n the darkness of our lives Jesus is there holding us and giving light. When I hear this Scripture I am always reminded of the Christopher saying: “It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness”. Advent is a time of lighting candles and carrying that light to those we meet. All of us today know people who are in darkness. In the chapel at night I am united with light that holds me to Jesus.

At this Christmas season may the Light of Christ bring peace to your life and love ones. All of us at the Archdiocese of San Francisco Office of Faith Formation sends our gifts of Thanksgiving and Light for you. We are so blessed to minister with you in our ministry of Faith Formation. Our light truly is Jesus.

Advent Resources on Archdiocesan Website

sfarchdiocese.org/advent Advent began on Sunday, December 2. Advent begins a new liturgical year. This initial season of the Church’s calendar of worship is four weeks long. And it is a time of preparation for the incarnation of God in Christ. As Pope
After 45 years at the Chancery and the Office of Faith Formation Delia will be retiring on January 15. She can never be replaced for all she knows and does but especially how kind and willing she is to give of herself. Good secretaries are hard to come by but Delia is excellent.

Her retirement will give her time to be at home with her husband, children and grandchildren. She can enjoy coffee in bed, watching the Warriors Basketball and cooking special meals.

There are no words that can be used to say Thank You and Goodbye. You are the BEST!

We will be looking for someone in the office. More information will be posted and sent to you soon. We do need someone who can speak and translate in Spanish and knows publisher, excel and outlook. If you know of anyone please have them call Sr. Celeste 415-614-5652.

NCCL.Org.
Though the Lord has established the signs of the coming, the time of their fulfillment has not been plainly revealed. These signs have come and gone with a multiplicity of change; more than that, they are still present. the final coming is like the first. Ephrem—Fourth Century

Night is drawing nigh__” How Long the road is. But, for all the time the journey has already taken, how you have needed every second of it in order to learn what the road passes-by. Dag Hammarskjold
Job Openings in SF

**St. Peter Parish, Pacifica**

Part time Confirmation Coordinator with possible growth into Youth Ministry. For more information Contact: Fr. Jerome Foley pastorstpeter@comcast.net

**Saint Matthew Catholic School**

**School Address:** 910 South El Camino Real, San Mateo CA 94402 **Contact Person:** Adrian Peterson, Principal

**Position Title:** 6th, 7th, 8th Religion Teacher

**Position Type:** Instructional, exempt, full-time

**Job Description:** Saint Matthew Catholic School, a Catholic school located in San Mateo is accepting applications for a 6th, 7th, 8th grade departmentalized teaching position for the 2018 – 2019 school year.

Saint Matthew offers two sections of each grade from kindergarten through grade eight. We are looking for a qualified, energetic teacher who sets high expectations for academic excellence and is willing to incorporate the latest educational approaches into the curriculum.

**Requirements/Qualifications:** Qualifications: Candidates must possess an undergraduate 4-year degree

- A California Multiple Subject Teaching Credential (or a reciprocal State Teaching Credential) and/or a Master’s Degree Education in along with 2 years teaching experience is preferred.
- Candidates should be willing to be collaborative, flexible, self-motivated, and interested in growing professionally.

**Application Instructions:**

Please send a cover letter and resume to:

Saint Matthew Catholic School, Attn: Adrian Peterson, Principal 910 South El Camino Real
San Mateo, CA 94402 or email to apeterson@saintmatthewcath.org

**St. Brendan Church,** 29 Rockaway Ave. SF 94127 is looking for a director of faith formation. If interested contact Fr. Roger Gusafson at 415-681-4225 naviga-tor@stbrendanparish.org

**St. Finn Barr,** 415 Edna St., SF 94112 is looking for a coor-dinator of faith formation. This will be about 6 hours per week. If interested contact Fr. Bill Mc Cain 415-333-3627 stfinnbarr@yahoo.com

**St. Mary Star of the Sea,** 180 Harrison Ave/ Sausalito. CA 94965. Coordinator of faith formation for 6-10 hours per week. If interested contact Fr. Michael Quinn 415-332-1765 starofthesea@starofthesea.us

**Spanish Speaking Religious Education Director Our Lady of Loretto Catholic Church and School,** 1806 Novato Blvd. Novato, CA 94947

The Spanish Speaking Religious Education Director facilitates the organization and implementation of the Spanish Speaking Formation program.

OLL Spanish Speaking Religious Education is conducted by a team of volunteer adults, with the Director acting as the team leader. The Spanish Speaking Religious Education Director will:

- Communicate in both English and Spanish, including reading, writing, and speaking both languages with proficiency.
- Use technology including word processing, email and texting to communicate with fellow staff members, volunteers, and students’ families.
- Direct a team of approximately 8 volunteer catechists at Saturday morning classes (currently grades 1-3, with a possible expansion to grades 1-6 for the 2019-2020 school year) including sacramental prep for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion
- Implement and coordinate Sunday Children’s Liturgy portion of noon Mass
- Work with clergy and volunteer catechist to prepare and instruct monthly Baptismal Prep class in Spanish and coordinate with the rectory to ensure all requirements are met for Baptism
- Check in weekly and communicate effectively with clergy, parish staff, and parish religious education staff
- Provide opportunities for Adult Faith Formation and work in community with various Spanish speaking parish groups
- Work in conjunction with religious education staff and parish volunteers to prepare RCIA and RCIC candidates
- The Spanish Speaking Religious Education Director adheres to Religious Education Guidelines of the Archdiocese of San Francisco by:
  - Establishing the calendar and curriculum for the Spanish Speaking Religious Education program
  - Presenting VIRTUS safety program to the children and submitting proof of completion
  - Providing parent meetings and annual retreat for parents of First Communicants
  - Gathering of documents and maintaining parish sacramental registry to record sacraments received at Spanish Speaking First Communion
  - Sitting as a representative on quarterly Liturgy Committee meetings
  - Having at least a Basic Catechist certificate or working towards completion of it.

**Position is part time and offers a maximum of 15 hours per week.** Interested candidates please email resume to erin@ollnovato.org
Registration is Required!

These retreats are offered to youth candidates preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The retreats are led by the Archdiocesan Youth Council, which is composed of confirmed youth from around the Archdiocese. From 10am-5pm, the council will lead the candidates in prayer, community builders, and share their own testimony of faith. Then we will attend the 5pm Mass together. Parents are invited to join us for worship. What a great way to illustrate discipleship through the witness of these amazing youth. To register, please email our Coordinator, Natalie, at Dre@saintanselm.org providing her with your preferred retreat date and the number of candidates you have. Space is limited.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Retreat Dates</th>
<th>Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 2nd 2018</td>
<td>Mission Dolores Church, SF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10am-6pm</td>
<td>St. Dunstan Church, Millbrae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16th 2018</td>
<td>10am-6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13th 2018</td>
<td>St. Veronica Church, SF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10am-6pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*LUNCH & MIDDAY SNACK INCLUDED

* $35/ per candidate and chaperon
Adult Confirmation Preparation  
Spring 2019 – March 29 and 30

Archdiocesan Pastoral Offices  
One Peter Yorke Way, SF 94109

Classes are offered in conjunction with the parish and permission from the parish personnel is required. It is open to persons 18 years or older.

Classes are provided in English and Spanish.

Parish Duties:

- Have initial interview to go over parish program and affirm the sacramental information for parish records. Set up regular contact with the candidate as he/she prepares.

- Have a final interview with the candidate as to readiness and send name to the Office of Worship for Cathedral Confirmation (if attending this one). This will include also preparation of a name tag for the ceremony. Hopefully, persons from the parish will attend as companions to the candidates.

- Upon reception of the sacrament the parish needs to prepare the certificate and enter information in the sacramental registry. Information needs be sent to the church of Baptism.

Presented by the  
Archdiocese of San Francisco  
Office of Faith Formation  
(415) 614-5650  
arbucklec@sfarch.org

Cost for the classes  
$60.00  
Made to the Office of Faith Formation  
(Sent in with the application on next page)

Classes:

Session #1 – March 29 6:00-8:30 PM
Session #2 – March 30 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

The Adult Confirmation at  
St. Mary Cathedral is  
June 9, 2019  
11:00 AM Mass  
Candidates with their sponsors are to arrive at 10:00 AM
Adult Confirmation Registration Form
To be filled out and returned to
Office of Faith Formation
One Peter Yorke Way, San Francisco, CA 94109
Arbucklec@sarch.org
415-614-5650 (Phone and fax)

Please Print
Candidate’s Name _______________________________________

Email _________________________________ Contact Phone ________________________

Address _______________________________________ City ____________________ Zip ____________

Parish Personnel filling out form (Please print)

Name __________________________________________________   Parish _______________________

Email _________________________________ Contact Phone ________________________

Address ___________________________________________ City ______________   Zip _____________

I have read the requirements of the parish to participate with the Office of Faith Formation in preparation of candidates and agree to participation. This person has received Baptism and First Eucharist.

Signature ________________________________________________   Date _______________________

This program is scheduled for March 29 and 30 at the Archdiocese of San Francisco Pastoral Offices,
One Peter Yorke Way, SF 94109

The candidate will be attending classes in _____ English   _____ Spanish

$60.00 for classes and materials is included ______
$60.00 for classes please bill the parish ______
Al contemplar la esencia de la Navidad, nos fijamos en el pesebre y la cuna para la inspiración en medio de tantas realidades duras que nos enfrentamos hoy en día. Algunos de ustedes tal vez no quieran contemplar el rostro de la humanidad sufriente, pero eso es precisamente lo que hace que la Navidad sea tan especial. El sufrimiento nos pone en contacto con nuestra condición humana vulnerable y la conciencia profunda de que Jesús asumió esta naturaleza nuestra para traernos paz y gozo, consuelo y amor. El Papa Francis dice: “En la sencillez del pesebre encontramos y contemplamos la ternura de Dios, manifestada en el Niño Jesús.”

Contemplando este Dios-hecho-carné, nuestros corazones se inspiran por la belleza y la simplicidad de este establo y nos invitan a “mirar, considerar, contemplar, para que pueda imitar,” en las palabras de Santa Clara de Asís. San Francisco fue el corazón y la inspiración de reproducir en vivo el nacimiento de Jesús. El invita al pueblo de Asís a formar parte del primer pesebre navideño que simulaba para que todo el mundo pudiera ser movido por el “Amor que ha amado a todos.”

Les deseo toda la ternura que se nos ha hecho presente esta Navidad. Que su familia y seres queridos les traigan la alegría proclamada por los Ángeles, escuchada por los pastores y buscada por los sabios.

Hermana Graciela Martinez, osf

Retiro para catequistas

8 de Junio, 2019
Haciendo espacio en este momento de Gracia.

Para más información por favor llamar a la Oficina de Formación en la Fe 415-614-5650
Los invitamos a los cursos que empiezan en Enero: Los catequistas y líderes de parroquia pueden recibir su certificación para su ministerio en su parroquia. Estos cursos están bajo las normas de los Obispos de Estados Unidos. Para más información por favor llame a la Oficina De Formación en Fe 1415-614-5650.

Certificación En Catequesis

“Ustedes Son La Casa Que Dios Edifica”
Revelación, Sagrada Escritura, Cristología

Iglesia de Nuestra Señora del Pilar
Horario: 7 p.m. a 8:30p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noviembre 19</th>
<th>Diciembre 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enero 26</td>
<td>Febrero 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marzo 18</td>
<td>Mayo 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Iglesia de San Rafael
Horario: 7 p.m. a 8:30p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>22 de Enero</th>
<th>12 de Febrero</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 de Marzo</td>
<td>7 de Mayo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Iglesia de Mt Carmel, Redwood City
Curso empieza en Enero. Están pendiente las fechas
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>First Sunday of Advent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Deanery 11 PCL Mtg. 5:00 PM</td>
<td>St. Denis</td>
<td>Gathering for all the DREs and Confirmation Coordinators</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 6    | Deanery 1 & 2 DRE meeting 10:00-12:00 | Corpus Christi | Monthly networking of DREs in Deaneries 1 & 2
|      |                                |          | Anelita Reyes (415) 614-5651 reyesa@sfarchdio.org |
| 8    | Holy Day                     |          | All are invited to attend |
| 9    | Second Sunday of Advent      | | |
| 10   | ADSF Pastoral Day of Advent | St. Mary’s Cathedral | |
| 10   | BCF Spanish 7:00—8:30 | Our Lady of Pillar | Certification classes
|      | Foundational Training Session 4 | ADSF | Special training in the practice of ministry for new & nearly new parish catechetical leaders
|      | 1:30-4:00 PM or 6:00-8:30 PM | | Anelita Reyes (415) 614-5651 reyesa@sfarch.org |
| 12   | Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe | | |
| 13   | Deanery 10 PCL Mtg. 10:30-12:30 | St. Gregory, San Mateo | Gathering for all the DREs and Confirmation Coordinators
<p>|      | | | Sr. Celeste Arbuckle, SSS 415-614-5652 <a href="mailto:arbucklec@sfarch.org">arbucklec@sfarch.org</a> |
| 16   | Third Sunday of Advent | Simbang Gabi starts | |
| 23   | Forth Sunday of Advent | | |
| 25   | Nativity of the Lord | | |
| 24—Jan 2 | Christmas break for Chancery | | Offices are closed |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Feast of Mary, Mother of God</td>
<td>Pastoral Offices are closed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Epiphany of the Lord</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Deanery 11 PCL Mtg. 5:00 PM</td>
<td>tba</td>
<td>Gathering for all the DREs and Confirmation Coordinators Info on ACRE Assessment</td>
<td>Sr. Celeste Arbuckle, SSS 415-614-5652 <a href="mailto:arbucklec@sfarch.org">arbucklec@sfarch.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Deanery 10 Parent Mtg. on First Confession 7:00-8:00 PM</td>
<td>St. Bart’s in San Mateo</td>
<td>All First Confession Parents of deanery are invited</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>St. Matthew Parent Mt</td>
<td>St. Mathew</td>
<td>Parents re invited</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Safe Environment Mtg for all PCL</td>
<td>ADSF</td>
<td>All PCLs are urged to come</td>
<td>Sr. Celeste Arbuckle, SSS 415-614-5652 <a href="mailto:arbucklec@sfarch.org">arbucklec@sfarch.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Marin PCL Mtg</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Open to all PCLs and Confirmation Coordinators</td>
<td>Sr. Celeste Arbuckle, SSS 415-614-5652 <a href="mailto:arbucklec@sfarch.org">arbucklec@sfarch.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>St. Dunstan First Communion Parent Mtg. 7:00 PM</td>
<td>St. Dunstan in Millbrae</td>
<td>All First Confession Parents are invited</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Paul J. Kim concert 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Our Lady of Loretto in Novatao</td>
<td>All are invited</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Youth Council Mtg 10:00-12:00</td>
<td>ADSF</td>
<td>Regular monthly mtg.</td>
<td>Natalie Larraga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>West Coast Walk for Life</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Deanery 8 &amp; 9 PCL Mtg 10:00-12:00</td>
<td>Mater Dolorosa</td>
<td>Networking and planning meeting of DREs in Deaneries 8 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Anelita Reyes (415) 614-5651 <a href="mailto:reyesa@sfarch.org">reyesa@sfarch.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Deanery 1 &amp; 2 DRE Mtg. 10:00-12:00</td>
<td>St. Stephen, SF</td>
<td>Networking and planning meeting of DREs in Deaneries 8 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Anelita Reyes (415) 614-5651 <a href="mailto:reyesa@sfarch.org">reyesa@sfarch.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Contact</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Archdiocesan Confirmation Youth Retreat</td>
<td>Mission Dolores, SF</td>
<td>Parishes are asked to sign up their candidates</td>
<td>Natalie Larraga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Chinese New Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Foundational Training #5</td>
<td>ADSF</td>
<td>Special training in the practice of ministry for new &amp; nearly new parish catechetical leaders</td>
<td>Anelita Reyes (415) 614-5651 <a href="mailto:reyesa@sfarch.org">reyesa@sfarch.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Deanery 1 &amp; 2 DRE Mtg.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Monthly networking/planning meeting of DREs in Deaneries 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Anelita Reyes (415) 614-5651 <a href="mailto:reyesa@sfarch.org">reyesa@sfarch.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Deanery 1 &amp; 2 Catechists’ Retreat</td>
<td>St. Cecilia’s Church</td>
<td>Annual retreat of catechists in deaneries 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Anelita Reyes (415) 614-5651 <a href="mailto:reyesa@sfarch.org">reyesa@sfarch.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Archdiocese Youth Council Retreat Team</td>
<td>ADSF</td>
<td>Monthly mtg.</td>
<td>Natalie Larraga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Deanery 10 Parent First Communion Talk</td>
<td>St. Gregory, San Mateo</td>
<td>All parents are urged to attend</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Lent is coming**

**Remember these special dates**

6—Ash Wednesday
10—Rite of Election at St. Mary Cathedral
17—Feast of St. Patrick Patron of the Archdiocese
19—Feast of St. Joseph Patron of the Archdiocese
21-24—LA Religious Education Congress
May 9th at St. Mary Cathedral—Remember to get your awards for catechists in early May.

May 19-23 is the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership. It is in Anaheim this year. A great opportunity to go to a national conference and network with people from all across the country.

June 9 is adult Confirmation at St. Mary Cathedral. Please encourage people in your parish and programs not confirmed to participate.