



PARISH COMMUNITY

Santa Clara, California

Christmas
December 25, 2022
Navidad



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Dear Parishioners,

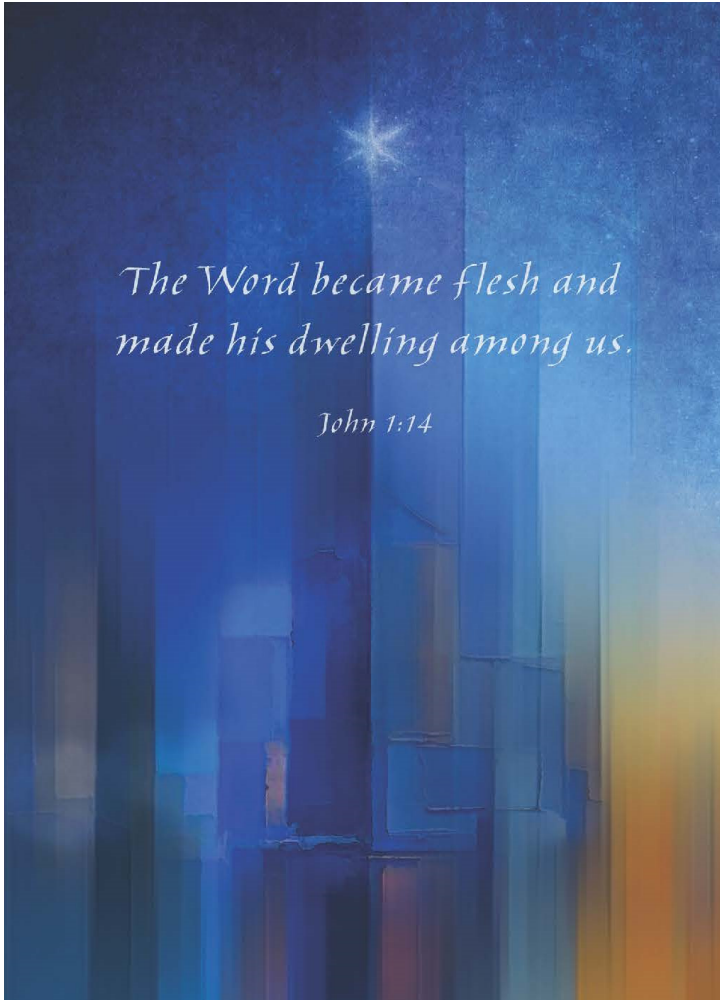
In Jesus, the Word became flesh and God “pitched his tent among us.” That is what we celebrate on this great feast; it is what we celebrate every day. God is with us through the very bond of our DNA. Born of the Virgin, the Lord Jesus is fully human. Conceived by the Holy Spirit, He is also fully divine.

Jesus became human so that we can become divine!

Our Parish and School staffs wish you all the blessings of Christmas, as we thank you for “pitching your tents” with us. We are indeed a “family of families,” and we give thanks to the Lord for each of you.

The Lord’s own peace be with you, your families and your loved ones.

Sincerely,



Monsignor Fran

Rev. Victor Lihl

Eddie

Cecile Mantecon

Sandra Quintanilla

Ryan Bao

Esteban

Linda O. Brisuela

Laura Quiroz

Monsignor Fran, Father Victor, Deacon Eddie, Cecile Mantecon, Sandra Quintanilla, Linda O. Brisuela, Ryan Bao, Esteban Lugardo, Laura Quiroz



Our Christmas Bulletin includes descriptions of various ministries and organizations that are associated with the parish. If you would like more information about – or join – this work, please reach out to the designated contact person (*located on page 10*). You are also welcome to contact the Parish Office for additional follow up.

Saint Clare School, a Ministry of Saint Clare Parish

Parish Mission Statement

Founded in 1777, Saint Clare Parish is an ethnically diverse Catholic community of faith, united in worship, discipleship and service. In welcoming immigrants, newcomers and strangers, we strive to live the virtues of justice and love, so as to be the face of Christ in the world, becoming in Him a sign of unity and an instrument of God's peace.

With your prayers and unwavering support, our dedicated teachers and staff partner with our committed families to form children of God to become thought-leaders, social justice advocates, and compassionate humans.

Saint Clare School, with support from the Jesuits at Santa Clara University, was established in 1856 by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. As the only Catholic elementary school who has continuously operated for 166 years, Saint Clare has produced local leaders and philanthropists. Today, our graduates go on to succeed at Catholic high schools and universities, taking with them the charism of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, rooted in God's love and working for justice. We welcome students from diverse backgrounds and cultures, and we offer generous tuition assistance to make Catholic education accessible to all.

Visit us at www.stclare.school to learn more.



Parish Catechetical Program



Children’s Faith Formation serves First to Seventh grades. All children gather at the beginning of our session and we begin with singing and prayer. This year we changed the books that we use to *Our Sunday Visitor* (OSV) publication. In addition to the books, OSV offers online resources for families. We are in the process of meeting with all families to familiarize them with our new resources and we encourage parent participation and engagement in their child’s Faith Formation journey.

Already-baptized children prepare for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in our two-year program, while we prepare those who have not been baptized for the Sacraments of Initiation. Our program works closely with our School in preparation, as well. In addition, we are following the Liturgical Calendar in our teaching and we request that children attend our 10:30 am Family Mass and participate in the Liturgy of the Word for Children. In the New Year, we will offer Liturgy of the Word for Children during the Spanish Mass at 12 noon.

At our first family meeting we honored our Mother, the *Virgen de Guadalupe* by bringing plants or flowers to our Rectory Garden and we have continued our devotion to her, especially on her day, December 12th. Together, we enjoy the journey and we experience the love and commitment necessary for Sacramental Preparation. Please contact Sandra Quintanilla at sandra.quintanilla@dsj.org or visit our website at stclareparish.org if interested.

Youth Ministry

Our Saint Clare Parish Youth Ministry has been blessed by the joy of our young people who serve others and their community while also seeking fellowship and formation in prayer.

During this last year, we were able to confirm over 40 young people after a year of formation. In addition, we held our first ever Confirmation Retreat in September. Some of our youth also attended the **Diocesan Youth Retreat** at Lake Tahoe during the summer. Our Youth Ministry has been blessed with other smaller events such as Movie Nights, Easter Egg Hunts, “Clarely Casual Conversations,” and Open Gym Nights.

Our Youth Ministry grows as our young people become more integrated into parish life through liturgical ministry and even consulting in the parish and diocesan synodal process.

Please continue to support us with your prayers. Follow us on Instagram at [@stclare_ymc](https://www.instagram.com/stclare_ymc) and our website stclareparish.org/ymc. Also, don’t be afraid to say “Hi” to our youth!



Top: Youth with Bishop Oscar Cantú after being Confirmed
Top right: Youth at DYR (Diocesan Youth Retreat)
Bottom right: Youth during their Confirmation Retreat

Liturgical Music

Something that makes Saint Clare's music ministry special is that it's all about cultivating outstanding liturgical music leadership. Our ensemble has members ranging from 2nd grade to retirement age, and the only requirement to join is that you know how to read words. During rehearsals, we practice musicianship skills like reading music, developing our musical ears, and improvising. We work on vocal techniques you'd normally learn in a private voice lesson, and learn new songs, including several composed by our teenage ensemble members. We also work on cantor training and discuss how the songs relate to the Sunday scripture. Over time, we've been lucky to have people sing, and play guitar, clarinet, trumpet, violin, flute, bass, and percussion, and work with each person at their skill level. What musical instruments do you know how to play? Let's get you involved!

We rehearse on Sundays from 11:45-12:45pm, and can't wait to welcome new members. Come offer your talents so we can continue to make our music ministry thrive! Contact Chris Wemp at cmwemp@gmail.com

Liturgy of the Word for Children

The Liturgy of the Word with Children ministry is an opportunity for children (grades K-6) to engage with each Sunday's readings with their peers led by a volunteer from the parish. Each Sunday at the 10:30 a.m. Mass children are briefly dismissed to hear that day's readings at their grade level and participate in an interactive reflection on those readings. When they return to the community for the Eucharist they have a fuller, more age-appropriate understanding of what that Sunday's lessons were. Please invite your children to join in when you come to the 10:30am Mass- no registration needed! Also, if you have middle school or high school age children who are interested in volunteering to help with the readings or the reflection or if you are an adult interested in volunteering, please contact Claire Wemp at ckwemp@gmail.com.



The children around the altar during Easter speaking with Msgr. Fran

Rite (Order) of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)



The RCIA Team welcomes those who wish to be baptized into the Catholic Faith as well as those who wish to complete the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist). Those who are fully initiated in the Catholic Faith and who desire to learn more of their faith are also welcome.

We ask Jesus, God made Flesh, to bless each of you with Grace, Peace and Joy this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year 2023.

Our newest members after receiving the Sacraments at Holy Saturday Easter Vigil

Saint Vincent de Paul Society Saint Clare Conference – Founded in 1950

This past year, your generosity toward our Holy Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, and “Fifth Sunday Collections,” as well as other donations throughout the year, provide the following:

- Fresh produce, dairy products, pantry staples, personal care items and grocery store vouchers every month to over 200 men, women and children who live in our parish.
- Rental and utility bill assistance to low-income neighbors
- Food, clothing and personal hygiene products.

Volunteer opportunities for the second and fourth Saturday morning in the school parking lot call (408) 645-0506 for further information Thank you for all of your support. We could not do any of this without you.



Peace and Justice Committee

The Peace and Justice Committee of Saint Clare Parish serves as a community resource and catalyst to connect our faith with the work of social justice. We seek to Educate, Advocate, Act, Reflect.

- **Educate** the community about Catholic social teachings.
- **Advocate** for the dignity and rights of all people, especially those who are marginalized and socially, politically or economically disadvantaged.
- **Act** out our faith by creating and participating in opportunities – individually and in community – to implement the Catholic social teachings of justice in service to others in need.
- **Reflect** on the biblical and theological foundations of Catholic social teachings to help inform and discern current and future actions, advocacy and education efforts.

Since its founding in 2011 by Saint Clare parishioners, the Peace and Justice Committee has hosted annual Fair-Trade sales, Immigration Awareness Weekends, education efforts on Human Trafficking Awareness, Grateful Garment Drive, Stations of the Cross for global solidarity, peace prayer service, advocacy for the Catholic Climate Covenant and care for the earth. The committee has also mobilized Saint Clare support for the homeless through Village House Rotating Shelter program in the Bay Area. The committee has been on hiatus since the pandemic and is seeking to restart its work with the help of interested parishioners. If you would like to be a part of our work, please contact Anne McMahon at mcmahonam@sbcglobal.net

Saint Clare YLI (Young Ladies Institute)



We are honored to be a part of Saint Clare Parish and have been for almost 90 years. We are a Catholic women’s organization dedicated to prayer and works of charity. We meet once a month, the third Monday of each month, in the North Hall. We pray together and play together. We welcome new members; please see our contact information in the church bulletin. We wish the members of Saint Clare Parish their families and friends a blessed holiday season, Merry Christmas, and a happy and healthy New Year.

Saint Clare's Portuguese Community



The Portuguese Community has been active at Saint Clare Parish since the 1800s. From early 1973 until now, we celebrate Mass in Portuguese and we participate in all phases in the parish life of Saint Clare. Hundreds of Portuguese have received all the sacraments (except the Order of Priesthood) and have graduated from Saint Clare School. We raised funds through our promotions of cooking meals: beef shish kabob, (Madeira style), goat stew, chicken barbecue, and bacalhau (salt black cod). These activities not only raise funds for our parish, but bind us as a community and unite us to our parish. Like everybody else, we are thankful to survive these last pandemic years and resume our Christmas Celebration in our Parish Hall this year. We are a Community that is proud of our heritage and traditions which we are able to celebrate at Saint Clare, and consequently minimizes the missing our places of origin. This Christmas we wish to our brothers and sisters, parishioners of Saint Clare a Holy Christmas, a celebration of joy, peace, and love. *Feliz Natal!* Merry Christmas!

Saint Clare Hispanic Ministry

Each weekend, we celebrate Mass— at Noon on Sundays – and all of the other sacraments in Spanish, thanks to the ministry of Father Victor, who is fluent in Spanish. Our catechetical program ministers to bilingual families and young women can prepare and celebrate their *Quinceañas* here at Saint Clare.

Each year, our Hispanic Council prepares our December 12 celebration in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which includes *La Mañanitas*, *Misa* (Mass) and a reception of *pan dulce* and chocolate. Mariachis and Aztec Dancers assist in this celebration.

Knights of Columbus

'Tis the season to be jolly, or is it?

When I was a lot younger, time seemed to take forever. I remember summer break took at least a year and a half before the first day for school. Something has happened since then. Now, it was just a few days ago that we were celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord, and here we are preparing for His Birth.

Still, there is always time to serve. As a member of the Knights of Columbus there is time to serve; to serve our Church, and our community. We, have the opportunity to make a better tomorrow for ourselves, our parish, and our world. Men you can stand tall as a member of the Knights and take pleasure in the work you do for our Lord.

We lead by example, and our leadership speaks for itself. In times of trouble or strife, you can count on the Knights. We will to be there with a helping hand, to provide moral support or financial assistance. The Knights will be there through thick and thin.

Come, join the Knights, and together let's make a difference!



The Knights of Columbus with Fr. Victor and Msgr. Fran after the noon Mass on December 11th.



Serra Club members sharing information to parish members

The Serra Club



Cathleen Lencioni, Chair

The Serra Club fosters religious vocations and has been active in our parish for many years. Activities include praying for the increase and perseverance of vocations to the Priesthood and the Religious Life, preparing meals for diocesan discernment retreats, serving at the receptions for the ordination of new priests and deacons, essay

contests for 8th grade students on the topic of vocations. Whatever is the need to support Priests and Religious, members of Serra are ready to move ahead and follow the words of Saint Junipero Serra whose motto was “Always forward, never back.” If you are a faithful Catholic with a call to support future priest and religious, we invite you to learn more about the Serra Club. For further information, contact Cathleen Lencioni (408) 248-6728

Parish Pastoral Council /Parish “Synod”

Saint Clare Pastoral Council has been both representative of the diversity of our parish family and advisory to the pastor. Currently, the Council is under revision; we look to reconstitute it early in 2023. Working with the new Council, we will “walk together,” open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, dedicating ourselves to “encounter, listening and discerning” where the Lord want us to go, what the Lord wants us to be in the years ahead.



above: Jerome Alabado, Chair

Parish Finance Council

The Finance Council serves as a trusted advisor to the Pastor and helps with the management and stewardship of parish financial resources. We build the budget for every fiscal year and meet quarterly to monitor our progress. The Council is also responsible for supporting new initiatives/projects and complying with diocesan guidelines. While the Parish Finance Council is primarily consultative - information sharing, listening, and contributing to discussions – there are also certain canonical responsibilities that guide the Council’s work. We welcome parishioners to join the Council and help ensure the long-term success of the parish.

Serving Other Catholic Communities of our Diocese/Santa Clara County

Our Parish also hosts San José Chinese Catholic Mission, the Cantonese Catholic Community, and the Japanese Catholic Community, when that community can find a Japanese-speaking priest to minister to them. These communities of faith celebrate Mass in our church, as well as using parish and school facilities for faith formation and social functions. We are pleased that Saint Clare is able to welcome these families and assist them in their growth as members of the Body of Christ.

Looking Ahead. . .to 2027: “From Mission to Mission”

Finally, we are looking forward to our 250th Anniversary (founded in 1777 as Mission Santa Clara by Saint Junipero Serra). We hope to observe that anniversary in 2027 and, if you are reading this, we pray that you will be with us to celebrate that momentous occasion in the life of the Parish, our Diocese, and the Church in California.



Mass Intentions
December 26- 31, 2022

Monday 9:00am

Antonio Pereira+

Tuesday 8:00am

Maria Adelina & Jose
Furtado Pereira, Sr+

Wednesday 8:00am

Jesuina & Francisco
Lourenco & Family+

Thursday 8:00am

Fernando R. Moreira+

Friday 8:00 am

Teresa Lumbreras+

Saturday 8:00 am

Special Intention

Mass on Monday, December
26th will be at 9:00 am.

Daily Readings

Monday

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Psalms 31:3cd-4, 6,
8ab,16bc, 17
Matthew 10:17-22

Tuesday

1 John 1:1-4
Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-
12
John 20:1a, 2-8

Wednesday

1 John 1:5 — 2:2
Psalms 124:2-5, 7b-8
Matthew 2:13-18

Thursday

1 John 2:3-11
Psalms 96:1-3, 5b-6
Luke 2:36-40

Friday

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Psalms 128:1-5
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-
23

Saturday

1 John 2:18-21
Psalms 96:1-2, 11-13
John 1:1-18

Sunday

Numbers 6:22-27
Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:16-21



Parish Office Will Be Closed for Christmas Week

The Parish Office will be closed from Wednesday, December 21, until Monday, January 2. While our receptionists will not be available, our priests will be covering the telephones and the door, as they are able. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

La Oficina Parroquial Estará Cerrada

La oficina parroquial estará cerrada desde el miércoles 21 de diciembre, reabriendo el lunes 2 de enero. Aunque nuestras recepcionistas no estarán disponibles, nuestros sacerdotes estar contestando el teléfono y abriendo la puerta a conforme puedan. Gracias por su paciencia y su comprensión.

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**REVS VS SEMS
BASKETBALL
CHALLENGE**

Sunday,
January 8, 2023

TIPOFF 7:00 PM

© St. Francis High School
www.dsj.org/revs-sems
Hosted by DSJ Vocational Office

#REVsvsSEMS

Youth Ministry News

Catch us this Sunday for **FREE** Christmas cookies after Mass.

1 WEEK LEFT! Register for Confirmation

NOW! Registrations close on the 31st. Our Confirmation program runs from January to September 2023 and is open to all youth currently in 8th-12th grade. Find more information at stclareparish.org/ymc or speak to Ryan after Mass.

If you are **NOT** a parent of a teen, help us by passing along the information to families who might. Please continue to pray for us and our ministry as we prepare for our program in January.

Support our new candidates on **January 21st at 5:00pm** in the church. We will be celebrating the **Rite of Enrollment** for our new candidates who will formally commit to their journey of formation for the Confirmation year. This will be a part of our weekly vigil Mass.

Christmas Movie Night (post-Christmas) on **January 13th, 2023!** Don't let the holiday cheer end in the new year. Continue the fun by joining us for a movie night at **6:00 pm** featuring *The Star*. Remember to bring a blanket, chair, and friend! Weather permitting, the movie will show in the rectory garden.

Get ready for the Revs vs. Sems game between parish priests and seminarians on **Sunday, January 8th at 7:00 PM**. Get your tickets (\$10) online at www.dsj.org/catholic-life/vocations/revs-sems/ or with Ryan. Tickets **WILL** sell out!

MOVIE NIGHT

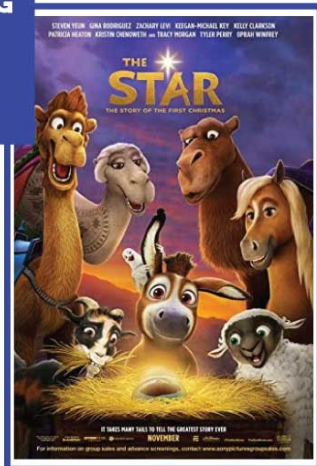
JANUARY 13TH, 2023

SHOWTIME 6:00 PM

RECTORY GARDEN

WHAT TO BRING

- BLANKET
- FRIEND
- CHAIR



Stewardship Report

Sunday Collection:
December 10th and December 11th

Goal: \$8,400.00
Actual: \$8,884.50

Immaculate Conception:

\$765.00

Second Collection: Retirement for Religious:

\$5,105.00

Sunday Collection:
December 17th and December 18th

Not available at time of printing

Thank You!

ALL 8TH-12TH GRADERS DEADLINE 12/31

READY FOR CONFIRMATION?

REGISTRATIONS OPEN!



FORMS.OFFICE.COM/IR17OQQFQUBZ9



8TH-12TH GRADOS LA FECHA LÍMITE 12/31

¿LISTA PARA LA CONFIRMACIÓN?

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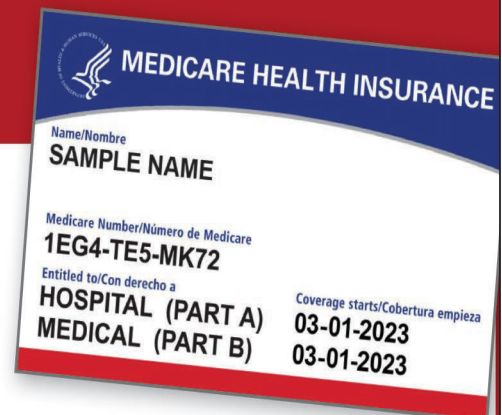
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8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday from April 1 to September 30 and
8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week from October 1 to March 31.

CCA Medicare Excel (HMO) Santa Clara County and CCA Medicare Excel (HMO) San Joaquin County are health plans with a Medicare contract. Enrollment depends on contract renewal. This information is not a complete description of benefits.



H1426_23_012_M



Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday Evening Vigil

(Livestreamed)

5:00 p.m. (English)

Sunday

7:30 a.m. (English)

9:00 a.m. (Portuguesa)

10:30 a.m. (English)

12:00 p.m. (Español)

Livestreamed

Liturgy of the Word for Children

During 10:30 a.m.

Mass (English)

Weekday Masses

Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturdays 3:00 p.m.– 3:30 p.m.

(In the Tent)

Office Address:

725 Washington Street

Santa Clara, CA 95050

www.stclareparish.org

E-mail

stclareparish@dsj.org

**Emergencies
(for the sick and dying):**

408-248-7786

Follow the prompt,
then press 9

Main Office Number

(408) 248-7786

Pastor/Párroco

Monsignor Francis V. Cilia

cilia@dsj.org

(669) 270-2700

Parochial Vicar/Vicario Parroquial

Father Victor Trinidad

victor.trinidad@dsj.org

(669) 270-2701

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Edward Ngo, S.J.

engo@jesuits.org

Saint Clare School Principal

Cecile Mantecon

www.stclare.school

(408) 246-6797

Catechetical Coordinator

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(669) 270-2702

Youth Minister

Director of Confirmation

Ryan Bao

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Christian Initiation of Adults

(RCIA)

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Music Ministry

Christopher Wemp

cmwemp@gmail.com

Administrative Staff

Linda Ortiz Brisuela

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Laura Quiroz

laura.quiroz@dsj.org

In Residence

Father Alberto Olivera

aloviera@dsj.org

Father Martin Ezeador

martin.ezeador@dsj.org

Parish Organizations *Organizaciones Parroquiales*

Parish Pastoral Council

Under Construction

Parish Finance Council

Jerome Alabado

Jerome.alabado@gmail.com

Social Justice Committee

Anne McMahon

mcmahonam@sbcglobal.net

Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Mick Gonzales

(408) 645-0506

Hispanic Council

Elania Tablada

(408) 482-8234

Portuguese Council

Eduina Faria

(650) 420-9908

San José Chinese

Catholic Mission

Mandarin Community

Father Alberto Olivera, Pastor

aolivera@dsj.org

Cantonese Community

Tony Lau

tonylau2000@gmail.com

Serra Club of Santa Clara

Cathleen Lencioni

(408) 248-6728

Young Ladies Institute (YLI)

Dolores Wriglesworth

doloreswrigs@yahoo.com

Knights of Columbus

Tony Colombo

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