

Catholic Community at Stanford

P.O. Box 20301, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94309

http://catholic.stanford.edu/main office: 650-725-0080

For emergencies, call 650-723-8222, pager #17736

Sunday Mass December 11, 2011

10:30am Tresidder Oak Room

4:30pm Memorial Church bilingual

10pm Memorial Church

Daily Eucharist

M - W- F 12:20pm Memorial Church T - Th 12:20pm Old Union Sanctuary

Confessions

by appointment only until Winter term begins. Please call 725-0080

Marriage

To arrange a Catholic Wedding, call the wedding coordinator at Memorial Church at 650-723-9531.

Infant Baptisms

Baptism is celebrated once per quarter. For more information, please visit http://catholic.stanford.edu/baptisms/eligibility.html or contact Teresa Pleins tpleins@stanford.edu.

Baptisms for the 2011-2012 academic year: January 29, 2012 May 20, 2012

Catholic Community Staff

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Religious Ramblings

I Am Not

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE AND THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 11, 2011

fr Benjamin Earl preaches on the identity of Christ, and our own identity.

St John's Gospel is very clear about the divine identity of Christ. The prologue to the Gospel, a small part of which we read today, speaks of him as the Word which was in the beginning with God and which is God. Jesus himself repeatedly uses the phrase 'I am', echoing the divine name revealed to Moses in the burning bush.

There seems, though, to be rather more confusion about the identity of St John the Baptist, also introduced in the prologue to the Fourth Gospel. Unlike St Luke's Gospel, there is no infancy narrative here telling us about the origins of the Baptist; and while St Matthew has Jesus say that, in a certain sense, '[John] is Elijah who is to come' (Mt 11:14), the Fourth Gospel is a lot more cautious on this point and others regarding the Baptist's identity.

The Gospel that repeatedly has Christ say 'I am', emphasises with the Baptist 'I am not': 'He was not the light' says the prologue (Jn 1:8); 'I am not the Christ' (Jn 1:20) says John himself, before going on to say he is not Elijah (Jn 1:21) and he is not the Prophet (Jn 1:21). Christ is; the Baptist is not.

A similar dichotomy can be found in the thought of St Catherine of Siena. She relates a question of the eternal Father, 'Do you know, daughter, who you are and who I am? If you know these two things you will have beatitude within your grasp.' And the answer: 'You are she who is not, and I am he who is' (Bl. Raymond of Capua, Life of Catherine of Siena, 92).

What can this mean? St Catherine of Siena indubitably existed; her relics can be venerated in both Siena and Rome. John the Baptist indubitably existed. How can we say 'she is not' or 'he is not'? Both these saints acknowledge that their very existence depends on God; only because God holds them in being do they exist, and the questions 'who am I?' or 'what does my life mean?' cannot be answered except by answering the question 'how do I relate to God?'

The Fourth Gospel answers this question for the Baptist. 'There was a man, sent from God,' we read (Jn 1:6). Then, after a series of 'I am nots', finally there is an 'I am': 'I am the voice of one crying...' (Jn 1:23). John is the one sent by God; he is the voice crying the word of God. He is God's instrument in making known the coming of our salvation.

The first sin of humanity was to stop asking, 'how do I relate to God?' and to wonder instead, 'how can I do without God?' In doing so, we not only lost God, but we also lost ourselves, for divorced from God our lives make no sense. Only in relation to him can we know our true identity. The beginning

of accepting redemption from our sin is found in realising that in fact we cannot do without God, and in accepting that 'I am not' except insofar as I relate to God.

We need always to ask again what that relationship with God, the ground of our being, should be. The answer will inevitably vary. The Christian calling can take many different forms, but we all share some of what characterises the mission of the Baptist. We have all been called; we are all sent into the world to proclaim, to cry in this wilderness, the good news that the relationship God has with his people is one of love, a love he showed by sending his Son. For those who will answer God's call, the promise made to St Catherine is real: beatitude is placed within our grasp.

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fr. Benjamin Earl is Provincial Bursar of the English Dominican Province. He is a member of the Priory of the Holy Spirit, Oxford and teaches Canon Law in the Dominican Studium.



Black and white photo of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe as she appears on the tilma that resides in the Basilica in Mexico City.

GENERAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday Mass Schedule:

Dec. 11, 10:30am and 4:30pm Masses

(4:30 is bilingual in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe)

Dec. 18, 4:30pm Mass

Dec. 24, Midnight Mass (at Midnight) Dec. 25, Christmas Day Mass (NOON)

All Masses are in Memorial Church, except the 10:30am Sunday Masses in Tresidder Union Oak Room.

Religious Education Congress 2012:

The Religious Education Congress, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles is the nation's largest annual gathering of Roman Catholics! The last RECongress, held in March 2011, brought together nearly 40,000 people during the four-day weekend! We would like to take a group from the Catholic Community at Stanford. Check out their website and contact Lourdes Alonso if you are interested or have questions. http://www.recongress.org/

Christmas Choir:

Would you consider singing for our special Christmas choir? We will have a Midnight Christmas Eve Mass and noon Christmas Day Mass with choir, organ, and harp.

Three rehearsals--Dec. 14 (7:30-9:30pm.), Dec. 18 (2:00-3:30pm.), Dec. 21 (7:30-9:30pm.) Contact Teresa for more information, tpleins@stanford.edu.

High School Confirmation:

If your high school-age child would be interested in receiving the sacrament this coming April 29th, please contact Teresa, tpleins@stanford.edu, as soon as possible.

Altar Servers:

We are looking for 4 students to help with the ministry of altar serving for the 4:30 Sunday Mass. You would be scheduled about every 4 weeks and trained for special liturgies such as Holy Week, in addition to the Sunday Masses. Altar servers arrive at 3:45 to help with set up. This is a vital ministry to our liturgies, so if you could help out once a month, we would be grateful. For info, contact Teresa, tpleins@stanford.edu.

Greeting Ministers Needed for 4:30 Mass:

We need 6 more friendly faces to complete our greeting ministry roster at the 4:30 Mass. This is such an important ministry, as we welcome all who pass through our doors on Sunday. It is very rewarding, as you have the opportunity to meet the face of Christ present in his people. You would be scheduled approximately every 3-4 weeks. For info, contact Iris Clark, iris.ccas@live.com.

Adult Confirmation beginning in January!

Preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation for Stanford students, faculty, staff and registered Permanent Community members will begin on Wednesday, January 11, 2012. The process entails 16 90-minutes classes over the course of 20 weeks, from 7:30-9:00pm in the Common Room in the CIRCLE. Confirmation will be celebrated in Sunday April 29, 2012

FIRE:

Thanks to all of you who supported the FIRE group's Catholic Relief Services fundraiser last weekend! You raised \$193 for CRS' Agriculture program. This money will help victims of war and

natural disasters rebuild their economies and grow nutritious food more efficiently. For more information, you can visit http://www.crs.org/agriculture/.

Called & Gifted: Topic 1: Deepen Your Faith.

Coming soon to our parish is an opportunity for each of us to deepen our relationship with Jesus and to discover God's plan for our lives. In the Called & Gifted discernment process you will learn that every lay Christian—each baptized person without exception—has been given a unique and deeply personal call to work with our Lord. Discerning your call will give you a new perspective on your life and will help you to be more fulfilled in your work and in your relationships. Our parish is sponsoring a teaching team from the Catherine of Siena Institute in Colorado Springs to offer the introductory Called & Gifted workshop, which will be on Friday, and Saturday, (Feb 10 (7-9pm) & 11 (9am-4pm). Everyone is invited to participate. To register or find out more, email Father Isaiah Mary frisaiah@stanford.edu

Called & Gifted: Topic 2: Career change and development.

God calls us to excel in every aspect of our lives, including our careers. Work is an essential part of a Christian disciple's life. The spiritual gifts God has given you help you to be effective at your work and to be a more effective witness to your faith in the workplace. If you are dissatisfied with your job, or are recently unemployed, your spiritual gifts are excellent clues for discerning a new direction. On Friday, and Saturday, (date and time TBA), our parish is sponsoring a teaching team from the Catherine of Siena Institute in Colorado Springs who will offer the introductory Called & Gifted workshop, which will help you begin to discern your unique mission in life. Everyone is invited to participate. To register or find out more, email Father Isaiah Mary frisaiah@stanford.edu

Easiest ministry in the history of CCAS:

-Announcements for December 11, 2011

Father Isaiah Mary, the Voice of Catholic Cardinal Reflections (the Podcast of the Catholic Community), is looking for a few able-bodied souls to go the 4:30 Mass, sit in one of the lofts during the Liturgy of the Word, and press two buttons, one before & one after, the preaching of that Sunday. In other words, he's looking for some sound techs. If you are interested in BECOMING FAMOUS, contact Fr. Isaiah Mary. frisaiah@stanford.edu

Volunteer Opportunities

More Volunteers Needed for the Family Giving Tree Christmas Toys for Needy Children Project:

More volunteers are needed for the Family Giving Tree Christmas Toys for Needy Children Project scheduled for Saturday, December 17th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Volunteers will need to dress warm in layers and be at the warehouse no later than 5:45pm so the group can get their nametags printed from the FGT computers and then gather together as a group for our orientation and assignment of tasks. The warehouse is located at:

Milpitas Town Center, 749 E. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, CA 95035 (in the former Mervyn's store located just behind Big 5). To have a volunteer position reserved for you, please contact Peter Barling at peter_barling@hotmail.com.

Volunteers Needed for Christmas Celebration at St. Anthony's Soup Kitchen!

Volunteers needed for the Christmas Celebration at St. Anthony's Soup Kitchen on Saturday, December 24th. Two shifts are available: (1) The Set-up shift from 8:30 until 11:30 and (2) the Serving Line shift from 11:30am until 2:30pm. If you are interested in volunteering for either or both shifts, please contact Michael Bova at mpbova2001@yahoo. com to have a spot reserved for you. We have a limited number of volunteer positions available, so please do not hesitate reserving your spot on the Catholic Community at Stanford volunteer team.

Weekly Readings

Monday, December 12 Zec 2:14-17 Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday, December 13
Zep 3:1-2, 9-13
Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18,
19 and 23
Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 14 Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25 Ps 85:9ab,10,11-12,13-14 Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday, December 15 Is 54:1-10 Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b Lk 7:24-30 Friday, December 16 Is 56:1-3a, 6-8 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 In 5:33-36

Saturday, December 17 Gn 49:2, 8-10 Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 Mt 1:1-17

Sunday, December 18 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

GRADS

Grad Bible Study: *New Group Starting up*

Join fellow grad students as we pray and study scripture. We'll meet on Sundays from 6:30-7:30pm in EV building 128 apt 104 (behind the GCC and a tree). A homemade dinner will also be provided at 6:15pm. For more information email cgiam@stanford.edu.

Women's Faith Sharing/Prayer Group:

A couple of members from our community are hoping to start a women's Faith Sharing group. They are inviting grad students or spouses of grad students to see if there is enough interest to start a regular meeting. If you are interested in being part of this new group and sharing your faith journey with others, please email Lourdes at lalonso@stanford.edu. She will get you in touch with the group leaders.

UNDER GRADS

Fellowship Dinners:

Every Sunday at FloMo. Undergrads join the community for dinner after the 4:30pm Mass. We head over to FloMo around 5:45pm for their Sunday cuisine. They always have ice cream, too. Look for the signs in Cardenal. Email Megan or Margaret for info, (meobrien@stanford.edu or mkoehler@stanford.edu).

Rosary:

Monday to Saturday 10pm to 10:30pm and Sundays 9pm in the Sanctuary, 3rd floor of Old Union.

Rosario en español:

lunes, miércoles, jueves y viernes de 10pm a 10:30pm y los domingos a las 9pm en la sala Z315 de Casa Zapata, Stern Hall. Contactar a Gloria Muñoz: gmunoz@stanford.edu

Lectio Divina:

Our Lectio Divina prayer group is open to undergrads, grads, post grads, faculty, staff and permanent community. Essentially, we are open to ALL. It generally meets on agreed upon Friday mornings from 10 - 11am. For more information please contact Jo Owen (650) 529-1105 or journey2light@gmail.com

Week at a Glance

Sunday, December 11, 2011

- 10:30 am Tresidder Oak Room
- 4:30 pm Memorial Church

no 10pm Mass this Sunday

Monday, December 12 - Friday, December 16

- Office hours (Tues Fri) 10am 4pm
- Confessions by appointment only until Winter term begins. Please call 725-0080

Daily Liturgy:

More Announcements

- M W F 12:20 Memorial Church
- T Th 12:20 Old Union Sanctuary



YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Bible Study:

Tues. Jan. 3rd at 7:30pm., Our Lady of the Rosary, 3233 Cowper St, Palo Alto. We will be starting a new topic, "Genesis to Jesus" (http://tinyurl.com/GenesisToJesus) and plan on meeting on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next lesson "To Kingdom Come" will focus on understanding God's everlasting covenant with David. Please join us even if you have never attended a Bible study before!

Dinner at Slider Bar Cafe:

Tues. Jan. 17th at 7:30pm, 324 University Ave., Palo Alto The Young Adult group meets for its monthly social gathering. Please confirm your attendence on our Facebook Page "Young Adult Circle" or contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.

Young Adult Mass:

Tues. Jan. 31st at 7:30pm, St. Simon Church, 1860 Grant Rd, Los Altos. We will not be having a Young Adult Mass in December.

For more info, see our website, www.YoungAdultCircle.org, check the Facebook Fan Page "Young Adult Circle", or contact us at yacircle@gmail.com.

The Catholic Community at Stanford University

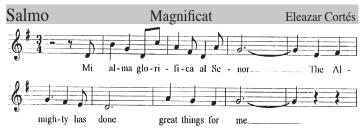
FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE DECEMBER 11, 2011





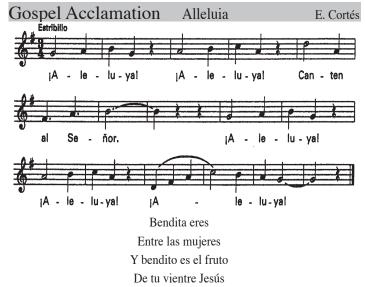
First Reading Revelation 11:19, 12:1-6, 10

A great sign appeared: A woman clothed with the sun and her newborn child. Great danger faced them, but God took them to a place of safety: "The woman herself fled into the desert where God had prepared for her a special place." A loud voice sounded from heaven, "Salvation and power have come, the reign of our God and the authority of the Anointed."



Segunda Lectura Efesios 1:3-6, 11-12

En Cristo, hemos recibido todas las bendiciones espirituales. Por medio de Cristo Jesus, Dios "determinó desde la eternidad que nosotros fueramos sus hijos."



Gospel Luke 1:39-47

Mary went to Zechariah's house in the hill country to visit Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary, the baby in Elizabeth's womb "leapt." Elizabeth exclaimed: "Blest are you among women and blest is the fruit of your womb." Mary's response was "My being proclaims the Lord's greatness; my spirit rejoices in God my savior."









Vallombrosa Retreat Center

Vallombrosa Center Retreats and Events:

Vallombrosa Center is located at 250 Oak Grove Avenue in Menlo Park. For more information visit www.vallombrosa.org or phone 650-325-5614.

Join us at Vallombrosa Center this Christmas Season for the following:

Today, December 11, 2011: A Gaelic Christmas Concert featuring Mary Mc Laughlin's Cór Ainglí, 2:00pm – 4:00pm Vallombrosa Center is pleased to present A Gaelic Christmas Concert, featuring Mary Mc Laughlin's Cór Ainglí in the Vallombrosa Chapel on Sunday, December 11. Mary Mc Laughlin formed the Cór Ainglí (Irish Gaelic for "Angelic Choir") in 2006 in Santa Cruz, California. An Irish Gaelic speaker and singer, Mary wanted to establish a choir that she could teach to sing her original arrangements of Irish sacred music, particularly Christmas songs, in the Irish language. The concert begins at 2:00pm and is open to the public. The cost is \$25.00/adult, \$20.00/youth (under 16).

December 18, 2011: Christmas Lessons and Carols with the Vallombrosa Choir 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Come celebrate the season with us through music, prayer and reflection as we make our way from Advent towards Christmas. On Sunday, December 18 the Vallombrosa Choir, under the direction of Patrick Feehan will perform a Christmas Lessons and Carols concert. Mr. Feehan is a local composer, teacher, and conductor who has assembled a choir of more than 50 for liturgical celebrations throughout the year. Christmas Lessons and Carols begins at 2:00pm and is open to the public. There is a suggested donation of \$20.00/person.

For more information or to register for an event, please visit www.vallombrosa.org or phone 650-325-5614

GC-Ed

More Announcements—