Pastor’s Corner
My brothers and sisters,

We started out this Advent journey with the invitation to be attentive. Do we see beyond the veneer of things in our fast-paced living? Are we thoughtful stewards of the gifts God has given us which amounts to just about everything that is fundamentally good? When we exercise good stewardship, what is good becomes virtuous.

Over this season, there is so much happening that we need to take stock. Let’s start with the Giving Tree. This weekend, over 3,300 individuals will receive Christmas presents from YOU! When the gifts are delivered, we are handing them a gift that is basic and essential. We are providing coats, shirts and pants. And for the kids, we provide these essentials as well as a little something from Santa. On behalf of the Giving Tree leadership team, I want to thank you for this exercise of stewardship.

We are also collecting unwrapped gifts for the families of those who are detained and held at Santa Rita Jail. All too often, the families feel the pinch of their loved one’s situation. We have an opportunity to ease that pain and provide gifts for the children of inmates. There are bins in the main entrances of both churches. Again, a stewardship opportunity...

Tonight (Sunday), Fr. Kwame and I are hosting an evening on the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession). Together, we will meet after the 6:30 PM Mass. We are going to speak about what Reconciliation is and address many of the misconceptions about it! All too often, we do not embrace this Sacrament. Ultimately, do we understand that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is about freedom to go forward? See you on Sunday night...

Wednesday and Thursday – December 14 and 15 – are opportunities for communal reconciliation

(Continued on page 2)
(confession). This is the celebration that Fr. Kwame and I are discussing on Sunday as preparation. As stewards, this is the opportunity to assess when we are hoarding our gifts or not using them wisely or for the benefit of others. I don’t know about you, but that in itself puts me in the frame of mind to acknowledge my sin, seek forgiveness and correct my ways. Wednesday night is for the youth and their families. Something to consider... I know that so many of us enjoy seeing the youth together as they embody church and so attend that service. As a result, the numbers are huge as are the lines for confession. Please consider going on Thursday if you have an empty nest. There, on Thursday, we can still pray with and for our youth, but it’s first and foremost about us experiencing the Sacrament. Something to consider...

On Friday night, we will be the recipients of fellow parishioners sharing their talents and being good stewards of their God given gifts. Our annual Christmas Concert is on Friday, December 16th at St. Elizabeth Seton Church. I have heard from a number of reliable sources that Ira has been cracking the whip. Also, he heard from so many of you the past two years who said the concert was not long enough!!! So, a song or two have been added. And, from the chatter that comes my way, there might be some singers this year who may surprise many of you. It’s a great night for your kids and for the whole family. Bring a neighbor!!!

As you can see... it’s a busy week at the Catholic Community of Pleasanton. It’s an awesome time! It is a time to be attentive. It is a time to watch and wait. It is a time to assess our stewardship – as individuals and as members of the parish. It is a time to consider how we exercise good use of our time, our gifts and our income. Now is the time for us to consider how we exercise everything God has given us.

We are moving through Advent. Let’s be mindful as we walk into real light and walk with the Lord!!!

We need to be so very grateful. Let’s be virtuous!!!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUN Dec 11</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>The Souls in Purgatory Antone Marty</td>
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<td>For The People</td>
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<td>MON Dec 12</td>
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<td>Ed Hjerpe</td>
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<td>6:00 AM</td>
<td>Mañanitas for Our Lady of Guadalupe</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>High School Youth Group</td>
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<td>TUE Dec 13</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Elliot Junha Raymond Lim (L)</td>
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<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Al-Anon Meeting</td>
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<td>WED Dec 14</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Frank Paul Senio</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Family/Youth Reconciliation Service</td>
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<td>THU Dec 15</td>
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<td>Mary Specht</td>
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<td>Adult Reconciliation Service</td>
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<td>FRI Dec 16</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Virginia Brandt</td>
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<td>Al-Anon Meeting</td>
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<td>AA Meeting</td>
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<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Hispanic Prayer Group</td>
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<td>SAT Dec 17</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>The Jesus O. Umali Family (L)</td>
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<td>Simbang Gabi</td>
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<td>Simbang Gabi Reception</td>
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<td>Al-Anon Meeting</td>
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<td>Private Reconciliation</td>
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<td>SUN Dec 18</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Jane Cook</td>
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<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Breakfast With Santa</td>
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<td>SUN Dec 11</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Alice Krohn</td>
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<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Alberto Natividad</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Jenny Valera (L)</td>
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<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Fr. Daniel E. Danielson (L)</td>
<td>Chapel</td>
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<td>MON Dec 12</td>
<td>12:10 PM</td>
<td>Michael Korsmo</td>
<td>Chapel Room A</td>
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<td>12:45 PM</td>
<td>Eucharistic Adoration</td>
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<td>Adult Confirmation</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Liturgy Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>TUE Dec 13</td>
<td>12:10 PM</td>
<td>Esther De Guzman</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Art &amp; Environment Meeting</td>
<td>Cry Room</td>
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<td>WED Dec 14</td>
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<td>Ernesto Lopez</td>
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<td>12:45 PM</td>
<td>Eucharistic Adoration</td>
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<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Children’s Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>Legion of Mary</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Teen Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>THU Dec 15</td>
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<td>Souls in Purgatory</td>
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<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Simbang Gabi Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Cantor Rehearsal</td>
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<td>FRI Dec 16</td>
<td>12:10 PM</td>
<td>Francis Fernandez (L)</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Christmas Concert</td>
<td>Church JPII Center</td>
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<td>9:00 PM</td>
<td>Christmas Concert Reception</td>
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<td>SAT Dec 17</td>
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<td>Private Reconciliation</td>
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<td>SUN Dec 18</td>
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<td>Albert P. Marenko</td>
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<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>For The People</td>
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<td>Paul Revilla</td>
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<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Eileen Kuhn</td>
<td>Chapel Room A</td>
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Scripture Readings
December 18
Isaiah 7:10-14
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-24

Detention Ministry
The Catholic Detention Ministry is collecting toys for children of the inmates at Santa Rita Jail. The toys are for children ages 0-12 and need to be NEW and UNWRAPPED. Bins are located in the vestibules of both churches and will be picked up on Thursday, December 15 after daily Mass (last day for donations) and brought to the jail. The children will be getting the toys the weekend of December 17 and 18. For more information, please contact Richard Denoix at (925) 367-5833.

Simbang Gabi
December 17, 2016 at 6:00 AM
St. Augustine Church
The Filipino Community of CCOP invites you to celebrate Simbang Gabi or Mass at Dawn as we watch, wait and look forward to the Birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. We’ll have fellowship and breakfast at the Parish Hall after the Mass.

Military Peer Support Group
Veterans share life challenges and opportunities with other veterans the 3rd Wednesday of each month at St Augustine Rectory conference room, 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. For additional information, please contact Dom Pietro at (925) 462-4665 or e-mail pietr11@comcast.net. All ages welcome.

Reconciliation Services
St. Augustine Church
Youth and Family Communal Reconciliation
Wednesday, December 14, 7:30 PM
Adult Communal Reconciliation
Thursday, December 15, 7:30 PM
St. Augustine & St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel
Private Reconciliation
Saturday, December 17
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Christmas Eve
St. Augustine Church
4:00 PM (no incense)
7:00 PM
12:00 Midnight (11:30 PM – Musical Prelude by Adult Choir)
St. Elizabeth Seton Church
4:00 PM (Children’s choir, no incense)
9:00 PM
12:00 Midnight (11:30 PM – Musical Prelude by Teen Choir)

Christmas Day
St. Augustine Church
8:00 AM (no incense)
10:00 AM
12:00 PM
St. Elizabeth Seton Church
9:00 AM (no incense)
11:00 AM

New Year’s Day
Regular Sunday Schedule at both churches.

Vineyard Branches SCC
Vineyard Branches SCC will hold their Christmas party this Sunday, December 11 from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the home of Bill and Fran Hirst. All are welcome. Please bring a “finger food” to share. If you are attending, please RSVP to Fran at (925) 846-3605.
Holiday Gift Card Program
You can once again purchase your gift cards through CCOP and help support our Parish Full Details at www.catholicsofpleasanton.org – click on the Giving tab then Gift Card Program for instructions and order form. You can also order online at www.shopwithscrip.com. Use CCOP’s Enrollment Code: 85C4B18426783.

Drop off your order forms and checks at the parish offices by 8:00 PM Sunday and you can pick up your gift cards by Thursday afternoon at St Elizabeth Seton Parish Office.

If you are a Pizza Angel for the Faith Formation Program, you can purchase your gift card and it will be delivered directly to Nancy Schlachte. If you have questions, please contact Maggie Go-Yu at mtgoyu@comcast.net or (925) 462-2913 or Judy Robichaud at jarobichaud@comcast.net or (925) 519-1936.

Young Adult Ministry
CCOP has a Young Adult Ministry!! College students and young professionals are welcome! Find us on Facebook under CCOP Young Adult Ministry, where all our events are posted in a timely manner. Please contact Susie at staugustine868@gmail.com to join the ministry email for our monthly updates and events.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK
Alfredo Hamam
Fe Oliver
Norma Torrico
Phillip McCallon
Rigo Garcia
Carol Bush
Peggy Carlson
Helen Walker

John McCallister
Genevieve Giordano
Eric Martin
Bronco Hinek
Zea Haman
Gladys Murray
Kymberly McFate

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED
Sherlee Ann Lewis
Susan Abaya
Delfi Lafuente
Stella Anthony
Mary Judy Curdy
Edward G. McDonald
Patricia Santos

Peter Provost
Betty Voelker
Choong Chew Kook
Nitay Caballes
Joy Sison
Mindy Elwell
Marcelle Howard

Christmas Nativity Display
The Nativities will be displayed this Sunday, December 11, following all Mass at St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel.

Women In Gods Spirit
“Everything is Sacred”
Monday, December 12, 7:00 PM
St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel

“Everything Is Sacred” presented by Margaret Riley, Director of Faith Formation at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Livermore. Margaret holds a Master’s degree in Pastoral Ministry, Pastoral Counseling and Specialized Ministries and brings with her a joy-filled presence and warm spirituality. Her pastoral wisdom will be of great value during this Advent season. Please join us and bring a friend!

If you have any questions, contact Kim Martin at (925) 989-6829 or kimellenmartin@gmail.com

Breakfast With Santa
The Knights of Columbus are hosting Breakfast With Santa …
Get into the Christmas Spirit and enjoy a Pancake Breakfast and family fun!

Please help spread joy and the Spirit of the Season by bringing a new unwrapped toy to donate to the Santa Rita Jail Ministry.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK
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Carol Bush
Peggy Carlson
Helen Walker

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Choong Chew Kook
Nitay Caballes
Joy Sison
Mindy Elwell
Marcelle Howard

www.catholicsofpleasanton.org
The Catholic Community of Pleasanton Presents

Christ, the Morning Star

A concert to celebrate the joys of Christmas!

Presented by the CCOP Music Ministry, featuring the Adult Choir, Teen Choir, Children’s Choir, Cantors, and Instrumentalists

Friday, Dec. 16
7:30 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Seton Church
4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton

Free-will offering will help defray concert expenses.
More information: istein@catholicsofpleasanton.org