Our Divine Savior Catholic Church

566 East Lassen Avenue, Chico, CA 95973
530-343-4248 / Fax 530-343-3538

Rev. R. Francis Stevenson, Parochial Administrator
Mr. James Burkett, Deacon

Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm, Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am, Morning Mass: 8:00 am (Monday-Friday)
Confessions: Saturdays 3:30-4:30 pm

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2015

O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven and see;
take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted.
— Psalm 80:15–16

Mission Statement
Our Divine Savior Parish, a Roman Catholic community, nourished by God’s grace and the sacraments, embraces the mission of Jesus Christ. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we live the gospel through our worship of God and through loving service to one another and to the greater community.
PARISH PERSONNEL

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Jennifer Forward, 345-6201

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Cecelia Dickman, 802-1608
odsmusicdirector@gmail.com

PLANT MANAGER/ SOCIAL HALL MANAGER
Rich Ripp, 518-3811

YOUTH MINISTRY
Rob Sheridan, 680-4294
odsyouthministry@yahoo.com
Facebook.com/odsyouthministry

SECRETARY
Bunny Ripp, 343-4248
ourdivines@yahoo.com

CUSTODIAN SERVICES
Scott & Judy Keller, 898-8512

NURSERY CARE
Juliet Polk, 893-8092
Rienna Boe, 342-4919
Amanda Ball

Website:
www.ourdivinesavior.org

Parish Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

PARISH INFORMATION

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS
Christopher Guidry, 530-433-0418
odsrcia@yahoo.com

BAPTISM PREPARATION
Deacon James Burkett, 893-2348

SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY
By appointment, 6 months in advance. Call the Parish Office

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Sundays from 10:05am - 10:50am in the Parish Hall

CHILDREN'S LITURGY
During the 11:00am Mass - Matt & Pamela Meuter, 566-0425

PARISH MINISTRIES / ORGANIZATIONS

ALTAR SERVERS
Kay & Dave Brandt, 343-8331

BEREAVEMENT / FUNERAL RECEPTION COMMITTEE
Tamara La Rossa, 809-1782

BULLETIN
ourdivines@yahoo.com, 343-4248
Deadline: Monday, 3:00 pm
Bulletin Advertising: Please call the Parish Office, 343-4248

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS
Greta Souza, 899-9938

CATHOLIC LADIES RELIEF SOCIETY
Susan Sturble, 345-4642

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME
Deacon James Burkett, 893-2348

CHOIR
Choir rehearsal held weekly on Wednesday, 7:00-8PM in church. Contact Cecelia Dickman, 802-1608,
odsmusicdirector@gmail.com

CONSOLATION MINISTRY
Lyn Dorenzo, 891-8026

FLOWER DONATIONS
Pat Mulholland, 891-8342
Norina Egan, 342-2027

INNER HEALING MINISTRY
Derette Layne, 530-588-4386 for a confidential appointment.

JESUS CENTER
Randy Linquist, 894-0460

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #13765
Jim Callas, 894-2142

LEGION OF MARY
Claire Richard, 893-1722

LITURGY COMMITTEE
Joanie Frericks, 343-4283

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER and VOCATIONS COMMITTEE
Deacon James & Stephanie Burkett, 893-2348

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Friday mornings, 6-7AM in the Knights of Columbus Room at ODS Parish. Contact Deacon Steve Schwartz, 891-0626.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND
Maureen Vogel—Please call Parish Office, 343-4248.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL
Dave Abbott, 891-1491

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Jim Earney, 918-520-1161

PRO-LIFE CATHOLIC MINISTRY
We meet the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Thursday of the month in the ODS Prayer Room, 6-8:30 PM.
Mary Waldorf, 345-8638

PRO-LIFE ROSARY GROUP
This group meets the 1st Thursday of the month in the ODS Prayer Room, 6-7 PM.
Diane Lusk, 519-9749.

SMALL CHURCH COMMUNITIES
If interested in joining one of the Small Church Communities, contact Carol Weigel, 343-3885

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
Barbara O'Brien, 680-7917

TORRES SHELTER
Rich Nichols, 520-4418

WELCOMING MINISTRY
Charlie McCarthy, 520-0334

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Tuesday mornings 9-11AM in the ODS Prayer Room. Everyone is welcome.
Contact Terry Matthews, 893-1644
**Weekly Readings**

**Monday:**  
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45  

**Tuesday:**  
1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56  

**Wednesday:**  
Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66  

**Thursday:**  
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5; Lk 1:67-79  

**Friday:**  
Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]  
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1-6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]  

**Saturday:**  
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22  

**Sunday:**  
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or PS 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

**A NEW ORDER**

“O, Little Town of Bethlehem.” A Philadelphia clergyman named Phillips Brooks penned these popular words back in the mid-1800s, but the prophet Micah could have used them first. Micah knew that from small packages great treasures come. In today’s first reading, he knew that from tiny Bethlehem would come the Lord.

The writer in Hebrews explains that Christ came to us to do the will of God by establishing a new order and by becoming our perfect sacrifice. And Luke tells us that Elizabeth and John, the infant in her womb, understand that great and wondrous things are at hand with the coming of the Lord.

This is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Soon we celebrate anew the fruit of Mary’s womb. As we are told in Hebrews, Jesus’ new order is being established even today. And as Micah proclaims, his greatness is reaching even now to the ends of the earth.
**Parish Finances**

**Collection for**

**December 12—13**

Sunday Collection    $ 6,497.25  
Holy Day-Feast of the Immaculate Conception  820.27  
Retirement Fund for the Religious                     3,366.85  
Projects/Initiatives       4178.80  
Torres Shelter 45.00  
St Vincent de Paul 105.00  
St. Francis/St.Clar 320.00

**Thank you for your generous support. Your ongoing donations are essential in helping us meet the many needs of the parish and community.**

**Parish News**

**DONUTS:** The Knights will be serving donuts outside the church after Mass on Sunday morning.

**RAFFLE FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:** After all Masses December 20th, St. V. de Paul will be selling tickets to raffle off two gift baskets from the Monastery of New Clairvaux. The cost of each ticket is $5.00. The drawing will be held after the 11:00 Mass on the 20th. You need not be present to win. Each basket contains the following: a bottle of red table wine, a bottle of Trebbiano 2014 white, a box of Trappistine dark chocolate almond squares, two etched wine glasses, a set of winery slate coasters, and two wine tasting passes. Don't miss out on this opportunity to win a lovely gift basket and, at the same time, help St. Vincent de Paul help those in need in our community. Thank you for your continued support!

**ALTAR SERVER COORDINATOR:** We are presently looking for an Altar Server Coordinator to assist with scheduling and training our altar servers. This is a very rewarding ministry and our altar servers are very appreciative of the guidance given. Please speak to Father Francis or call the parish office at 343-4248 for more information.

**NOTRE DAME SCHOOL** is excited to announce that Steve Angrisano will be coming in January! "Steve Angrisano is undoubtedly one of the most effective and versatile ministry leaders in the Church today. Those who are young (and young at heart) embrace the passionate message of faith, hope and love woven throughout his music and storytelling. Always rooted in a spirit of humility and faithfulness, Steve has a keen intuition regarding the needs of any audience and engages them with his unique blend of humor, song, story and interaction." Please join us for what is sure to be a great night!  
**When:** January 5th, 2016, 6:30pm - 8:00pm  
**Where:** Notre Dame School, 435 Hazel Street, Chico, CA 95928  
**Cost:** Free (Donations will be accepted)  
(No child care provided)

**NOTRE DAME SCHOOL** is beginning the "Parish Phase" of its Annual Fund. Having completed the "Parent Phase" with 100% participation from Notre Dame School parents, we are now looking for your support of our school community. You will receive a letter from the Notre Dame Annual Fund. Our school is in need of your prayers, and if called, a financial contribution. As always, your continued support of our school is greatly appreciated!

**WOMEN’S RETREAT:** So what is a retreat? Well, it is about time with God… Time to take a break, to be away from life’s worries and anxieties. Time to pray, reflect or just be present to the voice of the Lord. It is a time for conversion, and returning to God. There are conferences given by the Presenting Team. Our retreat is scheduled for Feb. 5-7, 2016, to register you can go online at www.christthekingretreatcenter.org or call Stephanie Burkett 893-2348 or Terry Matthews 893-1644

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS:** Court St. Marie Goretti No. 1553 Catholic Daughters of the Americas  
**65th Anniversary Luncheon**  
All active and inactive members are invited to attend.  
**When:** Thursday, Jan. 21 at 11am  
**Where:** Canyon Oaks Country Club at 999 Yosemite Dr.  
**Price:** $17.00 per person....tax, and gratuity included  
**R.S.V.P. with payment by Friday, Jan. 8, 2016**  
To Sylvia Dabner, Financial Secretary, 895-0292  
2950 Springfield Dr. #223  
Chico, CA. 95928  
More information? Mary Jo Johnston--345-1252

**DISCERNMENT DAY:** Have you ever wondered what life is like as a nun? Are you drawn to a life of prayer for the world, for our Mother Church and for souls? The Dominican Nuns of Corpus Christi Monastery located at 215 Oak Grove Avenue in Menlo Park, CA will host a Discernment Day for single Catholic women
ages 18-40 on January 16th. RSVP by January 11th or for more information contact Sister Joseph Marie O.P. at vocations@nunsmenlo.org or visit our website at: http://nunsmenlo.org/discernment-days/. The day begins with Mass at 8:00 a.m. followed by Divine Office, Adoration, Rosary, Conferences, Vocation stories, and more given by our Dominican nuns and friars.

ADORATION: You are cordially invited to visit The Holy Family Adoration Chapel. It is located across the street from St. John the Baptist church. Adoration can be quality quiet time spent with our Lord for an individual and also for families. There are books for meditation or spiritual reading, and rosaries for praying. There are also children's books, coloring paper and small chairs for the youngsters. Anyone may visit at any time, and visits can be shorter or longer than an hour. However, each hour that the chapel is open (12 am Monday - midnight on Friday) needs to be covered preferably by 2 people. God will not be outdone in generosity. You will find yourself and those you care about filled with greater joy, strength and peace. So come away awhile and be blessed. If you have never been and would like to check it out please call and I will be more than happy to show you. We have many hours that need to be filled and need substitutes as well. Call Denise Marine at 520-4176.

WALK FOR LIFE: You can make a difference! Stand up for the dignity of all life. Mark your calendars the annual Walk For Life West Coast is January 23, 2016. We will have 2 buses leaving from St. John the Baptist at 5:45AM traveling to San Francisco for this all day event. Please realize that this is a long day and each person should be able to walk approximately 3 miles. All ages are welcome, there is room for strollers and wheelchairs on the bus and we love having entire families join us! Cost will be $35 per person. There are family discounts and scholarships available. If you would like to provide for a scholarship please make a note in the memo area of the check. Please call Denise Marine 520-4176 with any questions.

BULLETIN: Please submit articles to the office by 9am on Dec. 23rd for the Dec. 26th bulletin and Dec. 28th for the Jan. 2/3 bulletin.

THANK YOU to our many parishioners who helped decorate our church this Christmas season. Our outside crèche was assembled by very talented men and the Christmas tree was decorated beautifully by one of the Bible groups. Many hands helped in making our church look so welcoming during this special season of Christmas. Thank you to all these special people!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE:
December 24th, Thursday
Children’s Mass
4pm (in the social hall)
Christmas Vigil Mass
7pm (in the church)
Midnight Mass
*****11:30 (in the church)*****
Choir starts at 11:00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY:
December 25th, Friday
Christmas Day Mass
8am (in the church)
10am (in the church)

Prayer Requests
Please keep in your prayers:

Sandra Hughes    Connor McCampbell    Alex Quiroz
Claire Johnston   Janet Grens        Gloria Trent
Marie Vieira      Lynn Utecht       Patricia M. Garrity
Jamesie Sullivan  Paul Hackett      Rosa Hart & Family
Steven Riley      Mary Beth Dion     Mary Turner
Pam Kruger        Gayle Hoaney       Gary M. Benedetti
Dr. James Hine    Margaret Foulks    John Lusk
Joe Richard       Lorenzo Diamond

Please note: In order to keep our prayer list current, names will remain on the list for 4 weeks. Please resubmit after that time by contacting the Parish Office, 343-4248.
Religious Education Classes

Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. Catholic Catechism (2223)

Our Divine Savior’s Religious Education programs are designed to support parents as the primary educators of the faith. We offer Religious Education classes for kindergarten through 6th grade on Sunday mornings from 10:05-10:50. If a weeknight is best for your family’s schedule, we now offer Religious Education classes for 2nd-6th grade on Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:00.

Call the Religious Education office at 345-6201 for information and to register. Additional information about schedules, and forms to register students, can also be found on our website at Our Divine Savior Catholic Church in Chico, CA.

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry meets in the Youth Room (Social Hall) on Sundays at 12:15pm.

We will be on Christmas break Dec. 27th & Jan. 3rd.

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or on the web for current information!

ODS WEBSITE

Do you have photos of Baptisms, weddings, or other events that you or your family have participated in at ODS? Would you consider sharing them with us to put on our website? We are updating the website with a new modern look and we need your photos help draw others to our parish. Please consider taking part in this work of the new evangelization and email photos you would like to share to our youth director Robert Sheridan odsyouthministry@yahoo.com

ATTENTION MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS: Would you like to see your ministry or organization featured on our website? Please email a SHORT paragraph about your group along with any contact information and photos you would like to share. Please email our youth director Robert Sheridan odsyouthministry@yahoo.com

Diocesan News

FIND AND SHARE YOUR CATHOLIC EVENTS ON SACCATHOLIC.COM: SacCatholic.com is the place to go to find and share Catholic events from all over the Diocese of Sacramento. Got a bible study? Post and share on SacCatholic.com. Looking for a great talk on the Theology of the Body? Find it at SacCatholic.com. Found a great event on SacCatholic.com and you want to tell others? Share it on social media with your friends and family. SacCatholic is free to use and will definitely boost your event awareness! We also invite you to follow us by “Liking” our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DioceseSacramento and follow us on Twitter@SacCatholic. If you have any questions, please send an email to aignacio@scd.org or call 916-733-0154.

TRINITY PINES CATHOLIC CENTER: The Diocese of Sacramento invites you to book your next retreat or meeting at Trinity Pines Catholic Center, a place to pray, a place to play, and a place to find his way. Just right off Interstate 80, Trinity Pines Catholic Center offers a beautiful blend of tranquility and comfort that will surely provide the best experience for your group. In addition, if you plan on hosting a one-day retreat or meeting during the week (Monday through Friday), free snacks, bottled water, and lemonade or coffee will be provided. Book your reservation today at www.trinitypinescatholic.org or call (530) 389-8722.

WORKSHOP ON POST ABORTION SYNDROME: On January 30, 2016 Dr. Theresa Burke, internationally known founder of Rachel’s Ministries, will give an 8:00am—5:00pm workshop on Post Abortion Syndrome at St. Theresa of Avila Church in Auburn, CA. $40 cost includes breakfast and lunch. For more information go to http://scddec.org/post-abortion-care or contact Dr. Monica Durant at 925-262-3294, ruidurant@aol.com
ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

Jeanette Kong-Sibal, in memory of Lolita Valenzuela
Pat Decker, in memory of John Decker
June Allison Scannell, in memory of Patrick Scannell
Irene Linse & Family, in memory of Jerry Linse
Kaywood Fuqua, in memory of Morey Fuqua
Dick & Laura Hughes, in memory of Gail Hughes
Rich & Bunny Ripp, in memory of the Ries/Ripp Families

Walk the talk
It is easy to think Christmas, and it is easy to believe Christmas, but it is hard to act Christmas.

Community Reconciliation Services
Dec. 21 St. Mary Mission Hamilton City 7pm

Family Room

We Wait in Joyful Hope

Each Mass the Our Father, the prayer of Jesus, ends with the words of the priest, "graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress as we await the blessed hope and the coming of your Savior, Jesus Christ." The old form used the words "free from all anxiety." Does this describe me?

Advent is intended to be a time of creating space in our hearts. How spacious are we feeling? Do we, instead, feel overflowing, over-stuffed, and overwhelmed? Are we full of anxiety? It's not too late to make space (and time) for Jesus.

So often we meet others and share how busy we are, how much is going on in our lives, how many demands we face. We forget that most of these "should's" that fill our calendars and minds reflect decisions we make based on habit, tradition, or guilt. If we strive for emptiness (to make room for Jesus) we can choose to simplify the demands we make on our own time, energy, and money.

What is really important here? The essence of Christmas is realizing that only Jesus can fill the hollow place in our hearts. The carols, gifts, and cookies are nice, but not if they distract us from the quiet we need to welcome Christ into our own hearts.

"Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me."