

San Francisco Lodge No.120



HELLO NOVEMBER!





**GREETINGS FROM THE EAST
WORSHIPFUL MASTER
Oliver Mangubat**



My Brothers,

As the autumn leaves fall and the year begins to draw to a close, we are reminded of the beauty of change and the warmth of gratitude. November is a time when many pause to give thanks—for family, for friendship, and for the blessings we enjoy. For us as Masons, it is also a time to reflect on how we have lived out the light we promised to carry.

Being “Ablaze to Serve” is more than a theme—it is a daily calling. Each meeting, each handshake, and each act of kindness becomes a spark that keeps the flame of Masonry burning bright. Service is not confined to our lodge walls; it extends to our homes, our communities, and the world around us. When we serve with humility and love, we not only honor our obligations but also bring light to others walking in darkness.

This month, as we gather around tables of thanksgiving, may we also remember our Masonic family—those who may be struggling, those in need of a kind word, or a simple gesture of care. Let our hearts be open and our hands ready to serve.

May our lodge continue to be a beacon of fellowship, faith, and brotherly love. Let us finish this year strong—united, inspired, and ablaze with purpose.

“Freemasonry is founded on the purest principles of piety and virtue; it teaches us to be good and to do good.” — Benjamin Franklin

Fraternally,

**Bro. Oliver S. Mangubat
Worshipful Master, San Francisco Lodge no. 120**



GREETINGS FROM THE WEST SENIOR WARDEN Salvador Tandoc



Brethren,

“A Season of Reflection, Gratitude, and Service”

As the sun descends lower upon the western horizon, the month of November invites us into a sacred period of reflection, gratitude, and renewal. Standing in the West, I am reminded that this is the symbolic place of strength and maturity, where we pause between labor and refreshment to evaluate our work in the Craft—both within our Lodge and within our hearts.

November brings with it a rich tapestry of observances that echo Masonic principles:

- **All Saints’ Day and All Souls’ Day** remind us of those who have gone before us, our Past Masters, mentors, departed brethren, friends, and family members whose light continues to guide our path. We honor their memories by continuing the good work they began, keeping their example alive in our day-to-day existence, and ever remembering the memories of them in our minds for continued support and strengths.
- **Veterans Day** calls upon us to reflect on the virtue of service and sacrifice. Just as a Mason gives his time and talents to the betterment of others, so too do our veterans dedicate their lives to preserving peace and freedom throughout the world. Let us take a moment to offer thanks to our Brothers and fellow citizens who have worn the uniform and exemplified the highest ideals of duty and honor.
- **Thanksgiving**, perhaps the most universal celebration of gratitude, reminds us to pause amid our labors and give thanks for the beauty of life, for family, for fellowship, for comradery, and for the privilege of being part of this great Fraternity. Gratitude is one of the purest forms of Masonic light, it transforms our perspective, humbles our spirit, and strengthens our bonds as Brothers and families.

Beyond these holidays, November also marks a transitional season for our Lodge. We begin preparing for the close of the Masonic year and the election of new officers who will carry the Light into 2026. It is a time for renewal for both leadership and of personal commitment. Let each of us consider how we may better contribute to the Lodge’s harmony, growth, and education in the months ahead.

As the days grow shorter and the air turns crisp, may we continue to find warmth in our fellowship and purpose in our labors. Let the lessons of our Craft guide us to practice Brotherly Love in every encounter, to extend Relief to those in need, and to seek Truth in all our undertakings.

Wishing every one of you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving and a safe holiday!

Salvador Tandoc
Senior Warden



GREETINGS FROM THE SOUTH JUNIOR WARDEN Garry Fontillas



Brethren,

Now the autumn season settles over our beautiful city and the year draws to a close, we have much to reflect upon and be thankful for within our Masonic family.

First, let us extend our heartfelt congratulations to our newly initiated Entered Apprentices. It was inspiring to witness their initiation into our ancient and honorable fraternity. The degree work was beautifully executed, a true reflection of the dedication and teamwork that define San Francisco Lodge No. 120. Brethren, thank you for your hard work, your preparation, and your unwavering commitment to preserving our ritual excellence.

We also wish to recognize with great pride the SF 120 brothers who volunteered during the California Annual Communication. Under the capable leadership of our Senior Warden, Bro. Sal Tandoc, our brethren provided exceptional service to the Grand Lodge of California. Their commitment, hard work, and dedication reflected the finest principles of our fraternity, service, humility, and brotherly love in action. Well done, Brethren, for representing our Lodge with such distinction. Also congratulations to our newly installed Grand Master and his officers, may the Great Architect grant them wisdom, patience, and light as they guide our Craft in the coming year.

As we enter November, we are also reminded of two meaningful observances, Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. On Veterans Day, we salute and honor all who have served our nation in uniform, especially our Brothers who have exemplified duty, courage, and sacrifice in defense of freedom. We owe them our deepest respect and gratitude.

And as Thanksgiving approaches, may we take a moment to reflect on the many blessings we enjoy, our families, our friendships, and the strong bond we share as Masons. Let us also remember those less fortunate, extending our hands and hearts in charity, as is the true spirit of Masonry.

Brethren, as the year winds down, may harmony continue to prevail within our Lodge, and may we always strive to meet upon the level, act by the plumb, and part upon the square.

Fraternally,
Garry Fontillas
Junior Warden



San Francisco Lodge 120

November 2025

FROM THE SECRETARY
SECRETARY
Donato T. Lara



Brethren,

When Everything Changes in a Moment

Life has a peculiar way of transforming in an instant. One phone call, one conversation, one unexpected event—and suddenly, the landscape of our existence shifts entirely. A job loss, a health diagnosis, the death of a loved one, or even a chance encounter can redirect the course of our lives in ways we never anticipated.

These moments of profound change reveal a fundamental truth: we are never as in control as we think we are. The ground beneath our feet, which seemed so solid yesterday, can become uncertain today. In these vulnerable moments, we discover what truly sustains us—and it's rarely the material success or status we've accumulated. It's the connections we've built, the character we've developed, and the community that surrounds us.

This is where Freemasonry offers something invaluable.

At its core, Freemasonry is built on the recognition that life is unpredictable and that we need one another to navigate its challenges. The fraternity provides a framework for personal growth through its teachings on morality, self-improvement, and service to others. But perhaps more importantly, it creates a brotherhood—a network of men committed to supporting each other through life's inevitable changes.

When change strikes, Freemasons don't face it alone. The lodge becomes a refuge where members can find counsel, encouragement, and practical assistance. Brothers check in on one another, offer wisdom from their own experiences, and provide tangible help when needed. This isn't charity in the transactional sense; it's the fulfillment of a deeper obligation to care for one's fellow man.

Moreover, Freemasonry's rituals and teachings prepare members for change itself. The symbolic journey through the degrees mirrors life's transitions—from darkness to light, from ignorance to knowledge, from dependence to self-mastery. These lessons cultivate resilience, teaching that change, while inevitable, can also be transformative.

In a world that changes by the minute, Freemasonry offers something increasingly rare: constancy. Its principles remain unchanged, its brotherhood endures, and its commitment to making good men better provides an anchor when everything else shifts. It reminds us that while we cannot control what happens to us, we can control who we become through it—and that we don't have to become it alone.

Fraternally,

Brother Donnie Lara
Secretary



MASONIC EDUCATION

Larry Laidlaw, P.M., H.A.



Dear Brethren of San Francisco Lodge 120,

I came across this article which has become a common subject for discussion lately and worthy of sharing with my brothers.

What does it mean to be a US Citizen?

You may hear the phrase in the US that "It's a free country" and to an extent this is true. As a US citizen, you have many rights clearly defined in the BILL OF RIGHTS, which has been amended to promote greater inclusiveness of what defines a citizen. If you look at the early versions of the Bill of Rights, you will see many exclusions to citizenship defined by the early United States and it's founding fathers. Those not counted as citizens in early days included Native Americans, Most African Americans, and Most women.

Today a US citizen is defined as a person born in this country or a person who has gone through the full immigration process to become a citizen. In many cases, becoming a citizen in the United States means you forswear allegiance to other countries, though in certain cases, people can process dual citizenship. But first and foremost, the highest allegiance you have as a US citizen is to your country.

So what are the rights of a US citizen? As defined by the Bill of Rights, anyone classed as a citizen has the right to practice any religion of their choosing, to freely assemble, and to speak or write their opinion, even if that opinion criticizes the government. Citizens also are allowed, under most circumstances, to possess weapons, and to be treated equally by businesses, education systems, and government institutions.

Other protections include your right to be free from search and seizure of your property without warrant, your right to privacy, and the right to trial before you're a jury of your peers in you are accused of crimes. Citizenship always means that if you are accused of a crime, the burden of proof is on the accuser, and you are always presumed innocent of a crime until a jury or judge decides otherwise.

As a US citizen, you also have certain responsibilities. You must remain lawful, obey laws of both the country and the state in which you live. You cannot commit acts of treason against your government. Male Citizens at the age of 18 must register with the Selective Service, and if a draft is in place, male citizens drafted must not refuse to serve their country.

Another responsibility is your willingness to respond to summons to juries when called. Since all citizens are accorded the right to trial by jury, regular citizens must staff juries. Normally a US citizen can't refuse to serve jury duty. You do have to show up, though you may be granted an exception of being part of a jury under certain circumstances.

There is some dispute on whether voting is a right or a responsibility. As a citizen you don't have to vote, but many believe that full citizenship is realized as a result of participatory electorate, or where all citizens exercise their right to vote. Nevertheless, voting is not a requirement of citizenship, but rather a right.

For many, citizenship in the US is very special, and other bemoans the fact that people don't realize how lucky they are. It's easy to take for granted the rights that were hard won by early founders of this country, especially if you were born a citizen of the US. It's interesting to note when people immigrate to the US, how many of them are very anxious to exercise the rights that many of us do take for granted. Immigrants often can't wait to vote and eagerly anticipate their ability to take full part in the democratic process.

Source; Tricia Christensen (5/17/24)

Respectfully, Larry Laidlaw, PM, HA, Committee of history and knowledge



DONOR RECOGNITION PLAQUE

THE SAN FRANCISCO SCOTTISH RITE

CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE CENTER



Childhood Language Center Donor Recognition Plaques

2025-2026 Bronze Club

Jerry & Cristy Verzosa
Albert & Lynn Cua
Tony & Mary Man
Tom & Angie Chavez
Mario Arbis
Durward & Caroline Ayre

2025-2026 Silver Club

2025-2026 Gold Club

Curusis Family
Charitable Foundation

2024-2025 Bronze Club

Albert & Lynn Cua
Tom & Angie Chavez
Rufo & Vem Macaraeg
Tony & Leila Cimarra
Phillip & Sally McAllister
Mario Arbis
Ferdinand Quiambao
Oliver & Michelle Mangubat
Mike & Janet Salazar
Frank & Jeanie Loui
Jerry & Cristy Verzosa
Robert Grande
Mission Lodge 169
Bay Cities Lodge 337

2024-2025 Silver Club

Joseph Welch Jr. Foundation
San Francisco Lodge 120

2024-2025 Gold Club

Curusis Family
Charitable Foundation





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TRUSTEES

Thomas Chavez, P.M.	Member	1st	2025
Becker Cheng, P.M.	Member	1st	2026
Fady Zoubi, P.M.	Member	2nd	2027
Ed Del Rosario, P.M., H.A.	Member	2nd	2028
Albert Cua, P.M.	Chairman	2nd	2029



COMMITTEES

Audit:

Tom Chavez, P.M., H.A.
Rufo Macaraeg, Jr., P.M, H.A.
Dennis Silva, P.M
Edwin Del Rosario, P.M., H.A
Mario Esteban, P.M.
Ernest Batara
Virgil Dacasin
Allan Baquilar

Budget & Finance:

Albert Cua, P.M. – Chairman
Edwin Del Rosario, P.M.
Tom Chavez, P.M., H.A.
Edmond Lim, P.M., H.A.
Salvador Tandoc

Executive:

WM, Oliver Mangubat
SW, Salvador Tandoc
JW, Garry Fontillas
Treas., Bob Gonzalez
Secty., Donnie Lara
Asst. Sec., Dennis Duey

Charity:

Oliver Mangubat
Salvador Tandoc
Garry Fontillas

Candidate's Coach:

Salvador Tandoc – Chairman
Clark Balquedra – Head Coach
All masons assigned by Head Coach

Prospect Committee:

Ernest Batara
Bob Gonzalez
Dennis Silva
James Meads
Ricky Hermoso
Carlo Gonzaga

Refreshment and Entertainment Committee:

Garry Fontillas - Chairman
James Meade
Eddie Fernandez
Joseph Espinueva
Jay R Mansilungan
Thomas Tandoc
Ralph Fernandez
Jonathan Galvez

Sunshine:

Jerry Verzosa, P.M.,H.A.Chairman
Ed Lim
Ricky Hermoso
Donnie Lara

Retention:

Albert Cua, P.M. – Chairman
Oliver Mangubat
Rufo Macaraeg, Jr., P.M, H.A
Ernest Batara
Donnie Lara

Communication:

Donnie Lara- Chairman
Dennis Duey
Jonathan Galvez
Arvin Menchavez
Austin Cua
Raymund De Luna

Masonic Education:

Larry Laidlaw, P.M.,H.A.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Stated Meeting – November 6th
- 1st Annual Toy Drive - Nov 6th
- Officer Proficiency - Oct 30th
- Degree Conferral (Fellow Craft) - TBD
- Scottish Rite Masquerade Ball - Oct 31st

IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT MEMBERSHIP DUES!!!

For those who haven't paid their dues, please send in your payment in as soon as possible. If you are having difficulties or personal issues, please contact the Secretary, Donnie Lara, at sf1120.secretary@outlook.com. There are payment options available.

Grand Lodge of
Free and Accepted
Masons of California



your
s now!
/AnnComm25



176TH
ANNUAL
COMMUNI-
CATION **OCTOBER 24-26, 2025**
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

SAN FRANCISCO LODGE NO. 120

VETERANS DAY



Join us in honoring
local veterans and
their service.

6PM Refreshment

NOVEMBER

Thursday, Nov 6

STATED MEETING

7:30PM Meeting

**ATTIRE: Suit & Tie or Service
Uniform for Veterans (optional)**

San Francisco Lodge No. 120



1st Charity Toy Drive

November 6th, 2025

**Donate a Toy,
brighten a Child's
Day!!**

**WM Oliver Mangubat
Master**

**The San Francisco Scottish Rite
2850 19th Ave. SF, CA.**





Happy **November** **Birthday**

Loo Peter 11/4

Birnbaum Todd 11/5

Austin Cua 11/6

Carlos Pinto 11/8

Robert Steffen 11/8

Philip Greenstrand 11/10

MW Arthur Salazar

11/26

Danilo Celeste 11/28

Jeffrey Haukaas 11/28

Jason Dare 11/13

Sanford Jacobson 11/15

Walter Hartman 11/16

Antonio Soriano 11/19

Ernest Batara 11/20

Thomas Tandoc 11/22

Raymund De Luna 11/24

Thomas Chavez 11/26

CELEBRATE AND ENJOY!



MAKING TRUE FRIENDS, IMPROVING OURSELVES, HAVING AN IMPACT

OUR MISSION AND OUR LODGE

Welcome to San Francisco Lodge 120. One of the most diverse, friendly, and celebrated lodges in the Bay Area. Here we welcome all looking for friendship and brotherly love and to those who are interested in our vast history and tenants that have survived for time immemorial. We meet every Thursday at 7:30pm at 2850 19th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94132. Our Stated Meeting Dinner is held every first Thursday of the month at 6:30pm.

Join Us

San Francisco Lodge membership is open to men 18 and older who meet the qualifications and standards of character and intention, and who believe in a Supreme Being. Men of all ethnic and religious backgrounds are welcome.

One of Freemasonry's customs is not to solicit members – men must seek membership on their own initiative. Anyone is welcome to request information about the fraternity.

If you are interested in applying for membership to our lodge, now is a good time to start. Please contact us to schedule a visit during an event, or request more information.

Lodge Secretary: Donnie Lara

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Email: sfl120.secretary@outlook.com