

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

Isaiah 7:10-14  
Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6.  
Romans 1:1-7  
Matthew 1:18-24

*“Let the Lord enter;  
he is king of glory.”*



**St. Dominic's is a Catholic  
Parish Inspired by Dominican  
Spirituality Igniting the Faith  
for the Salvation of Souls**

## Mass Intentions

Sat	12/20	5:00 p.m.	(R) Rogelio Co
Sun	12/21	7:30 a.m.	(T) People of the Parish
		9:00 a.m.	(R) Mer Lacson
		11:00 a.m.	(R) Juan Espinosa. Jr.
		1:00 p.m.	(R) Melinda Ruiz
		5:00 p.m.	(R) Francis Meagher
Mon	12/22	6:45 a.m.	(B) Heidi Tolentino
		8:15 a.m.	(R) William Woods
Tues	12/23	6:45 a.m.	(B) Lootsee Lustan
		8:15 a.m.	(R) Victoria Montgomery
Wed	12/24	6:45 a.m.	(R) Joseph Bettencourt, Jr.
		8:15 a.m.	(T) Diane Dawes
Thurs	12/25		
Fri	12/26	6:45 a.m.	(R) Serenidad Samia
		8:15 a.m.	(B) Natalie Miraflor
Sat	12/27	8:15 a.m.	(T) Fr. Xavier Jeong Yeon Hwang SJ
		5:00 p.m.	(R) Barbara Piepho
Sun	12/28	7:30 a.m.	(T) Bel M. Pradil
		9:00 a.m.	(T) People of the Parish
		11:00 a.m.	(B) Christopher Zorrilla
		1:00 p.m.	(R) Yolanda Montalvan
		5:00 p.m.	(T) Alex Tuiolosega

(R) Repose of the Soul (H) Health (P) Prayerful Intention  
(A) Anniversary (B) Birthday (T) Thanksgiving



**Please pray for the recovery of the sick  
listed in our Book of Intentions  
and the following:**



Myrna Bernabe, Chai Notarte, Patrick Droszcz, Dennis Kolkebeck, Anastasia Boomer, Steven Haigh, Kit Bulaon, Quinn Larkin, Mike McDonald, Julien Sousa, Paul Sousa, James Baldwin, Jill Gaul, Carlos Chulli Sandoval, Joe Ogden, Albert Horvath, Greg Albright, Bill Telepak, Fred Ayala, Adrienne Varin, Hau Thi Vu Nguyen, Elaine Paschal, Maria Bongco, Ramon Dela Cruz, Francisco Gan, Dino Tan, Donna Wade, Michael Raymundo Co, Christian Salcedo, Marsha Morse, Rolando Cortez, Paul Cruel, Maria de Fatima Pereira, Eileen Hayes, Barbara Donley, Cecilia Tan, Sherry Thomas, Barbara Helms, Colin Larkin, Alma Johnson, Lisa Santini, Liz Thurin, Rosie & Don Klatt, Aurora Basilio, Mark Nees, Albert Tan Co, Ron Pearman, Patricia Weber, Bernice Cure, Margaret Haddad, Monika Pangelinan, Gladys Haddad, Julia Haddad, Peter Szabo, Sr.

**Please remember the following recently  
deceased (and their families) in your prayers:**

Joan Christiansen, Effie "Cheena" Gutierrez, Tawnya Cassidy, Pure Swingleton, Kim Ron, Fr. Walter Mayer, Leslie McDevitt, Rose Marie Watterson, John Dodd, Edward Hewitt, Robert Samson, Charlie White, Maria Kim, Salud Paderna, Renato Lumaban, Benjamin Santos, Charles Bettencourt, Nathan Manzanares, Melita Domingo, Felipe Llanes, Jr., Kenneth Hagar, Michelle Medeiros  
~names will be listed as space allows~



475 East I Street, Benicia, CA, 94510  
707.747.7220 [www.stdombenicia.org](http://www.stdombenicia.org)  
@stdombenicia #stdominicsbenicia #stdombenicia



## Pastor's Corner



The Benicia Christmas parade is one of my favorite town events. It is largely made up of Americana sorts of participants – local athletes, marching bands, scout troops, dance programs, area businesses, and, of course, us, Saint Dominic's! It was pretty cold the

morning of the parade, but at least it was dry, unlike the weather at last year's parade. As we marched up 1<sup>st</sup> Street, the kids passed out candy canes to the

pedestrians cheering from the storefront sidewalks, and other



parishioners handed out cards inviting people to join us for mass on Christmas. Our school cheerleaders waved their pompoms to the crowd and later put on a spirited routine for the judges to Kelly Clarkson's recording of Run Run Rudolph. We won third-place in our category! One thing I really enjoy about that parade is that it is fun and festive with a rousing turnout of spectators while also not occupying your whole morning. The event started at 10am, and we were done a half-hour later. As we marched in the parade, Father Brad gave a talk on the Eucharist in the parish hall to a packed audience. I heard nothing but raves about his presentation, which was no surprise, as Father Brad is super faithful, smart, and a great teacher and preacher. As many of you know, he now has his doctorate in theology and is a professor of moral theology at the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology in Berkeley. It was also fun having some extra friars from Saint Albert's here to help us hear confessions at the Advent penitential holy hours last Monday. The two Dominicans who came for the evening joined us for evening prayer and dinner. It was my turn to cook that night, and I wanted to serve a real crowd-pleaser sort of dinner. I got some of those premade Sukhi's Indian dishes sold at Costco – coconut curry chicken and chicken tika masala with plenty of rice and salad. It was a big hit. On a sidenote, if you ever buy those Sukhi Indian products, make sure you heat them over the stove, not in the microwave, as I had always done in the past. For the guest brothers I wanted to look like I was putting in a better effort by heating the food on the stove and it turned out the texture of both the chicken and the sauce were better after having been heated that way. Well, just a few more days until the big birthday!

**Fr. Andy Opsahl, O.P. - Pastor**  
**frandy@stdombenicia.org 707-335-4668**

## Upcoming Events

### **Baking Sunday - Christmas is Coming!**

Sunday - December 21  
After 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Masses

### **SDS Christmas Break**

December 22 - January 5

### **Nativity of the Lord**

### **Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses**

Wednesday - December 24  
4:00 (church & hall), 7:00 p.m. & Midnight  
9:00 p.m. Vietnamese  
Thursday - December 25  
8:00 & 10:00 a.m.  
12 Noon - Spanish/English

### **Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Masses**

Wednesday - December 31  
Vigil - 6:00 p.m.  
Thursday - January 1  
9:00 a.m.

### **Holy Mother of God Masses**

Wednesday - December 31  
6:00 p.m. Vigil

### **Votive Mass & Reception**

In honor of the Divine Infant Jesus  
Mahal na Poong Santo Niño  
Saturday - January 10  
10:00 a.m. Mass  
Reception in the Parish Hall to Follow



# Special Envelopes Christmas & January

DEC 25: Christmas


JAN 01: Solemnity of Mary

JAN 4 & 18: Building Improvement

JAN 11: SDS Tuition Assistance

JAN 25: St. Vincent de Paul

**No Second Collection For January**



**Flowers for the Feast  
of St. Lucy in  
Loving Memory of  
Russ Rosevear**

December 13


PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT 7/1/25-11/30/25			
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	+ / - Budget
<b>Sunday Offertory</b>			
Online donations	\$ 199,579		
Sunday/Mail-in donations	\$ 218,017		
	\$ 417,596	\$ 461,667	\$ (44,071)
<b>Second Collections:</b>			
Building Improvement	\$ 15,270	\$ 16,667	\$ (1,396)
Faith Formation	\$ 10,054	\$ 4,458	\$ 5,596
Total Operating Income	\$ 517,558	\$ 572,083	\$ (54,526)
Operating Expenses	\$ 599,105	\$ 599,757	\$ (652)
<b>Net Income/Loss</b>	<b>\$ (81,547)</b>	<b>\$ (27,674)</b>	<b>\$ (53,874)</b>

*Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

Day of Holy Obligation - Mass Times

Wednesday  
December 25  
Vigil  
6:00 p.m.

Thursday  
January 1, 2026  
9:00 a.m.



Register Here!



Respect Life Conference – In place of the gathering that was cancelled in September, the annual Respect Life Conference has been rescheduled for **January 3, 2026**, and will be held at the Pastoral Center.

Join us for the 2025 Respect Life Conference, “Life, Our Sign of Hope” on January 3rd, from 9:30 a.m.3:00 p.m. at the Pastoral Center. Be inspired and equipped to uphold the dignity of every human life with talks from Auxiliary Bishop Rey Bersabal and Fr. Larry Toschi, O.S.J. Free event, lunch is provided, and all are welcome.

Sign up using the QR code or link <https://forms.gle/zLSczP XK2SyUuBjx8>

## FOUR EASY WAYS TO RECYCLE YOUR TREE

- Drop Off  
Benicia Community Park or  
First Baptist Church | 1055 Southhampton Road  
(Across from Middle School)

- Pick Up  
Call the Recycle Hotline 707-551-4520  
and leave your information.

- Pick Up  
Visit [beniciascouts.org](http://beniciascouts.org)  
to register your tree online or  
by scanning the QR Code

- Pick Up  
Send this buckslip to: Christmas Tree Recycling  
P.O. Box 485 | Benicia, CA 94510



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Hours 9AM - 4PM | Suggested Donation \$20 | Tree Pickup in Benicia Only  
Pickup Dates: Dec 27 & 28, 2025 and Jan 3, 4 & 10, 2026



Christmas Tree Recycling  
by the Benicia Scouts





# Christmas Schedule

**Christmas Eve (Vigil) Masses**  
**Wednesday, December 24, 2025**  
 4:00 p.m. (Church & Hall)  
 7:00 p.m.  
 9:00 p.m. - Vietnamese Mass  
 12:00 a.m. - Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day Masses**  
**Thursday, December 25, 2025**  
 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.  
 12:00 p.m. Spanish/English

## Fr. Andy's Cheddar Garlic Biscuit Raffle!

**\$5 Raffle Tickets**



**Two Winners**  
 Winners will receive **18** delicious, frozen, ready to bake biscuits, & full instructions.




# VOTIVE MASS

*Mahal na Poong Sto. Niño de Tondo  
 Maawa Ka sa amin!*

In honor of the Divine Infant Jesus  
 Mahal na Poong Santo Niño

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2026**  
**MASS AT 10:00 A.M.**

Followed by Reception in the Hall

Please bring all your images of the Santo Niño for a yearly blessing after the Mass.

**St. Dominic's Catholic Church**  
 475 East I St., Benicia, CA 94510  
[www.stdombenicia.org](http://www.stdombenicia.org)



# Advent

## Prayer for the Fourth Week of Advent

Light all four candles and sit for a moment in silence.

Read from Scripture John 3:16-17. Reflect: God sent us his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! How can we share this love with others?

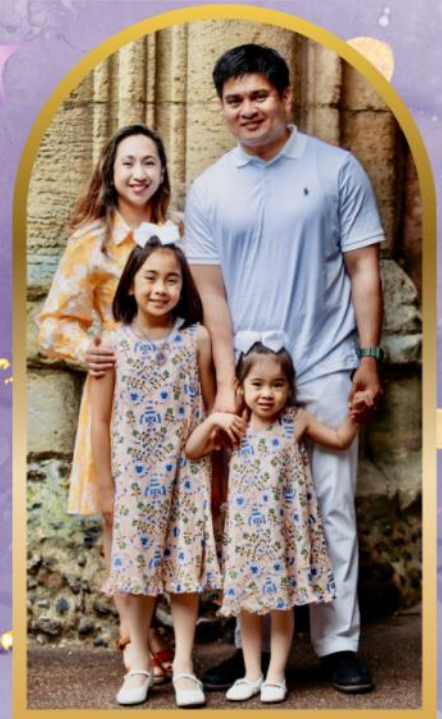
Prayer: Christ our Light, Shine in our lives with hope and promise. Give us right vision so that we remain attentive to this holy season. Remind us to look for you in small acts of kindness and love. We await your coming with wonder. Amen.

## The Giving Manger

An Advent family tradition that prepares your home and hearts for Christmas by focusing on how our actions create a space for Jesus to come into our lives. Every time you do a charitable act, or pray, or do an act of service for someone, you can place a piece of straw or yarn in a manger or Nativity Set to prepare for the birth of Jesus. On Christmas day you can place baby Jesus in the manger full of your love, service, and prayers.

*"The way our family lives our Catholic faith is that we pray the rosary through a Catholic prayer app on the drive to school each day and we listen to "Daily Saints" stories on the way home. We try to attend mass every Sunday wherever we may be even if we are out of town we'll find the local Catholic church. We also pray together before bedtime and along with our usual prayers for ourselves and our families we include a special prayer for someone else each day"*

**Jurgen & SallyMae Cudiamat**  
**Galilee 7 years old**  
**Solenn 3 years old**





# Feast Day Shrines Sponsors 2026



One way St. Dominic's celebrates our holy days is with shrines consisting of a holy image adorned with flowers and candles. The creation of these shrines wouldn't be possible however, without the generosity of sponsors. Please consider sponsoring one of these shrines in thanksgiving or petition to our Lord, the Virgin Mary or your patron saints, in memory of a loved one, or to honor a birthday of someone special.

## January

- 1- Mary, Mother of God

## February

- 2- Presentation of the Lord (Virgen de Candelaria)
- 11- Our Lady of Lourdes

## April

- 29- St. Catherine of Siena

## May

- 13- Our Lady of Fatima
- 22 - St. Rita

## June

- 1- Ascension of the Lord
- 13- St. Anthony
- 27- Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 28- Immaculate Heart of Mary

## July

- 3- St. Isabel
- 26- St. Anne



## August

- 8- St. Dominic
- 15- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 23- St. Rose

## September

- 14 - Exaltation of the Cross
- 15- Our Lady of Sorrows
- 27- St. Vincent de Paul

## October

- Our Lady of the Rosary
- 1- St. Therese
- 28- St. Jude

## November

- 3- St. Martin de Porres
- 22- St. Cecilia

## December

- 8- Immaculate Conception
- 13- St. Lucy

Please see the complete list of available feast days throughout the year and contact Justin at the Parish Office for details:

[jreyes@stdombenicia.org](mailto:jreyes@stdombenicia.org)

## Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:30 (livestreamed), 9:00, 11:00 a.m.,  
1:00 (Spanish/English) & 5:00 p.m.

First Sunday of month Vietnamese Mass – 3:00 p.m.

### Daily Mass

Monday – Friday: 6:45 a.m.

Monday – Saturday: 8:15 a.m.

## Confession Times

Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday 9:00 a.m.

Saturday 3:30 p.m.

## Ministries at St. Dominic's

### ◆ Adoration

Team - [adoration@stdombenicia.org](mailto:adoration@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Altar Servers

Theodore Diepenbrock - [altarservers@stdombenicia.org](mailto:altarservers@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Choirs

Luke Shalz - [lshalz@stdombenicia.org](mailto:lshalz@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Consolation/Grief

Patti Erickson - [grief@stdombenicia.org](mailto:grief@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Dominican Laity

Dirk Fulton - [domlaity@stdombenicia.org](mailto:domlaity@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Mike & Sara Monahan - [emhc@stdombenicia.org](mailto:emhc@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Gabriel Project

Maria Padrones - [gabriel@stdombenicia.org](mailto:gabriel@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Guadalupana Association

Patricia Chavez - [guadalupana@stdombenicia.org](mailto:guadalupana@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Hospitality

Kristina Ruiz - [hospitality@stdombenicia.org](mailto:hospitality@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Knights of Columbus

Dan Swienton - [beniciaknights@gmail.com](mailto:beniciaknights@gmail.com)

### ◆ MOM's Ministry - Magnificence of Motherhood

Jamaila Pasternack - [mothers@stdombenicia.org](mailto:mothers@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Lectors Ministry

Amar Lagrimas - [lectors@stdombenicia.org](mailto:lectors@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Lazarus Ministry

Amar Lagrimas - [lazarus@stdombenicia.org](mailto:lazarus@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ Parish Pastoral Council

Kaitlin Demers - [ppc@stdombenicia.org](mailto:ppc@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Brianne Dela Cruz - [bdelacruz@stdombenicia.org](mailto:bdelacruz@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ St. Joseph's Ministry

Ed Stone - [Stjosephministry@stdombenicia.org](mailto:Stjosephministry@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ St. Vincent de Paul

Michael Munn - [svdp@stdombenicia.org](mailto:svdp@stdombenicia.org)

### ◆ St. Dominic's Cemetery

Lisa Sarnicola - [lsarnicola@opwest.org](mailto:lsarnicola@opwest.org)

## Join a Ministry Today!

Are you feeling called to serve your church community in new ways? Reach out to one or more of our ministry leaders above and explore all the blessings these ministries have to offer! We look forward to hearing from you.

## Parish Office

475 East I Street, Benicia

### Current Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

707.747.7220

### Religious Education Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

## Parish Staff

Fr. Andy Opsahl, O.P.

[frandy@stdombenicia.org](mailto:frandy@stdombenicia.org)

Pastor

Fr. Dominic DeLay, O.P.

[frdominic@stdombenicia.org](mailto:frdominic@stdombenicia.org)

Parochial Vicar

Mike Scafani

[mscafani@stdombenicia.org](mailto:mscafani@stdombenicia.org)

Deacon

Br. Thomas Maria Johns, O.P.

[tmjohns@stdombenicia.org](mailto:tmjohns@stdombenicia.org)

Resident Student Br.

Teresa Stone

[tstone@stdombenicia.org](mailto:tstone@stdombenicia.org)

Business Manager

Luke Shalz

[lshalz@stdombenicia.org](mailto:lshalz@stdombenicia.org)

Music Director

Lori Telepak

[ltelepak@stdombenicia.org](mailto:ltelepak@stdombenicia.org)

Community Relations /  
Media & Ministry Coor.  
Dir. of Faith Formation

Brianne Dela Cruz

[bdelacruz@stdombenicia.org](mailto:bdelacruz@stdombenicia.org)

Coor. of Religious Ed.

Teresita Dumanig

[tdumanig@stdombenicia.org](mailto:tdumanig@stdombenicia.org)

Children's Sacraments

Debi Thurin

[dthurin@stdombenicia.org](mailto:dthurin@stdombenicia.org)

Liturgy Coordinator /  
Weddings & Quinces  
In Residence / Retired  
In Residence / Retired

Justin Reyes

[jreyes@stdombenicia.org](mailto:jreyes@stdombenicia.org)

Fr. Vincent Serpa, O.P.

Fr. Anthony Rosevear, O.P.

## St. Dominic School

935 East 5th Street, Benicia

[www.sdschoolbenicia.org](http://www.sdschoolbenicia.org) 707.745.1266

Penelope Ogden (K-8th grade)

Principal

[pogden@sdschoolbenicia.org](mailto:pogden@sdschoolbenicia.org)

Tanya Sanchez (Pre-K/TK)

Preschool Director

[tsanchez@sdschoolbenicia.org](mailto:tsanchez@sdschoolbenicia.org)

## IRA Giving

If you own a traditional IRA and are over the age of 70 1/2, the IRS requires that you take yearly distributions (MRD's). But did you know you can designate the MRD to St. Dominic's Church and you don't have to pay taxes on the distribution? For more information, visit the IRS website or contact your tax or financial consultant.

For more information or to explore your options please contact Teresa Stone at [tstone@stdombenicia.org](mailto:tstone@stdombenicia.org) or 707-335-4672

**Please support the following businesses owned by members of our parish community. Their contributions each week underwrite our Parish Bulletin. Thank you!**

<b>A &amp; S Chem Dry, Anthony &amp; Shelly Trevino</b> <i>Serving St. Dominic's Parish for over 25 years!</i> (707) 748-7726	<b>Richard Joyce, O.D. Optometrist</b> Exams, Glasses, Contacts (707) 745-6266, 874 Southampton Rd.	<b>Olson Realty, Inc.</b> Kathleen McInerney Olson/Broker (707) 745-3602
<b>A &amp; S Chem Dry - Drier. Cleaner. Healthier.</b> Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning (707) 748-7726 Tile & Stone Clean & Seal	<b>Kindred Spirits Pet/House Sitting</b> Dorothy Doscher (707) 334-3776	<b>Passalacqua Funeral Chapel</b> John Passalacqua/Greg Silva/Joe Talken (707) 745-3130
<b>All Souls Cemetery &amp; Funeral Center FD2286</b> Funeral, Mortuary, Cremation & Burial. (707)-644-5209 cfcsSacramento.org	<b>Law Offices of Barnum &amp; Avila</b> Employment Law (707) 745-3747, www.rmblaw.com	<b>Reyes Electric Co. &amp; Design LIC#32877</b> Residential/ Commercial (707) 747-6818
<b>Amso Healthy Chiropractic</b> 310 Military West (707) 752-2990	<b>Law Offices of Thomas R. Healy</b> Wills/Trusts/Estate Planning/General Practice (707) 553-7360	<b>Shutters and More</b> Bill Simpson, Parishioner (707) 746-8187
<b>ATS Tax &amp; Financial Solutions Tax</b> Angels to your rescue! Returns/ QB (707) 745-1040	<b>Minuteman Press</b> Copy, Print, Posters & Banners (707) 647- 1000, 812 Tennessee St, Vallejo	<b>St. Dominic's Cemetery</b> Lisa Sarnicola, Sales Manager (707) 751-0527
<b>Crane Station, Inc.</b> Rex Sevilla–Crane and Electrical Services (707)333-6287	<b>Mr. Lawn Landscape Service</b> Landscaping, Maintenance & Installation (707) 747-5273	<b>Teresa Stone - Notary Services</b> tstone@stdombenicia.org (707) 330-0773
<b>Culligan Law Firm - Estate Planning</b> Inheritance Litigation & Conservatorships (707) 492-5566, Benicia	<b>Napoli Pizza and Pasta</b> Chris & Lisa Guerrero- Owners (707) 746-8906, www.napolibenicia.com	<b>Up2Code Plumbing</b> Owner Mike Pitta - 24 hour service (707) 751-1714
<b>Hamann Real Estate, 513 First Street</b> Tim and Jeannie Hamann/Broker-Owners (707) 246-6567 DRE01348061	<b>N C Home Improvement Inc</b> General Contractor Lic#1114460 (707) 712-4727 Jorge Munguia	<b>Warring &amp; Assoc. Realtors</b> Bill/Diane Brokers/Owners, 829 First St. (707) 746-6990
<b>Tim &amp; Jeannie Hamann Foundation</b> fightcancer@hamannfoundation.org Tax ID#47-2189766 hamannfoundation.org	<b>North Point Pest Solutions Inc.</b> Pest Control Services (707) 621-0003 BENICIA	

**Bulletin, E-mail Submissions, Advertising, Ministries, Scheduling, or Promotion please send to: ltelepak@stdombenicia.org**

**Adoration Chapel**  
**Hourly Needs**

Monday: 3:00 a.m. - weekly, & 11:00 p.m. alternating wks.,  
 Tuesday: 1:00 a.m. - weekly or shared, 10:00 a.m. - wks. 4&5, & 3:00 p.m. - weekly  
 Thursday: 6:00 a.m. - weekly 5:00 p.m. - weekly  
 Saturday: 12:00 a.m. - wk. 4, 1:00 p.m. - wks. 1&3, & 4:00 p.m.  
 Sunday: 12:00 a.m. - wk. 4, & 12:00 noon

**Adoration is Open to the Public**  
 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
 Can you spare an hour for our Lord?  
 Contact: adoration@stdombenicia.org

**Giving Just Got Easier...**

We are pleased with the launch of our new giving platform, Pushpay, and want to share other ways that this new platform makes it easy to give a one-time gift ( i.e.: candles, Sacramento Diocesan campaign) or recurring gifts. Giving can be from your smartphone anywhere and anytime!

For more information: Visit our website at [www.stdombenicia.org/give/](http://www.stdombenicia.org/give/) or scan the QR code. If you have any questions, be sure to contact



Teresa Stone at 707-335-4672 or tstone@stdombenicia.org  
 Thank you for your continued generosity!