

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

IS 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7

PS 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

1 COR 1:3-9

MK 13:33-37

**“Lord, make us turn to you;
let us see your face and we
shall be saved.”**



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

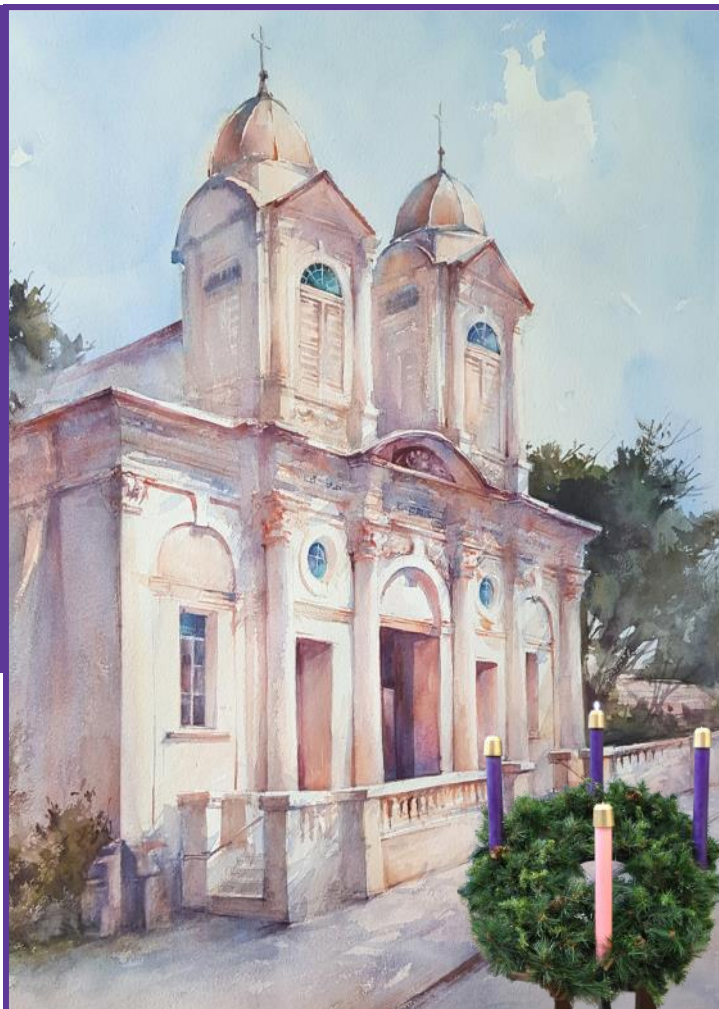
**Altar Flowers for the Anniversary of
Michael, Sr. & Mayuni Altera**

Mass Intentions

| | | | |
|-------|-------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Sun | 12/03 | 7:30 a.m. | (B) John & Loreta Lacuesta |
| | | 9:00 a.m. | (R) Francisca Pasadilla |
| | | 11:00 a.m. | (R) Tom Gavin |
| | | 1:00 p.m. | (T) People of the Parish |
| Mon | 12/04 | 6:45 a.m. | (B) Harris Ingle |
| | | 8:15 a.m. | (B) Noel Maria Martha Lee |
| Tues | 12/05 | 6:45 a.m. | (B) Kit M. Gamboa |
| | | 8:15 a.m. | (B) Noel Maria Martha Lee |
| Wed | 12/06 | 6:45 a.m. | (R) Sr. Rosemary Sullivan |
| | | 8:15 a.m. | (R) Rolando De Joya |
| Thurs | 12/07 | 6:45 a.m. | (P) Capapas-Zorrilla Families |
| | | 8:15 a.m. | (R) Pavlina Ennghillis |
| | | 7:00 p.m. | (R) Cruz Helena |
| Fri | 12/08 | 6:45 a.m. | (B) Grace Lee Chatman |
| | | 8:15 a.m. | (R) Tess Gacad |
| | | 7:00 p.m. | (T) People of the Parish |
| Sat | 12/09 | 8:15 a.m. | (R) Conrado Tan |
| | | 5:00 p.m. | (R) Russell Ho |
| Sun | 12/10 | 7:30 a.m. | (R) Carlos & Margarita Gonzales |
| | | 9:00 a.m. | (R) Russell Ho |
| | | 11:00 a.m. | (R) Russell Ho |
| | | 1:00 p.m. | (T) People of the Parish |

Legend:

(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:**

Meredith Morrow, Laura Starkey, Cecelia Siu,
Cheena Gutierrez, Maria de Fatima Pereira,
Victoria Montgomery, Eileen Hayes, Brigitte Michael,
Barbara Donley, Cecilia Tan, Sherry Thomas, Barbara
Helms, Greg Gormley, Joshua Chavez-Carroll,
Colin Larkin, Jerry Schilz, Pauline Soop, Alma Johnson,
Lee Schaffner, Barbara Flores, Rob Lustan, Nita Calvo,
Mel Gaoaen, Sean Daly, Jackie Ho, Laura Carnes Dietrich,
Lisa Santini, Liz Thurin, Rosie & Don Klatt, Aurora Basilio,
Lionor Cruel, Mark Nees, Lilian Fajardo, Margaret Lobo,
Albert Tan Co, Ron Pearman, Patricia Weber,
Bernice Cure, Margaret Haddad, Monika Pangelinan,
Donna W., Gladys Haddad, Julia Haddad,
Pete & Dorothy Szabo

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

Ross Martino, Maria Lupe Sanchez, James Donahue,
Russell Ho, Robert Coronado, Andrew Kinane,
Jack Curran, Arlene Saitz, Siong Beng Tan,
Gregory Quillin, Bernadette Godwin, Percy Samson,
Emma Juarez, Antonio Cortez, Vickie Dorsch,
Cynthia Gahwiler, Darla Cady O'Donnell, Bonnie Adams

~names will be listed approximately 3 months as space allows



475 East I Street, Benicia, CA, 94510
707.747.7220 www.stdombenicia.org
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Pastor's Corner



Right now is a great time for us, as Catholics, to establish some new year's resolutions for our spiritual lives. You may be thinking, "Isn't now a little early for that? People usually wait to start their resolutions for the new year on January 1st." However, while the calendar year may begin a month from

now, our new liturgical year begins with the first Sunday of Advent. Given that our liturgical lives are supposed to flow into how we live all week long, the start of Advent would seem to be an ideal time to create new goals, spiritually, for the whole liturgical year long. For example, on January 1st, many people aim to cut bad foods from their diets. But perhaps some of us need to go on a permanent diet from things harmful to our souls, like prideful judgmentalism, snappishness toward others, or tendencies to show off in front of them. Just as eating or drinking too much can be a symptom of an unhealthy soul, so can the vicious behaviors toward others I just mentioned.

The new liturgical year is also a great time to establish new discipline for our prayer lives. As I have mentioned in the Pastor's Corner before, when people confess their sins in the confessional, one of the most common causes penitents attribute to their sins has been a tendency to let their prayer lives to go slack. I imagine most of us have been guilty of that from time-to-time. One area where I need to improve is in making more time for sacred study, something essential to living a good Dominican life. I always keep a few theological books on my desk, next to my office computer, to remind me of the studying I need to do to grow as a Dominican priest. Unfortunately, the challenge of juggling the duties of leadership for a novice pastor like me keeps me too often from opening those books. Starting this Advent, I am going to try making time in the very early morning hours for sacred study at least three days a week. I also plan to work on my Spanish so that I can be a more useful pastor to our Spanish-speaking parishioners. Do you have any goals for the new liturgical year? We could all stand to formulate some because God made us for perfection through his grace, and none of us has reached that point yet. One of the many benefits of establishing spiritual goals at the beginning of Advent is that when the Christmas season ends, rather than feeling glum, hopefully we will feel well on our way to enjoying happier, holier interior lives through the rest of January, February, and beyond!

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

Upcoming Events

Spanish Bible Study

Thursdays

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

Fr. Gregory's Book Study - This is My Body

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. - Parish Hall

Fridays at 9:15 a.m. - Mary Magdalene Room

November 2 to December 15

Advent Stations

Monday, December 4

7:00 p.m. - Church

Celebration of Virgen de Guadalupe

Saturday, December 9

6:00 a.m. - Mañanitas - Church

2:00 p.m. - Mass - Church

Followed by meal in hall, tickets needed.

Benicia Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 9

10:00 a.m. - First Street

Cookie Sunday

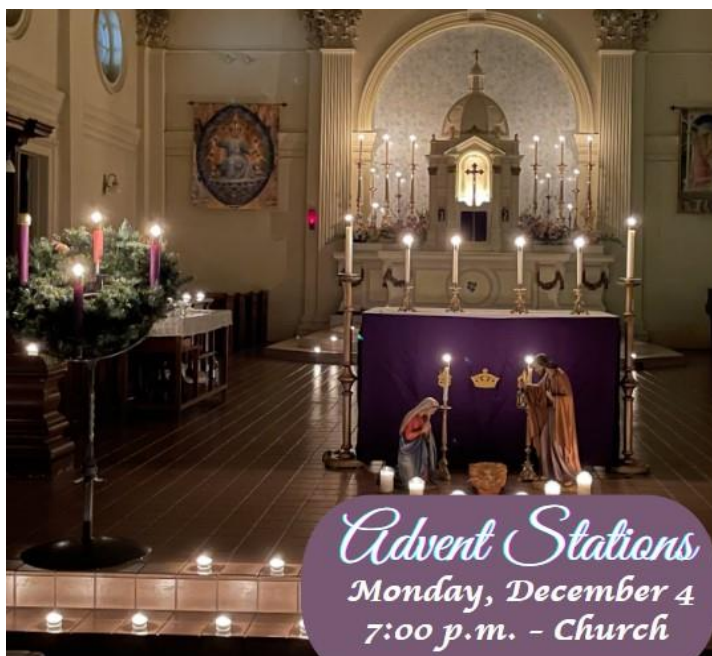
Sunday, December 10

After 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Advent Candles

\$10 per set

Available this weekend! If you were unable to pick them up, please stop by the office Tuesday—Friday. This is a Youth Ministry Fundraiser.



Advent Stations
Monday, December 4
7:00 p.m. - Church



Children's Christmas Choir
 Sing at the Christmas Eve
 4:00 p.m. Mass
Rehearsals
 Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
 December 6, 13, & 20
 Ministry Center - Mary Magdalene Room



Benicia Christmas Parade
JOIN US!
Saturday, December 9

- Meet at the **Yacht Club** parking lot, no later than **9:30 a.m.**
- 10:00 a.m. Parade Starts - Come watch!
- SDS students wear sports or school uniform
- Parishioners & RE students wear festive Christmas clothes or hats you may have
- Parade ends at Benicia State Capitol



Cookie Sunday!
December 10
 After 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Masses
 Parish Hall
 Bring cookies to share!
 Coffee & juice provided



Celebration of Virgen de Guadalupe



Come celebrate with La Asociación
 Guadalupana De Benicia
 on December 9th in honor of our
 Lady of Guadalupe

Morning:

Our celebration starts early in the morning
 on Saturday, December 9 at 6:00 a.m. in the
 church for the mañanitas to our Senora De
 Guadalupe. We follow the singing with a
 gathering at the parish hall for Mexican hot
 chocolate
 and Mexican sweet bread. Everyone is
 welcome to attend.



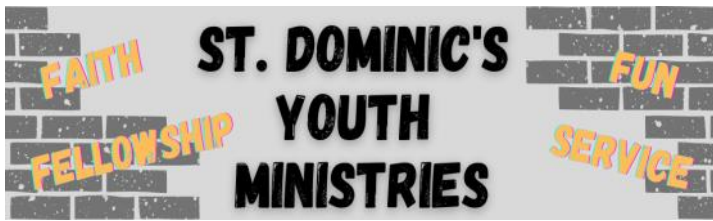
Afternoon:

In the afternoon we gather at the hall for
 the procession around 1:30 p.m. accompanied
 with the Mariachi Band with a Mass in the
 Church at 2:00 p.m. Afterwards we serve a
 meal in the hall, tickets are \$5/per person
 and we have a limited amount of tickets.
 Tickets can be purchased through Patricia
 Chavez Contact:

guadalupana@stdombenicia.org

Mariachi Band will continue to play in the
 hall during our reception. We hope you can
 join us for the this special day!





Youth Ministry

Advent Candle Sales

Saturday, December 2 at 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Service Palooza

Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Make Epiphany Kits, Baby Blankets,
Christmas Cards & Gifts

Service Project

Sunday, December 10 at 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Sort Giving Tree Christmas Gifts with
St. Vincent de Paul

Parent/Teen Service Project

Saturday, December 16 at 9:00 a.m.

St. Vincent de Paul - Deliver "Giving Tree"
Christmas Gifts to Community Members

**For more information or to sign up for any
youth ministry opportunity, please contact
Lisa at ltoomey@stdombenicia.org.**

Confirmation

YR I Confirmation

Monday, December 4 at 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Teen Gathering

Monday, December 11 at 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Parent/Teen Movie Night

YR II Confirmation

Sunday, December 3 at 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Large Group Project

Sunday, December 10 at 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Parent/Teen Movie Night



**Merry Christmas to all our
Confirmation families and
parishioners!**

Help St. Vincent de Paul during the Holiday Season!

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 10th**. All parishioners are welcome to help with delivery of gifts and food vouchers from 9:00 a.m.-12 noon on Saturday December 16th in the Parish Hall.

Want more information?

St. Vincent de Paul ministry meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Please join us and get involved this holiday season! To learn more about these events, our ministry, or to get involved contact svdp@gmail.com or svdp@stdombenicia.org.

Please help us stock our pantry. We are in need of mayo, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, canned vegetables, canned fruit, soups, beef stew, cereal, pancake mix, syrup, fruit cups, etc.

If you know anyone who could use St. Vincent de Paul's help, please have them call **707-746-1773**.



Advent

Advent Stations

December 4 - Church

7:00 p.m.

Advent Reconciliation

Tuesdays 6:30 p.m.

Wednesdays 9:00 a.m.

Saturdays 3:30 p.m.

Reconciliation with Visiting Priests:

Monday, December 18th

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



at St. Dominic's

475 East I Street, Benicia



The Lander Family

Emily, Keith, Keira, Katie, and Everett

Will light the Advent candle for the first week of
Advent at the Saturday 5:00 p.m. Mass.

Our family enjoys being together and celebrating Christmas with friends and family. Advent is a time for us to eat together at dinner while the advent candle burns talking about our day and praying. We slow down and enjoy each other remembering what Christmas truly means...Jesus.

Christmas

Christmas Eve (Vigil) Masses

Sunday, December 24, 2023

4:00 & 7:00 p.m.

9:00 p.m. - Vietnamese Mass

Midnight Mass

12:00 a.m.

Christmas Day Masses

Monday, December 25, 2023

8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

12:00 p.m. Spanish/English

New Year's Eve (Vigil) Mass

Sunday, December 31, 2023

11:00 p.m. - Followed by Reception in Hall

New Year's Day Mass

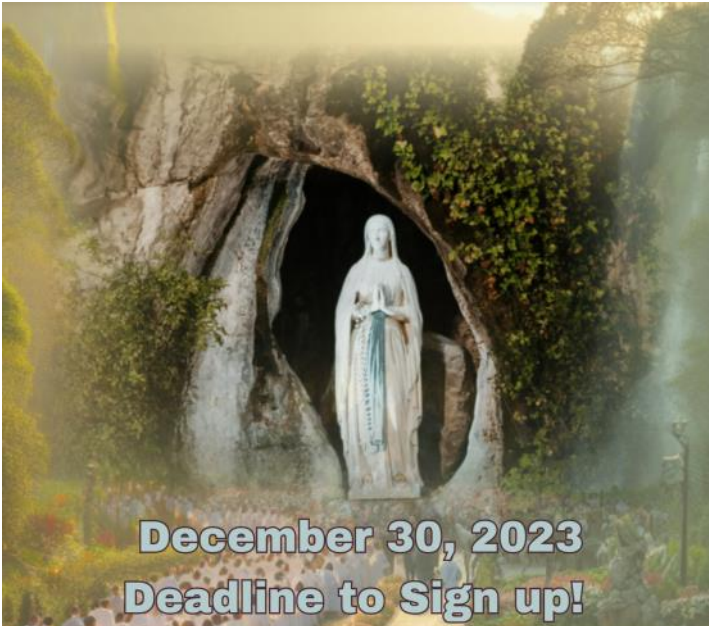
Monday, January 1, 2024

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

8:15 a.m.

at St. Dominic's

475 East I Street, Benicia



December 30, 2023
Deadline to Sign up!

Marian Shrine Pilgrimage

Fr Isaiah Mary Molano, OP.
Fr Gregory Liu, OP.

May 8th - May 20th '2024

PORTUGAL - SPAIN - FRANCE

LISBON - FATIMA - SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA - AVILA
- ZARAGOZA - BARCELONA - LOURDES - PARIS



MUSIC NOTES : December 3, 2023

Music notes for 7:30 and 11:00 a.m. Masses

Organ prelude:

Prelude op.18 by Cesar Franck

Cesar Franck (1822 - 1890) was one of the greatest composers of organ music. For a long time, he was the organist at Basilica St. Clotilde in Paris, and professor of organ and composition at Paris Conservatoire. Prelude Op.18 is one of his most popular and often played compositions. It is a perfect fit for the 1st Sunday in Advent with its quiet and contemplative mood.

Organ Postlude:

Toccata in G minor by Johann Pachelbel

Johann Pachelbel (1653 – 1706) was a German composer, organist, and teacher who brought the south German organ schools to their peak. He composed a large body of sacred and secular music, and his contributions to the development of the chorale prelude and fugue (variations on chant melodies) have earned him a place among the most important composers of the middle Baroque era.

11:00 a.m. only:

Choral Communion meditation:

"For the Bread which You Have Broken" by Schubert/Hopson

Here Hal Hopson combines Schubert's melody and harmonies with beloved hymn text by American preacher and hymnodist Louis Benson. The text is focused on Communion as a representation of God's love for us.

Legacy & IRA Giving

You can remember St. Dominic's, Benicia in your estate plans through your will, retirement plan or other assets. Legacy gifts are used for capital projects that may otherwise not be possible and are never used for day to day expenses. You can even designate your gift to a specific fund (i.e. building fund).

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 or 707-335-4672**

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday: 7:30 a.m. - Livestreamed
 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
 1:00 p.m. (Spanish/English)
 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

Euly Legro - adoration@stdombenicia.org

♦ Choirs

Dr. Cyril Deaconoff - cdeaconoff@stdombenicia.org

♦ Consolation/Grief

Patti Erickson - grief@stdombenicia.org

♦ Dominican Laity

Dirk Fulton - domlaity@stdombenicia.org

♦ Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Mike & Sara Monahan - emhc@stdombenicia.org

♦ Gabriel Project

Sandy Scafani & Maria Padrones - gabriel@stdombenicia.org

♦ GIFT - Growing In Faith Together

Shannon Carter - gift@stdombenicia.org

♦ Guadalupana Association

Patricia Chavez - guadalupana@stdombenicia.org

♦ Hospitality

Kristina Ruiz - hospitality@stdombenicia.org

♦ Knights of Columbus

Dan Swienton - beniciaknights@gmail.com

♦ Mothers Ministry

Jamaila Pasternack - mothers@stdombenicia.org

♦ Lectors Ministry

Amar Lagrimas - lectors@stdombenicia.org

♦ Lazarus Ministry

Ann Espinosa - lazarus@stdombenicia.org

♦ Parish Pastoral Council

Kaitlin Demers - ppc@stdombenicia.org

♦ RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Fr. Gregory Liu, O.P. - gliu@stdombenicia.org

♦ St. Dominic School

Penny Ogden - pogden@sdschoolbenicia.org

♦ St. Vincent de Paul

Tom Carroll - svdp@stdombenicia.org

♦ St. Dominic's Cemetery

Lisa Sarnicola - lsarnicola@opwest.org

Our ministries are back to their regular monthly meetings on campus. Please email and find out more about them and how you can join! They 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

Parish Staff

Fr. Andy Opsahl, O.P.

frandy@stdombenicia.org

Fr. Gregory Liu, O.P.

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Errol Kissinger

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Mike Scafani

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Teresa Stone

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Debi Thurin

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Justin Reyes

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Scott Schilz

sschilz@stdombenicia.org

Fr. David Farrugia, O.P.

Fr. Vincent Serpa, O.P.

Pastor

Parochial Vicar

Deacon & Dir Rel Ed

Deacon

Deacon

Resident Brother

Business Manager

Music Director

Communications

Teen Ministry

Children's Sacraments

**Wedding Coordinator
& Office Assistant
Maintenance**

In Residence / Retired

In Residence / Retired

St. Dominic School

935 East 5th Street, Benicia

www.sdschoolbenicia.org 707.745.1266

Penelope Ogden (K-8th grade) **Principal**

pogden@sdschoolbenicia.org

Tanya Sanchez (Pre-K/TK)

Preschool Director

tsanchez@sdschoolbenicia.org

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT 7/1/2023-9/30/2023

| | YTD Actual | YTD Budget | + / - Budget |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Sunday Offertory | \$ 213,529 | \$ 243,750 | \$ (30,221) |
| Second Collections: | | | |
| Building Improvement | \$ 11,504 | \$ 12,500 | \$ (996) |
| Faith Formation | \$ 2,824 | \$ 2,750 | \$ 74 |
| SDS Tuition Assistance | \$ 3,761 | | |
| St. Vincent de Paul | \$ 20,705 | | |
| Total Operating Income | \$ 230,351 | \$ 944,850 | \$ (94,824) |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 367,842 | \$ 954,896 | \$ 27,296 |
| Net Income/Loss | \$ (137,491) | \$ (15,371) | \$ (122,120) |

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

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| A & S Chem Dry, Anthony & Shelly Trevino <i>Serving St. Dominic's Parish for over 25 years!</i> (707) 748-7726 | Kindred Spirits Pet/House Sitting Dorothy Doscher (707) 334-3776 | Reyes Electric Co. & Design LIC#32877 Residential/ Commercial (707) 747-6818 |
| Accident Attorney Mark Basil Pappas, Esq. (707) 567-8206 mbpappaslaw@comcast.net | Law Offices of Barnum & Avila Employment Law (707) 745-3747, www.rmblaw.com | George Schandelmier Landscaping georgeschandelmierjrlandscaping.com (707) 554-2722 |
| All Souls Cemetery & Funeral Center FD2286 Funeral, Mortuary, Cremation & Burial. 707-644-5209 cfcSacramento.org | Law Offices of Thomas R. Healy Wills/Trusts/Estate Planning/General Practice (707) 553-7360 | Shutters and More Bill Simpson, Parishioner (707) 746-8187 |
| Amso Healthy Chiropractic 310 Military West (707) 752-2990 | Minuteman Press Copy, Print, Posters & Banners (707) 647- 1000, 812 Tennessee St,Vallejo | St. Dominic's Cemetery Lisa Sarnicola, Sales Manager (707) 751-0527 |
| ATS Tax & Financial Solutions Tax Angels to your rescue! Returns/ QB (707) 745-1040 | Mr. Lawn Landscape Service Landscaping, Maintenance & Installation (707) 747-5273 | Teresa Stone - Notary Services tstone@stdombenicia.org (707) 330-0773 |
| Crane Station, Inc. Rex Sevilla—Crane and Electrical Services (800) 891-3888 | Napoli Pizza and Pasta Chris & Lisa Guerrero- Owners (707) 746-8906, www.napolibenicia.com | Tuolumne Street Auto Repair John McLaughlin, Parishioner (707) 648-3434 |
| David Galligan, Broker Twin Oaks Real Estate 231 First Street 707-319-5397 Text/Call DRE#00847290 | Olson Realty, Inc. Kathleen McInerney Olson/Broker (707) 745-3602 | Up2Code Plumbing Owner Mike Pitta - 24 hour service (707) 751-1714 |
| Hamann Real Estate, 513 First Street Tim and Jeannie Hamann/Broker-Owners (707) 246-6567 DRE01348061 | Omatochi Care for Seniors Hourly, 24-Hr, Live-in, Respite, & Memory Care (925) 905-1662, www.omatochi.com | Warring & Assoc. Realtors Bill/Diane Brokers/Owners, 829 First St. (707) 746-6990 |
| Richard Joyce, O.D. Optometrist Exams, Glasses, Contacts (707) 745-6266, 874 Southampton Rd. | Passalacqua Funeral Chapel John Passalacqua/Greg Silva, Directors (707) 745-3130 | Tim Wright - Carpentry Work 30 years Exp - References Available (707) 319-5357 |
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| SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER | Dec 03: Building Improvement Dec 08: Immaculate Conception Dec 10: Retired Religious Fund | Dec 10: SDS Tuition Assistance Dec 17: Building Improvement |

Parish Office Hours Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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