the project will know who is going to be helping on that Sunday. If you know of a family who could use a food basket, or you yourself, please let me know and I will send the information to the coordinator.

## This Month's Dates to Remember

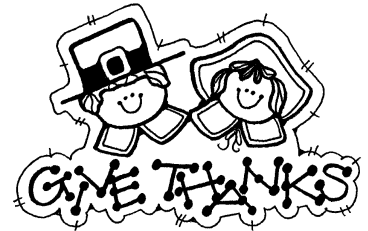
<b>Tuesday, November 1</b>	<b>All Saints Day—Holy Day of Obligation, Masses at 6:30 am, 9 am &amp; 7pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, November 2</b>	<b>All Souls Day</b>
<b>Friday, November 4</b>	<b>Volunteer Appreciation Dinner—Parish Hall, 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday, November 6</b>	Sunday Catechetical Classes in session 9:30 am liturgy with focus on children <b>Daylight Saving Time ends—Set clock one hour back</b>
<b>Sunday, November 13</b>	Sunday Catechetical Classes in session <b>Alviso Thanksgiving Outreach—donations due by Monday</b>
<b>Thursday, November 17</b>	<b>Alviso Thanksgiving Outreach—delivery</b>
<b>Sunday, November 20</b>	Sunday Catechetical Classes in session ECE Thanksgiving Prayer Service at 10am <b>Begin Alviso Christmas Outreach</b>
<b>Wednesday, November 23</b>	<b>No Junior High meeting</b>
<b>Sunday, November 27</b>	<b>No Catechetical Classes—Thanksgiving break</b> <b>First Sunday of Advent</b>



**\*\*Junior High meets every Wednesday night from 7:30 p.m.—8:45 p.m. unless specified**

## Thanksgiving Alviso Outreach

Monday, November 14 will be the deadline for bringing in the food and money contributions to the Alviso Outreach Project. Each child has received a flier about the food item their class is asked to contribute to the family's meal. We are asking each child to bring in a **\$3 monetary donation** in addition to the food contribution, in order to be able to provide the 25 families with grocery store SCRIP to purchase a fresh turkey. Please join us in our efforts to communicate the Gospel value that true gratitude leads to charity and generosity of spirit. If you are interested in helping with the delivery on Nov. 17 please let us know.



Below lists the food item each class is asked to contribute.

<b>1A &amp; 1B</b> —5lb bag of flour	<b>6A</b> —3 12oz. cans of tuna
<b>3A &amp; 3B</b> —5lb bag of sugar	<b>3 &amp; 4 yr olds</b> —3 6oz boxes of Jell-O Mix
<b>2A &amp; 2B</b> —5lb bag of rice	<b>KA</b> —3 15oz. cans of vegetables
<b>4A &amp; 4B</b> —5lb bag of pinto beans	<b>5A &amp; 5B</b> —3 15oz. cans of fruit



**Alviso Christmas Outreach:** On Sunday, November 20, fliers for the Christmas outreach will be sent home before Thanksgiving break. Each student will be assigned a child in Alviso to buy a gift for. Your child will know the recipient's name, gender, age, and clothing size. If your family is unable to participate in the Christmas outreach for any reason, please let the office know by Monday, November 14.