

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Pastor: Father Larry Morrison
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Office Manager: Susan Marschner
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Saturday: 5pm | Sunday: 8am & 11:30am

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday: 11:30am

Confession: Wednesday at 11am or by appointment

Baptisms and Marriages: Contact the parish during
business hours, M-F, 9am - 3pm or visit our website:

www.ourladyoftahoe.org

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Phone: 775-588-2080

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**Loving Father,
help us remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and worship of the wise men.**

**Close the door of hate
and open the door of love all over the world.
Let kindness come with every gift
and good desires with every greeting.
Deliver us from evil by the blessing
which Christ brings,
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.**

**May the Christmas morning
make us happy to be thy children,
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds
with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven,
for Jesus' sake.**

Amen.



Saint John the Evangelist's Story - It is God who calls, human beings answer. The vocation of John and his brother James is stated very simply in the Gospels, along with that of Peter and his brother Andrew: Jesus called them; they followed. The absoluteness of their response is indicated by the account. James and John "were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him" (Matthew 4:21b-22). For the three former fishermen—Peter, James and John—that faith was to be rewarded by a special friendship with Jesus. They alone were privileged to be present at the Transfiguration, the raising of the daughter of Jairus and the agony in Gethsemane. But John's friendship was even more special. Tradition assigns to him the Fourth Gospel, although most modern Scripture scholars think it unlikely that the apostle and the evangelist are the same person. John's own Gospel refers to him as "the disciple whom Jesus loved" (see John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2), the one who reclined next to Jesus at the Last Supper, and the one to whom Jesus gave the exquisite honor of caring for his mother, as John stood beneath the cross. "Woman, behold your son.... Behold, your mother" (John 19:26b, 27b). Because of the depth of his Gospel, John is usually thought of as the eagle of theology, soaring in high regions that other writers did not enter. But the ever-frank Gospels reveal some very human traits. Jesus gave James and John the nickname, "sons of thunder." While it is difficult to know exactly what this meant, a clue is given in two incidents. In the first, as *Matthew* tells it, their mother asked that they might sit in the places of honor in Jesus' kingdom—one on his right hand, one on his left. When Jesus asked them if they could drink the cup he would drink and be baptized with his baptism of pain, they blithely answered, "We can!" Jesus said that they would indeed share his cup, but that sitting at his right hand was not his to give. It was for those to whom it had been reserved by the Father. The other apostles were indignant at the mistaken ambition of the brothers, and Jesus took the occasion to teach them the true nature of authority: "...Whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave. Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:27-28). On another occasion, the "sons of thunder" asked Jesus if they should not call down fire from heaven upon the inhospitable Samaritans, who would not welcome Jesus because he was on his way to Jerusalem. But Jesus "turned and rebuked them" (see Luke 9:51-55). On the first Easter, Mary Magdalene "ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, 'They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him'" (John 20:2). John recalls, perhaps with a smile, that he and Peter ran side by side, but then "the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first" (John 20:4b). He did not enter but waited for Peter and let him go in first. "Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed" (John 20:8). John was with Peter when the first great miracle after the Resurrection took place—the cure of the man crippled from birth—which led to their spending the night in jail together. The mysterious experience of the Resurrection is perhaps best contained in the words of Acts: "Observing the boldness of Peter and John and perceiving them to be uneducated, ordinary men, they [the questioners] were amazed, and they recognized them as the companions of Jesus" (Acts 4:13). The Apostle John is traditionally considered the author also of three New Testament letters and the Book of Revelation. His Gospel is a very personal account. He sees the glorious and divine Jesus already in the incidents of his mortal life. At the Last Supper, John's Jesus speaks as if he were already in heaven. John's is the Gospel of Jesus' glory. Reflection - It is a long way from being eager to sit on a throne of power or to call down fire from heaven to becoming the man who could write: "The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers" (1 John 3:16). Saint John the Evangelist is the Patron Saint of: Turkey

Christmas Schedule

Saturday, 12/23, 5pm , Advent IV
Sunday, 12/24, (morning) 10am (Advent IV),
THEN...Sunday (evening), Christmas Eve Vigil, 5pm and
late night, 9pm.

Christmas Day, Monday, 12/25 at 10am ONLY
New Year's Day Mass, Monday, 1/1/24 at 11:30am

The new Sunday morning mass begins this Sunday,
December 24 with the new 10am mass and will end
on Palm Sunday, 3/24/24.



The church and office are closed on Monday, 12/25 (Christmas), Tuesday, 12/26 and Friday, December 29th for New Year's Eve, and Monday, January 1 for New Year's Day. There is no weekday mass on December 27th, 28th, and 29th. **May your Christmas be filled with the joy and peace that comes from knowing and loving God. And may the coming year bring you and your loved ones happiness, health, and abundant blessings.**

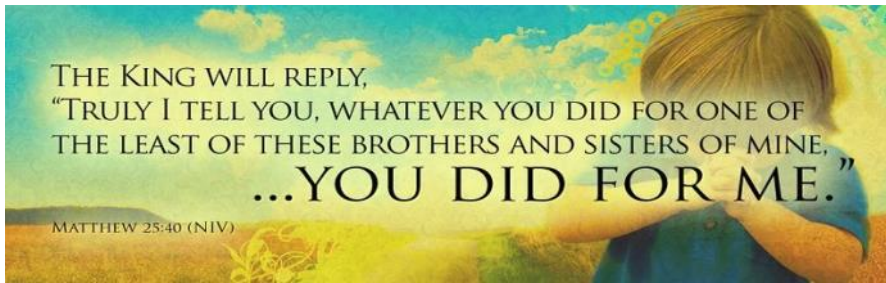


Please consider supporting St. Peter Canisius, a parish in need in our diocese on this weekend through our first annual **One Church** collection. More information can be found on the back tables inside the church. Please pray for this project and we thank you in advance for your thoughtful reflection.



Mass Intentions

			Intentions of OLT Parishioners	Pro Populo
Saturday	23	5pm		
Sunday	24	10am		
Sunday	24	5pm	Family and Children	
Sunday	24	9pm	Intention of the Priest	
Monday	25	10am	Intention of the Priest	
Wednesday	27	11:30am	No Mass	
Thursday	28	11:30am	No Mass	
Friday	29	11:30am	No Mass	



After Mass #3 - Works of Love

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40 NIV

In the Eucharist we receive our identity. But that also bids us to act in the world. And so the Mass urges us to do works of charity. In a concrete way, these are lived out in the "Corporal Works of Mercy" and in the "Spiritual Works of Mercy." In these, we love as Christ loves and do what Christ did. This is to say, having received the Eucharist, we become Eucharist to the world. How are you feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, giving shelter to travelers, visiting the sick, visiting the imprisoned, and burying the dead?

THANK YOU, THANK YOU from Our Lady of Tahoe Outreach Program for all the contributions you have bestowed upon our program this past year. This marks our 31st year of helping our local families in California and Nevada. Because of your generosity, we have been able to increase our number of families to 80, which is over 420 adults and children. Our winter coat drive went exceptionally well with each 125 children receiving a new jacket, and our Christmas "Giving Tree" was able to give each child a \$20 gift certificate at our December food distribution. Through a very generous donor we have been able to increase our food amounts each month and give out a Safeway grocery gift card in December to each family. We sincerely thank you for your generosity AND prayers for the success of our Outreach Program.



The 2024 Calendar will be available after New Year's complimentary of OLT's Women's Guild.

Bible Study: We are continuing our journey through Acts. Our next session will be January 10, 2024 at 10am in the parish hall. All are welcome! Please join us even if you can only attend one session. For more information, please contact Janine Nyre at janinenyre@comcast.net or call 775-339-1961.

Last weekend's collection was 4,107.00. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to everybody for your cheerful giving and steadfast support of Our Lady of Tahoe!

As disciples of Jesus Christ, and in the name of Mary, Our Lady of Tahoe Catholic community welcomes and embraces all those who come to us. With guidance of the Holy Spirit, through worship, the sacraments, and loving service, we provide for one another's spiritual and material needs. In being so nourished, we reach out in faith to serve the larger community.



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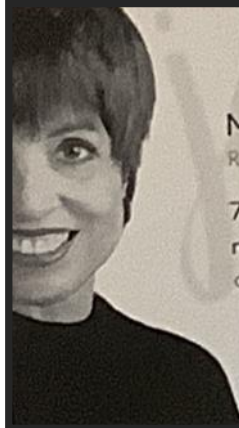
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