
St. Joseph of Cupertino

St. Joseph of Cupertino Parish
Cupertino, California

Flyer

June 2009



11:00 am Ushers Mark 157 Years of Combined Service

Four ushers have been stalwarts at the 11:00 am Mass for a combined service of 157 years. This article profiles these four shining examples of faithful stewardship.

Ralph Trentadue



The head usher, Ralph Trentadue, began ushering in 1955 at age 25, logging 54 years of service. Ralph moved to Cupertino in 1955 when he emigrated from Modugno, Italy. He lived with one of his two uncles who resided in Cupertino.

His other uncle, Joe Maggio, was the head usher for 11:00 am Mass, and he used Ralph as a substitute. Ralph attended Mass dressed in a coat and tie, which matched his uncle's dress code for ushers. One time Ralph did not wear a coat and tie, and was admonished by his uncle. Thereafter, Ralph always dressed appropriately and was soon tapped to become a regular usher. Even today, the 11:00 am ushers adhere to the tradition of wearing coats and ties. Joe Maggio retired in late 1950s as an usher, and Ralph became the head usher for 11:00 am Mass.

Ralph returned to Italy in 1960 for six months and married Nina. Next year will be their golden wedding anniversary.

Ralph and Nina return periodically to Italy to visit relatives. Approximately 30 years ago, a fellow parishioner and Cupertino mayor, Dan O'Keefe, asked Ralph to visit Cupertino's sister city, Copertino, and present a watch to the mayor. Ralph arranged for the visit and went with Nina and a cousin. They received a red carpet treatment, including a big dinner with councilmen and dignitaries.

Ralph and Nina's two daughters, Angela and Rosa, attended the parish school and both are now SJC teachers. Their seven grandchildren are following the SJC tradition: two have graduated, four are enrolled and the seventh starts in the fall.

John Shields



John Shields began ushering 39 years ago in 1970, when he and his first wife Margaret settled in Cupertino. Initially, he served as the head usher of the 8:00 pm Saturday Mass. When that Mass was cancelled, John joined Ralph at the 11:00 Mass.

John was born and raised in Donegal, Ireland. He was one of seven children raised in a two-room cottage with a thatched roof. During WWII, he worked four years in an electric generator factory in Coventry, England. He emigrated to the U.S. in 1947, and lived in New York and San Francisco before moving to Cupertino.

John and Margaret had four children. Margaret died in 1975, leaving John to care for the children. He met his current wife, Marilyne, while working as a subcontractor for GE. When they were married in 1980, Marilyne's three children grew the family to seven children. Today, they have 16 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Ed Ford



Ed Ford began ushering about 35 years ago, five years after he and his wife, Suzanne, joined the parish, and after she and their daughter joined the choir.

Ed was born and raised in Chicago, and worked his way through the University of Illinois as a journeyman sheet metal worker. He graduated with a B.S. in Aeronautical Engineering, and accepted a job with Lockheed Missiles and Space in Sunnyvale. He went on to earn an M.S. in Aeronautics and Astronautics at Stanford University, and retired from Lockheed after 37 years of employment. His second retirement was from Aerotherm Corporation.

Ed and Suzanne raised four daughters, Laura, Kristine, Cynthia and Carolyn, all of whom graduated from SJC School. This spring, just weeks apart, they welcomed their 10th and 11th grandchildren.

In August, 2008, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a cruise to Alaska, a large family gathering and Mass in Illinois, and a week in New York City.

Paul Rodgers



Paul and his wife Joan are celebrating their 50th anniversary this year as members of St. Joseph of Cupertino. Paul began his ushering career in 1980, 29 years ago, for the 11:00 Mass.

Paul, the son of a career Navy officer who became a three star Admiral, moved around several times while growing up. He attended Loyola High School in Los Angeles, and attended Cal Berkeley when his father was stationed on Yerba Buena Island. Paul earned a bachelors degree in electrical engineering and spent his working career in the Bay Area. He spent many years working for Ampex.

After graduation from Cal in 1952, Paul attended Naval Officer Candidate School in Newport, R.I., and then served on a cruiser in the Korean War. Paul and Joan raised three children in their Santa Clara home, and they now have five grandchildren.

Finance Council

By Mike Hoffman

Canon law, the internal ecclesiastical law governing the Roman Catholic Church states that:

In each parish there is to be a finance council, which is governed, in addition to universal law, by norms issued by the diocesan bishop and in which the Christian faithful, selected according to these same norms, are to assist the pastor in the administration of the goods of the parish.

The St. Joseph Finance Council was established about 1986. The purpose of the council is to advise the pastor in all matters relating to parish finances. John Niedermaier is the chairman of the council and there are currently six other members. Father Kimm and the parish Business Manager, Monica Vireugas-Ferrante, attend all council meetings.

Meetings are typically held quarterly and the most recent meeting was typical. March year to date income and expenses were reviewed. The purpose of these reviews is to determine if there are any significant issues that need to be addressed, e.g. expense overruns or shortfalls in income. If issues are identified, a committee member is assigned to follow up and prepare a plan for addressing the issue. No issues requiring follow-up were identified.

Also discussed at the most recent meeting was the status of efforts to sign more parishioners up for electronic giving, preparation of the fiscal year 2010 budget, and planning for needed capital improvements.

Council members review parish investments with an eye towards getting the maximum return on investment consistent with prudent management. Council members are also responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable diocesan procedures and review and approve the parish operating budget and the annual financial report to the diocese.

Most recently, the council has been working on the parish budget for the fiscal year starting July 1st. Because collection income has not kept up with the cost of running the parish, projected income is about \$80,000 less than projected expenses. The shortfall is approximately 15% of total Sunday collections. If every family attending Mass increased their weekly donation by approximately \$5, the deficit would be eliminated.

Additional information about the council can be found on the SJC website (www.stjoscup.org) click on "Activities" and "Councils". Any questions regarding the finance council or parish finances can be emailed to finance@stjoscup.org.

Signs and Symbols of St. Joseph of Cupertino Church

By Jim Schaaf

This is the second in a series of articles describing the architectural and religious aspects of the St. Joseph of Cupertino Church.

Narthex or Vestibule

The vestibule is the room between the outside and the main church. Four doors lead from the vestibule to the main church. Like the outer doors, twelve squares adorn these passageways to the main body of the church.

Holy water fonts are on either side of the center two doors. Many people who come to Mass dip the tips of the fingers of one hand into the holy water font and bless themselves with the ancient prayer, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen." This is a sacramental that reminds us of our Baptism and the indelible character imprinted on our individual souls signifying the removal of original sin and our membership in the family of Christians.

Recall that a "sacramental" as defined in Number 1670 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church "prepares us to receive grace and disposes us to cooperate with it." Most of the signs and symbols in the church are also sacramentals because they prepare us and dispose us to receive grace if only we become aware of them and think about them.



Above the center two doors is a stylized Greek cross with the dates 1981 – 2006. This cross was presented to the parish by Bishop Patrick McGrath marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Diocese of San Jose.

To the left is the "cry room" where parents may attend Mass or devotions with smaller children who are too noisy or fidgety to attend in the main church without disturbing others. To the right is the "brides' room" where a bride and her bridesmaids make last minute preparations before entering the church for the wedding liturgy of the Sacrament of Marriage. There is a small usher's room next to the brides' room, nestled beneath the stairs to the choir loft.

On the wall in front of the cry room are photos of the current church building as it was originally constructed. On that photo you can see the original façade where the massive stained glass window now stands. Also on that wall is a photo of the original church on this site built in 1907.

Parish communications are found on a bulletin board on the left, and a brochure rack is mounted on the wall outside of the brides' room.

There are two restrooms off the vestibule. One is entered from the vestibule itself and the other from the cry room



Following the Way of Love

By Iva Galesic

The road was winding, the blue sky flew above us as we were leaving the Bay Area behind. After weeks of rain showers, wind and cold in the South Bay, we were finally basking in the golden California sun. Comfortably leaned back in our car seats, we were listening to the soft tunes from the stereo and watching the sun-splashed landscape – the bright color schemes, various shapes, different patterns, and numerous curvatures – changing before our very eyes. I pondered the beauty of it all while handling the curves in the road.

We were heading to Southern California on a late Friday morning, our route taking us to Anaheim for the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress – the nation’s largest annual gathering of Roman Catholics, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. There were eight of us split up between two cars. Our trip was filled with incredible weather, great company, excitement, faith exploration, wonder, music and more music. We were equipped with bottles of water, healthy snacks, plenty of songs on our iPods and a positive attitude.

In February, Fr. Chady led eight members of the Young Adult Ministry to participate in the two-day annual Los Angeles Religious Education Congress. The Congress had nearly 200 speakers, 237 exhibitors and entertainment relating to personal growth, music and spiritual topics.

When we embarked upon this journey to the heart of Southern California, we knew that the Congress would be hosting more than 38,000 participants from all over the country, and that the

workshops offered would be educative as much as reflective. However, little did we know what a profound and life-affirming experience this Congress would prove to be! The workshops on young adult faith formation, ministry leadership and liturgy brought us face to face with inspiring speakers. The moving liturgical celebration offered at the end of Saturday, through music, dance, prayer and charismatic preaching, started a revolution – not on the streets, but the one in our minds.

At the L.A. Congress, God revealed Himself to each one of us in a unique and very personal way. In the midst of my weariness and a dangerous dose of caffeine intake, surrounded by thousands of people, noise level rising well above 80 decibels, suddenly and quite unsuspectingly everything around me slowed down. Right there and then, as the voices slowly faded away, I was able to picture clearly the outstretched hands of Christ, illuminated with the light, reaching out for me, and the rivers of love pouring out of His pierced heart. The sense of contentment set in as the physical weariness and doubts quickly dispersed.

The message of the L.A. Congress 2009, “*Love Unfolding... Igniting Our Yes,*” shared with us a great vision of our calling as Catholics that is rooted in Christ’s teachings. Christ leads us into a way of love and justice that makes room for all peoples. The way of love is the way of Jesus calling us all to

come, see and hear Him. Christ is urging us to seek Him, and pledging us to build, deepen and nurture our relationship with Him. It was this powerful experience at the L.A. Congress that enabled us to see beyond that moment and to embrace the wider perspective of our whole creation.

School Students Make Paper Cranes for Pres. Obama

Rep. Mike Honda Visits School to Accept Cranes

By Steve Hill

Kindergarten through eighth grade students at the parish school have sent a symbol of peace to President Obama in the form of 1,000 red, white and blue paper cranes sewn together into a wind flag in the form of the U.S. flag.

Paper cranes are a symbol of peace and are popularized by the book *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*. The book chronicles the story of a Hiroshima child, Sadako Sasaki, who developed leukemia from the atomic bomb. She spent her dying days in a nursing home making 1,000 paper cranes, as a message of peace.

The paper crane project was inspired and led by Kaori “Kay” Nakai, whose grandmother is a Hiroshima survivor. A school parent, Kay coordinates the lunchtime origami club. She employed her origami skills to sew the cranes together.



Kay Nakai

On March 13, U.S. Representative Mike Honda visited our school to accept the cranes. They were delivered to the White House in late April. Rep. Honda, a former science teacher and principal, received the wind flag at a special morning assembly. Part of his visit included a short tour of the school and coffee with teachers and staff.



Rep. Mike Honda Mary Lyons

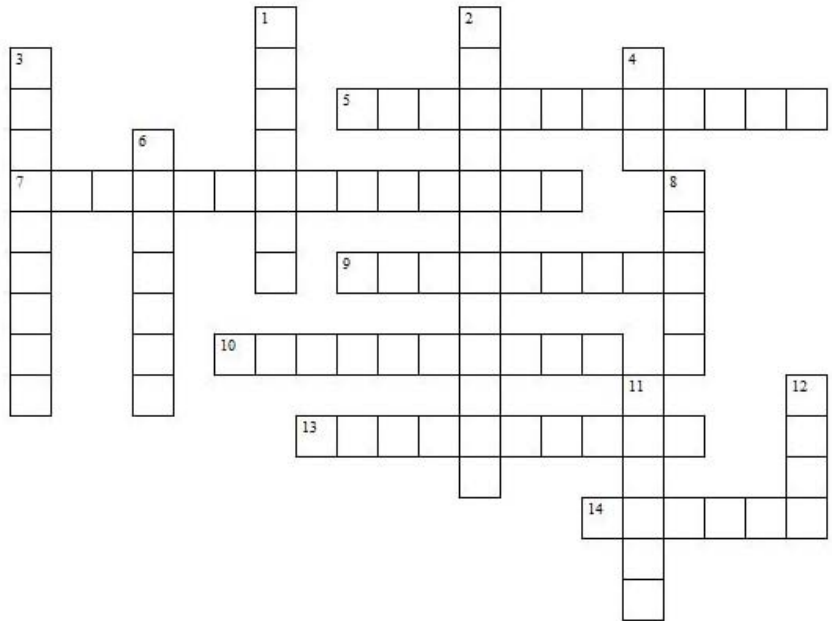
At the ceremony, principal Mary Lyons said, “Please know that every day we pray for peace and every day we will pray for the leadership of our nation, including President Obama and you, Congressman Honda.” This peace message has special meaning to Representative Honda because his late wife was a Hiroshima survivor.

The Path to Seven Sacraments Crossword

By Lorinda Rodrigues

Across

- 5. The word Eucharist means _____.
- 7. Reuniting with god after sinning is _____.
- 9. We receive Jesus at Holy _____.
- 10. The Act of _____ is a prayer recited by a penitent during the sacrament of Confession.
- 13. The sacrament that celebrates the ordination of bishops, priests and deacons is called _____.
- 14. In the Eucharist celebration, Christ is present in the _____ gathered.



Down

- 1. _____ frees us from original sin.
- 2. Strengthens us in the new life we received at Baptism.
- 3. The sacrament of _____ celebrates the love of man and woman.
- 4. Hurts our friendship with God
- 6. Used in the Anointing of the Sick.
- 8. The seriously ill, elderly and those close to death are anointed on the forehead and _____.
- 11. Recites an absolution.
- 12. God is _____.

For the solution, see our Parish's website: <http://www.stjoscup.org/>

Parish Calendar			
July		AV Room	Faith in Action Rotating Shelter for Homeless Men
Aug. 2	11:00 am Mass	Church & C.C.	New parishioner welcome, blessing & reception
Aug. 7	7:00 pm	Church	Taizé Prayer
Aug. 23	12:15 pm	Rectory	Meeting for those interested in becoming Catholic
Sept. 13	Noon	Hall	St. Joseph of Cupertino Feast Day Celebration
Sept. 13	3:00 pm	Rectory	Grief Support Group
Sept. 14	Noon	Comm. Center	Prayer Group
Saturdays	6:30 pm	Hall	Bingo
Mondays	6:30 pm	Hall	Bingo
Mondays	Noon	Comm. Center	Prayer Group
Tuesdays	9:00 – 11:00 am	Various	Baby/Children Playgroup; Kristin Bacich, klhbacich@hotmail.com
2 nd Friday	9:00 – 10:00 am	Local parks	Mom's Group, Call Carol Ruiz at 777-2966
Sundays	10:30 – 11:00 am	Front of church	Video library
1 st Sunday	Morning Masses	Comm. Center	Hospitality after Mass – Coffee and Donuts
1 st Sunday	3:00 – 4:00 pm	Rectory	Grief Support Group
1 st Sunday	6:15 pm	Church	Evening Prayer
2 nd Sunday	12:15 pm	Rectory	Scripture Sharing Group

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The Flyer, with color photos, is posted on the parish web site