

THE GOLDEN COMPASS IS ANTI-RELIGION

The Golden Compass, which is currently showing in Sacramento movie houses, is based on the Phillip Pullman's anti-Catholic trilogy, "His Dark Materials," published in 1995. The movie's attack on the Catholic Church has been toned down quite a bit compared with that found in the books. However, based on the movie, unsuspecting parents may be fooled into buying Pullman's books, not realizing how harmful they are to children. Pullman has brazenly told the Washington Post that he is "trying to undermine the basis of Christian belief" in children.

The good news is that parents have plenty of choices when choosing children's books. If your 11-year-old

has already read the Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis, and is tired of the Harry Potter books, here are some other wholesome titles that are recommended by Catholic magazines:

- "The Chronicles of Prydain" by Lloyd Alexander
- "The Time Quartet" (A Wrinkle in Time, A Wind in the Door, A Swiftly Tilting Planet, Many Waters) by Madeleine L'Engle
- Three books by George MacDonald: "At the Back of the North Wind," "The Princess and the Goblin," and "The Princess and Curdie"
- Three books by J.R.R. Tolkien: "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight," "Pearl," and "Sir Orfeo"

CHRISTMAS BASKETS FOR THE POOR

The Cathedral Parish will donate Christmas Baskets to the poor this year. Donations for these baskets are welcome. This year on Saturday December 22 at 10:00 a.m. we will be handing out Christmas Baskets, clothing, and food in the downtown area. Please use the boxes in the Cathedral vestibule for these donations. We especially need gloves, caps, scarfs, blankets, and coats. We also need turkeys to make sandwiches. Contact Deacon Don DeHaven at the Rectory 444-3071.



CATHEDRAL SQUARE PROGRAM

Make a Donation to the Cathedral Square Homeless Program as a Christmas Gift! The Cathedral Square Homeless program provides shelter, food, and services to the downtown homeless. Please visit the website at www.cathedralsquareprogram.org and make an online donation or purchase an E-gift for the person that already has everything. We will send a personalized message to the gift recipient and let them know you made a donation on their

behalf. If you would rather mail in a donation, please make your checks payable to: **Saint Vincent de Paul, Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 1017 11th Street, Sacramento, California 95814.**

What You Can Do for Christmas

1. **FILL** a Christmas Stocking for Loaves and Fishes. Stockings should be 14-16 inches long and 5-8 inches wide. Fill with the following: McDonald's gift certificate (\$5.00), one pair new socks, one pair gloves, disposable razors, shoelaces, chapstick, toothbrush and toothpaste, deck of cards, travel size toiletry items. Deliver to Loaves and Fishes warehouse at 1321 C Street before December 24.
2. **ATTEND** daily Mass at the Cathedral either at 12:10pm or 5:10 pm.
3. **GIVE** a gift to Francis House. \$20 provides a grooming supply for a family on the streets; \$40 gives the means to a job via a Life Works Program; \$100 gives ID cards (CA ID or birth certificates) to 10 homeless people; \$150 gives 15 gasoline vouchers or 100 bus tokens.

END OF CALENDAR YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

Many individuals will make charitable contributions late in the calendar year to take advantage of this year's tax benefits. Not only are these gifts normally fully tax deductible at their fair market value, but they also allow you to avoid capital gains tax. In order to make a contribution, checks must be dated and envelopes postmarked on or before December 31, 2004. If you are in a position to make end-of-year contributions, please consider our Cathedral Parish as a beneficiary of your support.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION | DEC. 15-16, 2007

Our collection last week was **\$12,728.77**. We wish to thank all those who made this collection possible. Because of the high upkeep costs at the Cathedral, our goal is to reach \$14,000 per week. To achieve this goal we encourage parishioners to donate one hour's pay per week to the parish or 3% of income. The motive for this generosity is thankfulness for God's goodness to us — an attitude of gratitude!



Christmas Eve Masses

Monday, 24 December

- 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass (Children's Mass)
 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)
 9:00 p.m. (English)
 11:30 p.m.—Musical Prelude
 12:00 Midnight—Midnight Mass of Christmas

Christmas Day Masses

Tuesday, 25 December

- 7:30 a.m. Mass of Christmas Dawn
 9:00 a.m. Mass of Christmas Day
 11:00 a.m. Mass of Christmas Day—Bishop Weigand
 1:00 p.m. Mass of Christmas Day (Spanish)
 No Evening Mass

New Year's Day Masses

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Monday, 31 December

- 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. (Spanish) Vigil Masses

Tuesday, 1 January

- 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. (Spanish) No Evening Mass

FEAST OF HOLY INNOCENTS MARCH

To commemorate the Feast of the Holy Innocents, the annual **March for Life** will be held on **Friday, December 28**. The procession will begin from the Cathedral at 5:45 p.m. and proceed to Our Lady of Guadalupe Church (7th and T) for Mass which begins at 7:00 p.m. This feast remembers those male infants of Bethlehem who were killed by decree of King Herod, as well as the innocent unborn babies killed by abortion today. Candles will be provided. Bring umbrellas if needed. Carpool shuttles will return people to their cars. For more, call **Carol at (916) 791-1819**.

TRAVEL TO FRANCE

Pilgrimage to Catholic France (Paris, Lourdes & Other Sacred Sites) May 13—May 28, 2008. Leaves from SFO. Fr. Steve Avella-Spiritual Director (well known to Cathedral Parish). Call **Karen Chappelle, 916-652-7560**.

DAILY NOVENA MASS FILIPINO SIMBANG GABI

This is a great way to prepare for Christmas. The Filipino-American Community of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament invites all to join in celebrating the Simbang Gabi (9-day evening Masses in preparation for Christmas) from **December 15 through 23**. The December 15, 16, 22 and 23 masses will be at 5:00 p.m., the regular Saturday and Sunday evening masses at the Cathedral. The December 21 Mass will be at 7:15 p.m. Rejoice and unite as one family in preparation for the birth of Christ in you!

Christmas Tree Fund

The Cathedral Parish custom is for individuals to make memorial gifts in loved one's names to help purchase special flowers and Christmas trees for the Christmas Season. Please be generous. If you would like to do so, please place checks in Christmas envelopes on back tables or send your check to the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament with a notation "For Christmas Tree Fund."

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MON 12/24/2007	CHRISTMAS EVE
12:10 pm: All Souls	
[SEE SCHEDULE AT LEFT]	
TUES 12/25/2007	CHRISTMAS DAY
[SEE SCHEDULE AT LEFT]	
WED 12/26/2007	ST. STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR
12:10 pm: Maria Becerril & Family	
5:10 pm: John Pancucci +	
THURS 12/27/2007	ST. JOHN, APOSTLE
12:10 am: John Pancucci +	
5:10 pm: Timothy Myres +	
FRI 12/28/2007	HOLY INNOCENTS
12:10 p.m. Muoi Dang	

NO EVENING MASS ON FRIDAYS

New Parishioner Registration and Change of Address Form

Name: _____ Envelope No.: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Fill out and deposit in Offertory Basket. Thank You!