

# First Sunday of Advent

## November 30, 2025

Isaiah 2:1-5  
Psalm 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:37-44

*“Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.”*



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

### Altar Flowers for the Birthday of Jess Abila

#### Mass Intentions

Sat	11/29	5:00 p.m.	(R) Dolores C. Belo
Sun	11/30	7:30 a.m.	(T) People of the Parish
		9:00 a.m.	(R) Margaret McClune
		11:00 a.m.	(R) Tom Gavin
		1:00 p.m.	(R) Salud Paderna
		5:00 p.m.	(R) Ronald Ditter
Mon	12/01	6:45 a.m.	(T) Roseann Nunes
		8:15 a.m.	(B) Jesse Posadas
Tues	12/02	6:45 a.m.	(R) Robert Samson
		8:15 a.m.	(R) Anastasia Young Ah Lee
Wed	12/03	6:45 a.m.	(B) Huong Lee
		8:15 a.m.	(T) Dcn Mike Scafani
Thurs	12/04	6:45 a.m.	(T) Alex Tuiolosega
		8:15 a.m.	(B) Harris Ingle
Fri	12/05	6:45 a.m.	(A) Sr. Rebecca Miriam PVM I
		8:15 a.m.	(R) Michael Ishmael
Sat	12/06	8:15 a.m.	(R) Rolando de Joya
		5:00 p.m.	(R) Lourdes & Artur Cardoso
Sun	12/07	7:30 a.m.	(T) People of the Parish
		9:00 a.m.	(R) Marion Klimczak
		11:00 a.m.	(R) Robert Samson
		1:00 p.m.	(R) Yolanda Montalvan
		5:00 p.m.	(R) Edward Hewitt

(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:**



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, Rose Marie Watterson, Elaine Paschal, Maria Bongco, Ramon Dela Cruz, Francisco Gan, Dino Tan, Donna Wade, Michael Raymundo Co, Christian Salcedo, Marsha Morse, Rolando Cortez, Paul Cruel, Meredith Morrow, Maria de Fatima Pereira, Eileen Hayes, Barbara Donley, Cecilia Tan, Sherry Thomas, Barbara Helms, Colin Larkin, Jerry Schilz, 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:**

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, Johnny Napier, Andrew Siri, Antonio Rapolla  
~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](https://www.instagram.com/stdombenicia) #stdominicsbenicia #stdombenicia



## Pastor's Corner



Happy new year! Today as the first day of Advent marks the beginning of our new liturgical year. Just like on January 1<sup>st</sup>, the start of Advent is a valuable time for us to reflect on how we would like to grow in the next twelve months, but emphasis should be on spiritual growth. That is not to say that our Advent new year's resolutions need be irrelevant to the typical January 1st resolutions people set for themselves, like weight loss, starting up hobbies, and so forth. For example, let's imagine I have a tendency to seek emotional consolation in junk food. If I can address that unhealthy spiritual habit by replacing it with prayer and a brisk walk around the block, that is bound to help my soul, as well as my weight-goals as a side result. For another example, say I have a habit of wasting time watching toxic YouTube influencers who don't really even teach me anything new worth learning. As a spiritual cleanse, I could resolve to block those influencers, and the time saved by not watching them could give me more time to pursue some edifying hobby I have been meaning to cultivate. The season of Advent, as time of hopeful anticipation of the coming of Christ on Christmas, in a broader sense, is meant to reorient our priorities toward what matters most in the end, the end of time that is... This is why the first two Sundays of the season emphasize reflection on the second coming of Christ at the final judgement. The second two Sundays focus more on preparation for the first coming of Christ on Christmas. That should remind us of the immediacy of God's action in the world and the help he is offering us now to overcome the darkness in our souls. He entered creation as the true light of the world, taking our sinful nature to himself to make of us an offering to God that was fitting for the atonement and redemption of our sins. Our share in that gift is what makes the birth of Jesus the greatest Christmas present that ever was and ever will be. That gift will be arriving before you know it! Let's get our acts together now at the beginning of the season so that we will be well-disposed to receive that gift when the big day arrives!

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

## Upcoming Events

### Advent Stations

Wednesday - December 3  
6:30 p.m. - Church

### Children's Christmas Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays - December 4, 11, 18  
4:00 - 5:00 p.m. - Church

### Main Street Holiday Open House & Tree Lighting

Friday - December 5  
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

We will be singing Christmas carols  
in front of Hamann RE!

### Celebration of Virgen de Guadalupe

Saturday, December 6  
6:00 a.m. - Church

Followed by hot chocolate in the hall  
1:30 p.m. - Procession

2:00 p.m. - Mass

Followed by Dinner in Hall (Ticketed)

### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday - December 8

Masses: 6:45, 8:15 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

## Ongoing Events

### Women's Bible Study

Mondays

6:30 p.m. - Ministry Center Siena Room

### Spanish Bible Study

Thursdays

6:30 p.m. - Ministry Center Siena Room

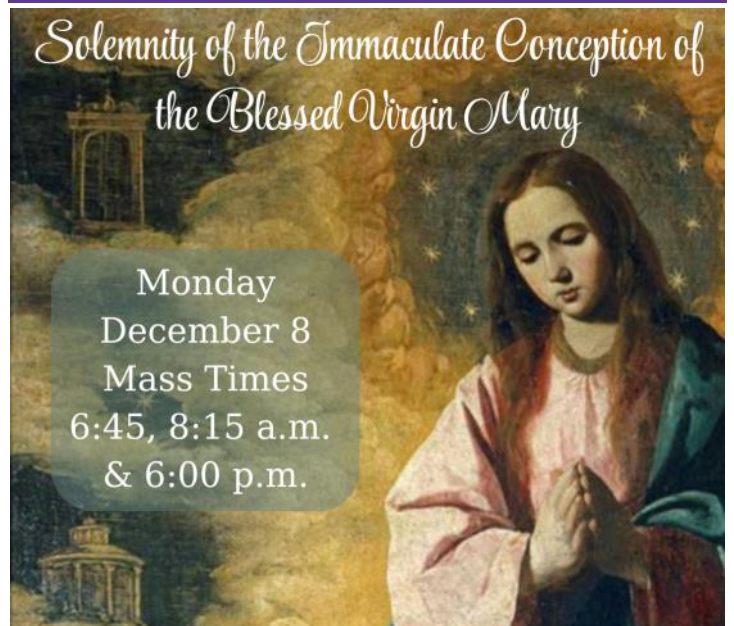
### Men's Bible Study

Fridays

5:45 p.m. - Ministry Center Siena Room

## *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Monday  
December 8  
Mass Times  
6:45, 8:15 a.m.  
& 6:00 p.m.



## Second Collection for December

DEC 13/14 Retirement Fund for Religious

### Special Envelopes for December

DEC 07 & 21: Building Improvement

DEC 08: Immaculate Conception

DEC 14: SDS Tuition Assistance

DEC 25: Christmas

JAN 01: Solemnity of Mary

#### PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

07/1/25-10/31/25

	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>	+ / - <u>Budget</u>
<b>Sunday Offertory</b>			
Online donations	\$ 163,313		
Sunday/Mail-in donations	\$ 174,403		
	\$ 337,717	\$ 369,333	\$ (31,617)
<b>Second Collections:</b>			
Building Improvement	\$ 11,812	\$ 13,333	\$ (1,521)
Faith Formation	\$ 9,055	\$ 3,567	\$ 5,488
Total Operating Income	\$ 423,405	\$ 457,667	\$ (34,262)
Operating Expenses	\$ 484,746	\$ 480,506	\$ 4,241
<b>Net Income/Loss</b>	<b>\$ (61,342)</b>	<b>\$ (22,839)</b>	<b>\$ (38,503)</b>



## SVdP's Holiday Giving Tree

This year SVdP will be providing our neighbors with food vouchers instead of Christmas dinner boxes. Since we will not be asking our parishioners to prepare dinner boxes we hope you will consider an additional monetary donation to the SVdP to help with the food vouchers. Thank you for your continued support!

The Giving Tree is up in the church. Please consider taking an ornament and buying the requested gift. Return the ornaments with the wrapped gift to the church before the afternoon of **December**

**13th**. All parishioners are welcome to help with delivery of gifts and food vouchers from 9:00 a.m.-12 noon on Saturday, December 20th in the Parish Hall.



## Wednesday - December 3 - 6:30 p.m.

The Advent Stations take us on a tour of the Old Testament. Like the traditional Lenten Stations of the Cross, these seven Advent "stations" or "stopping points" provide a way to ponder the mystery of how God prepared the world to receive his Son at the moment of the Annunciation. Each station contains an Old Testament foreshadowing of the incarnation, a meditation, the New Testament fulfillment in Christ, and then a prayer.





Walk with us!

# Christmas Parade

December 13

10:00 a.m.

First Street

Meet up near the Yacht Club at 9:30 a.m.

## St. Joseph Ministry Building & Maintenance

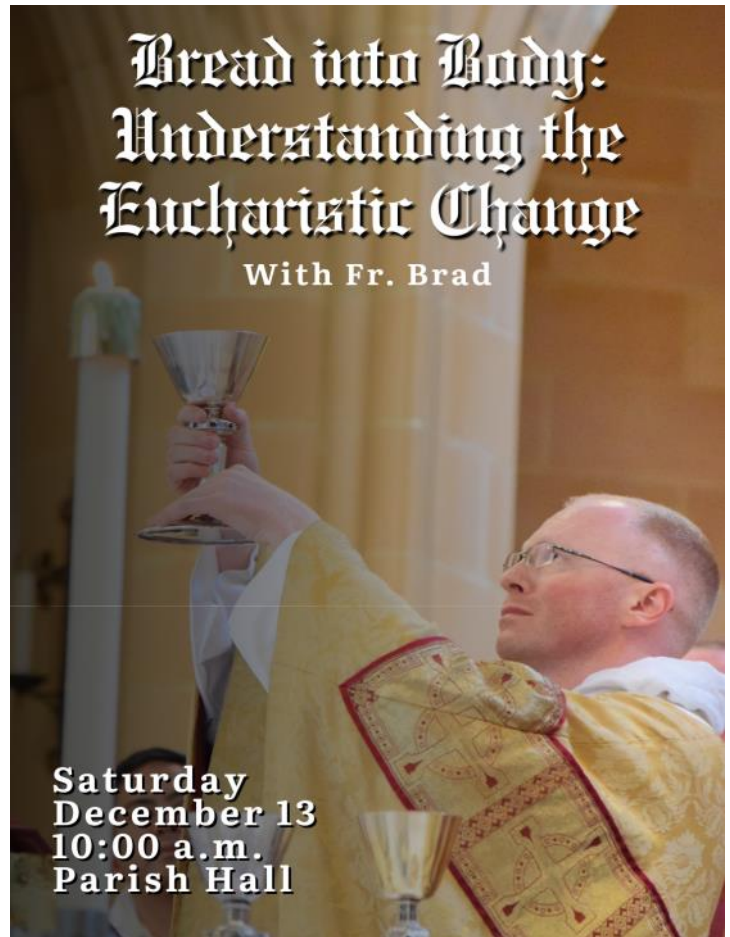


**NEW! St. Joseph's Ministry**  
We need your help!

In an effort to continue to reduce parish expenses, we are starting a St. Joseph's Ministry to help with maintenance and repairs and light building projects around the parish. If you are a plumber, electrician, carpenter or just an all-around handyman (or woman), this is the ministry for you! We are currently putting together a list of people willing to help with performing general maintenance/repair tasks individually, or as a group one Saturday morning a month.



If you'd like to lend a hand, please email [Stjosephministry@stdombenicia.org](mailto:Stjosephministry@stdombenicia.org).



# Bread into Body: Understanding the Eucharistic Change

With Fr. Brad

Saturday  
December 13  
10:00 a.m.  
Parish Hall



## Christmas Children's Choir

St. Dominic's is inviting children ages 6 and up to join a special Christmas Youth Choir to sing at the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass!

### Rehearsals

Thursdays

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

December 4

December 11

December 18

In the Church

# Advent

## Prayer for the First Week of Advent

Light one purple candle and sit for a moment in silence.

Read from Scripture Romans 15:12-13. Reflect: We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God!

What are the hopes we are bringing to the Lord in this season?

Prayer: Christ our Hope, Illuminate our hearts with your grace.

Enlarge our vision so that we recognize our kinship with all the people of the world.

Help us to give to others in ways that meet their deepest needs.

We await your coming with gratitude. Amen.

## Reverse Advent Calendar Activity

The original purpose of an Advent calendar is to serve as a countdown during Advent to prepare for the birth of Jesus. Maybe this year your family can try a Reverse Advent Calendar, where you are giving instead of receiving. Each day or week of Advent you can fill up a basket or box with canned or dry goods and at the end of Advent, donate it to a local food bank!



**The Mendonca Family:**  
**Philip, Victoria,**  
**Marina (6), PJ (4)**

## Family Corner:

This week the Mendoca family will light the Advent candle for this week at the 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass

*"Each Advent season, we try to slow down and be more intentional with our time together—reading Scripture, sharing our family traditions, and attending Mass. We especially love setting up the Nativity scene, baking cookies for neighbors and coworkers, making tamales, and celebrating Midnight Mass with family and friends."*

*The Mendonca Family*

*Women's Bible Study*  
**Mondays - 6:30 p.m.**

Ministry Center Siena Room



*ESTUDIO EN ESPAÑOL DE LA BIBLIA*  
*Evangelio De San Juan*

*Los Jueves*

*Hora: 6:30 p.m.*

*En el: Salón 'Siena'*

*Edificio Del Centro Ministerial*

*Material Necesitado: Biblia en Español*

**ALL MEN'S**  
**BIBLESTUDY**  
EVERY FRIDAY | 5:45 PM

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**  
**IN MINISTRY CENTER - SIENA ROOM**



**MORE INFORMATION**  
**CONTACT MIKE**  
**707-720-4287**

*Advent Reconciliation*

*Weekly*

**Tuesdays 6:30 p.m.**

**Wednesdays 9:00 a.m.**

**Saturdays 3:30 p.m.**

*Eucharistic Adoration &*  
*Reconciliation*

**With Visiting Priests:**

**Monday, December 15**

**9:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.**

*Here at*

*St. Dominic's Church*

**475 East I Street**

**Benicia, CA 94510**

**Global Holiday Faire**

**28th Annual Global Holiday Faire**  
**December 6th, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**at First Christian Church, Vallejo**  
**1035 Indiana Street**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**Jewelry \* Clothing \* Plants**  
**Ornaments \* Nativities \* Art**  
**Purses \* Scarves \* Home Décor**  
**Gift Baskets \* Crafts \* Baked Goods**  
**Lunch in Person & To-Go \* More!**

Looking for gifts that make you feel good about giving this season? As part of an ecumenical group of Christian Churches, the Faire encourages alternative gift-giving by making available donation cards and merchandise made by third world artisans and non-profit social justice organizations. Proceeds support non-profit organizations.



**Questions or to help please**  
**visit [www.globalholidayfaire.org](http://www.globalholidayfaire.org)**  
**[www.facebook.com/GlobalHolidayFaire](https://www.facebook.com/GlobalHolidayFaire)**

## 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)

Fr. Dominic DeLay, O.P.

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Justin Reyes

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Scott Schilz

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

Fr. Vincent Serpa, O.P.

Fr. Anthony Rosevear, O.P.

Pastor

Parochial Vicar

Deacon

Resident Student Br.

Business Manager

Music Director

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

Coor. of Religious Ed.

Children's Sacraments

Liturgy Coordinator /  
Weddings & Quinces

Maintenance  
In Residence / Retired  
In Residence / Retired

## 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**

## 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!

*Come Let Us Adore Him!*

**Adoration Chapel**  
**Hourly Needs**  
**Tuesday: 1:00 a.m. weekly**  
**& 10:00 a.m. - wks. 2,3,4,5**  
**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**  
**Sunday: 12:00 a.m. - wk. 4**  
**& 12:00 p.m. - 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