

St. Ambrose Episcopal Church December 01, 2024 The First Sunday of Advent

900 Edgewater Blvd Foster City, CA 94404 (650) 574-1369 - <u>office@stambrosefostercity.org</u> - <u>http://www.stambrosefostercity.org</u> **Priest-In-Charge** • *pastoral calls and emergencies* The Rev. Rebecca Goldberg 650 291-5289 <u>revrebecca@stambrosefostercity.org</u>

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE: 6 Christmas Pieces Op.72

Mendelssohn

PROCESSIONAL #57 Lo He Comes with Clouds Descending



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

Opening Sentences

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*People:* And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever, *Amen.*

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Lighting of Advent Candle

Celebrant: "Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning.

This first candle is HOPE."

The candle is lit.

Scripture: "Psalm 33:20 – We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield."

Prayer: "Eternal God, as we await the coming of our savior, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of redemption for our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.. *People:* And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever **Amen**

First Lesson Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. *People*: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-9

Ad te, Domine, levavi

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; * let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame;

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, * and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, * for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, * for they are from everlasting.

- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; * remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; * therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right * and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness * to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Second Lesson 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. *People*: Thanks be to God

Sequence Hymn Celtic Alleuia



Music © 1985, 1996, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Holy Gospel Luke 21:25-36

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. *People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn Celtic Alleluia

Sermon

Reverend Rebecca Goldberg

THE NICENE CREED

- We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
- We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
- For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; *That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest. *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

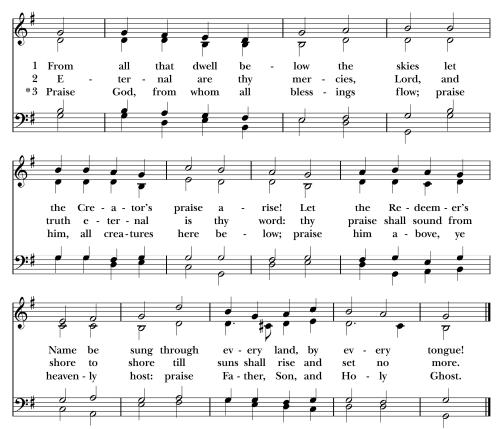
Celebrant:The peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Offertory Hymn: The Spacious Firmament

Josef Haydn

Doxology

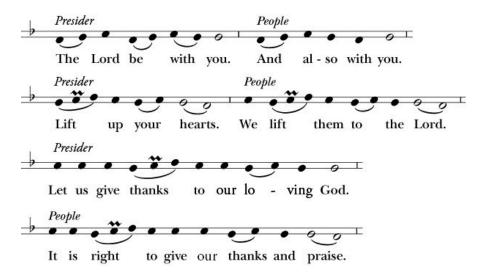
Hymn 380 From All That Dwell Below the Skies Verse 3



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseaumes octante trois de David, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer B



Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

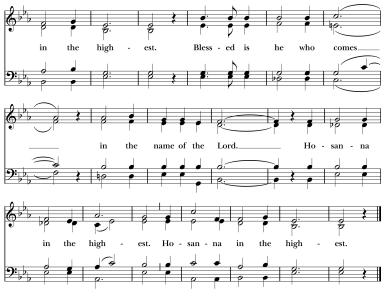
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

THE SANCTUS \$130





Music: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Ambrose and St. Francis, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

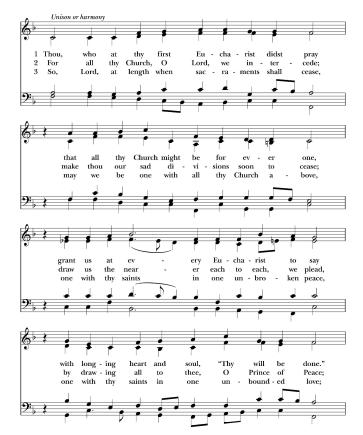
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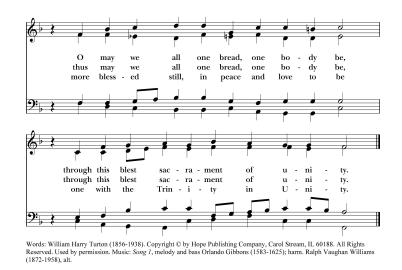


Music: From Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright \bigcirc 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Invitation

COMMUNION HYMN # 315, Thou, who at thy first Eucharist Didst Pray





Post communion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

The Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk the way with us. So be swift to love and make haste to be kind. The Blessing of God: Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you always. **Amen**

RECESSIONAL #318, People look East

ADVENT



318 People, Look East



Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965, © David Higham Assoc. Ltd. Tune: BESANCON, 87 98 87; French traditional; harm. by Martin Shaw, 1875-1958, © Oxford University Press

THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE Organ Improvisation

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The Mission of St. Ambrose Church of Foster City

Is to proclaim the Good News of God in Jesus Christ as we care for each other and our larger community. We worship in the Episcopal and Anglican tradition, extending an open and inclusive invitation to all people, welcoming children into our church family and serving those in need.

Worship Leaders: Reverend Rebecca Goldberg Amanda Yuxin Dai, Music Director

Worship Leader Rota:

Mary Loretta Davila, Lighting Advent Candle & Reading Jim Neubert, Intercessor Mary Loretta Davila, Warren Wong/Lector Chaplain Daniel Tate, Eucharistic Minister Jim Neubert, Usher Alison LeBlanc, Livestream Technician

Next Week's Scripture Lessons

Baruch 5:1-9 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6 Canticle 4 /16

Presider	Date
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday. December 01, 2024
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday. December 08, 2024
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday. December 15, 2024
Reverend Rebecca Goldberg	Sunday. December 22, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Waiting in Hope: The Season of Advent

The four Sundays of Advent are a time of waiting and expectation for the coming of Christ among us at Christmas. The readings, the sermon, and the music will focus on preparing ourselves for the Advent of the Holy One in our own hearts. We will light a candle on our Advent wreath each Sunday, as a sign of the Light coming among us. The color of the vestments and altar appointments are blue, signifying royalty. During this approaching winter season, with the colder, shorter, darker days, let us slow down, wait in the stillness, and make ready for the joy of Christmas!

Dorothy Matsuo

Dorothy Matsuo is recovering well and is now at Los Altos Subacute and Rehab Center, 809 Fremont Ave. Room 315 Los Altos, CA. Visits, and cards are welcome. Please keep her and the Matsuo family in your prayers.

Advent Study- Practicing Peace with all your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind

The Diocese is offering this Zoom Study on **Mondays Dec 2, 9, 16, and 23**, from 7:00- 8:00 p.m. Come join us as we look at the practice of peace in a divided world, and enter a season in which we find much joy, and yet, stress and sadness for some. There is a book which accompanies the course, which you can download for free. I would encourage you to participate. If you receive the weekly diocesan news email, the information about the course, how to register, and download your free copy of the book we are using is there. If not, you can find it on the diocal.org web site. If you are unable to access it, please see Mother Rebecca, and she can help you get signed up.

Catholic Charities Christmas Drive

We are partnering with Sea Breeze school to help families in need in our community. St. Ambrose has been asked to help with teenagers. They need teen hygiene items. Please bring women and men's shampoo, and deodorant, and hygiene products for the young women. There is a box in the Narthex for the collection of these items.

2025 Stewardship Campaign

If you missed our Stewardship Ingathering on 11/24, it is not too late to submit a pledge of your time, talent, and treasure for 2025. You can mail in or bring in the pledge card you were sent, or if you did not receive one, there are extra ones in the Narthex. Thanks to those who have already pledged. We give thanks for God's abundance in our midst!

New Ministry for Fr. Christian Lehrer!

Fr Christian Lehrer, a much-loved supply priest who served us last year, has been called to be the Priest-in-Charge of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in San Francisco. We offer our congratulations, and wish him and this congregation a grace-filled partnership!

Saint Jude Fundraiser – Join the Fight Against Childhood Cancer!

On Tuesday, December 3, Sea Breeze School students and staff will participate in a 'Trike-a-Thon' to support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in their mission to fight childhood cancer.

We invite our church community to join this meaningful cause. All donations raised by families and staff will go directly to support the lifesaving work of St. Jude's. Your generosity can make a difference! To donate, please visit: <u>https://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/Trike/Trike?fr_id=159457&pg=entry</u>. Thank you for your kindness and support!

Thank you for your kindness and support!

A Special Invitation for Children this Christmas Eve

St. Ambrose Episcopal Church Sunday School children will be singing some familiar Christmas songs as part of our service at 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve. We invite all children to participate. There will be minimal rehearsal time. If your out- of- town guests have brought their children, they are also most welcome! If you would like to sign any children up to participate, or have any questions, please contact Kay Ballantyne (650)773-7972 (rose466@earthlink.net)

Annual Christmas Cookie Sale- December 15

This year, the Altar Guild invites everyone to join our beloved bake sale tradition. On **December 15th***, we welcome bakers and/or buyers to contribute 2-4 dozen holiday cookies or treats (non-perishable only, please) for our festive coffee hour. Enjoy filling holiday boxes with 18 delightful cookies, available for \$20.00 per box. Payment can be made by cash or check.

*Please drop off your cookies on December 14th by 1pm at the parish hall or kitchen.

The 37th Annual Christmas Crèche Exhibit

COME TO BETHLEHEM

December 7 - 11, 2024 | Saturday - Wednesday | 12:30-8:30 pm 3865 Middlefield Road | Palo Alto, California Admission is free! For more details, see <u>christmas creche.org</u>.

Celebrate Jesus Christ's birth. Feel His light and His love. Share the joy of Christmas.

The Christmas Crèche Exhibit is the longest-running (37 years!) community-led, annual crèche experience in the country. Our beloved tradition features nativity art from around the world, hands-on activities for all ages, concerts, stories, marionette shows and more. It's a free gift to the community from The Church of Jesus Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints— in collaboration with exhibitors, artists, and musicians from many faiths.

Questionable Text/Emails

There is a text and scam email that is circulating, signed Rev. Rebecca Goldberg, which requests a copy of the Church directory. Please delete it. None of the St. Ambrose or Sea Breeze staff will send you an email asking you to divulge personal information, or contribute funds to a questionable cause. Please let Mother Rebecca know if you have any questions.

Mother Rebecca's office hours

Mother Rebecca will be in her office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:30-4:30. She can be reached during office hours at 650-574-1369. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call 650 291-5289 revrebecca@stambrosefostercity.org

Coffee Hour

Join us for Coffee Hour after the service at 11:00 am in the parish hall. Please volunteer to contribute (cakes, cookies, finger food or sandwiches) by using the link below or by the signup sheet in the Narthex by the Reflections & Gratitude Board: <u>Sign Up Genius https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA5A82CA0F94-coffee1</u>

Worship Leaders Needed

Please sign up as a Lector for our 10:00* am Eucharist by emailing <u>office@stambrosefostercity.org</u> or the Church signup sheet. We also need Worship Leader volunteers for our 10:00* am Eucharist. There are openings for Intercessors, Lectors, Greeters, Ushers and Acolytes, and Livestream Technicians. Contact us at <u>office@stambrosefostercity.org</u> or use the following link to signup: <u>Signup</u> <u>Genius</u> or Click on the following link <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4FA5A82CA0F94-worship</u>

Sunday School 10 AM

Sunday school is at 10:00am every week Please contact Raphael Gerber <u>raphaele.gerber@gmail.com</u> and Kay Ballantyne is <u>rose466@earthlink.net</u>

Rides for Gene Hetzer

Gene Hetzer a longtime church member and Karl his guide dog need rides on an alternating basis from church members. Please contact Jim Neubert to schedule a day for driving.

Bible Study

Every Tuesday at 1:00pm, we meet for Bible Study on Zoom and discuss the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday Service. Join us! For questions, please contact Daniel Tate at 650-799-7084, or <u>dtate@ses.cdsp.edu</u> or Warren Wong at <u>wwong@nd.edu</u>

Contemplative Meditation

Every Wednesday 10am-11am we meet for Contemplative Meditation on Zoom. We read a variety of authors. We have read Jimmy Carter's book 'Faith'; a couple of prayers from Jean-Pierre Isbouts 'Ten Prayers That Have Changed The World'. We are currently reading David Brooks' 'How to Know a Person...' If interested, please contact Hamilton Fong. <u>hfongster@gmail.com</u>

Prayer Support Group

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday after the service at 11:30am, we will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall to have a prayer meeting. Please join us any time as you are able. For questions, please contact Daniel Tate at 650-799-7084, or <u>dtate@ses.cdsp.edu</u>

Praver list: We pray especially for Renee Sheldon and family, Darren Su, Stephen, Carol Frisch and the Frisch family, Yvonne Sidell, Jerelyn Weber, Charlene Adolph, Miles Martin, Barbara Milligan, Ed Avakoff, Max Gumbert, Isabella, Jerry Boykin, Carol Newman, Clara Padilla, Arjun Katyan, Janet Mc Annally, Elliott Dun, Alison LeBlanc, Peggy Chapman, Ronnie Rosen, Leo Gauthier, Alice Deckel, and the pupils and staff of Sea Breeze School.

For those who have died: Arthur Labrador, Buck Schott, Ercira Puig, Zaw-Sing Su, Mike Frisch, John Miller, Eva Rios Chong, Judi Guilford, John David Tate, Martin Gardiner

[Please contact the parish office to add any names of the sick and suffering to be prayed for in our monthly cycle of prayer.]

The Altar Flowers are donated by

Jean DeTorre Ozeki in loving memory of Rocco Frank DeTorre



St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. After you register, you will receive more

information onhow you and your little one can help St. Jude kids.

Season's Greetings: Join Us for a Christmas Eve Celebration!



Sign Up or Ask Questions: Contact Kay Ballantyne ᢏ (650) 773-7972 ₩ rose466@earthlink.net



