



St. Michael Catholic Parish

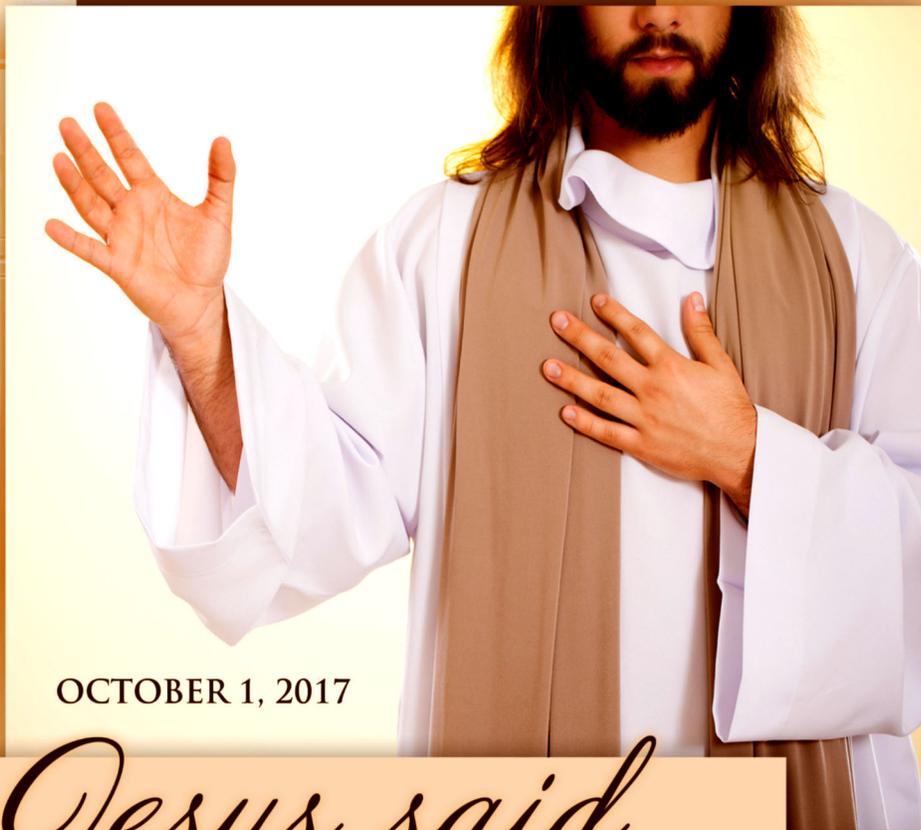
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OCTOBER 1, 2017

Jesus said

*to the chief priests
and elders of the people,
"Amen, I say to you,
tax collectors and prostitutes
are entering into the
kingdom of God before you."*

Matthew 21:31

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Actions Speak Louder Than Words

First Reading

When the wicked turn away from their wickedness they have committed and do what is right, they shall surely live (Ezekiel 18:25-28).

The general theme of this chapter is personal responsibility. The more we learn about human psychology, the more we recognize that we're dramatically influenced by the upbringing we received from our parents. We do suffer under the influences from the past, but that doesn't mean we aren't free to act in a manner different from that which our past might suggest. Also, in Israel, as in the Church today, there's always a tension between the collective identity of the people and that of the individual as a particular representative of the aspirations of the people. The covenant is a collective institution between Israel and God, yet the prescriptions of the covenant are addressed to individuals. So when one defied God, flouting the covenant law, the corporate Israel was wounded in the person of the unfaithful one and suffered as a consequence of his unfaithfulness.

In short, the people of God live a corporate life of mystical communion, for good or ill. When the people are generally corrupt, even the best among us is likely to suffer. When the individual is vicious, the Body is wounded in some small part— but we're all responsible for our own stand before our God nonetheless.

Second Reading

Consider others as better than yourselves; look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others (Philippians 2:1-11 [1-5]).

In this passage, St. Paul appeals for the unity in the Church. Since unity in the fullest sense could only be obtained by grace in Christ, Paul appeals to the example of the supernatural humility of Christ in coming among us as man. This is the model

for all to follow in dealing with others in the community.

Not only is Christ's humility a model for us to follow, but by his coming, he supplies the grace we need to actually follow him in humility. By taking the lowest possible place—that of a corpse—he is “highly exalt-

ed,” so that his very name evokes worship from the whole of creation. Of course his name, “Jesus,” means “God saves.” And so, he doesn't merely show us, he saves us. The supernatural humility necessary for a real unity in “spirit and ideals” becomes a possibility for the Church. It's that possibility that St. Paul is anxious to see become an actuality among the Philippians.

Gospel Reading

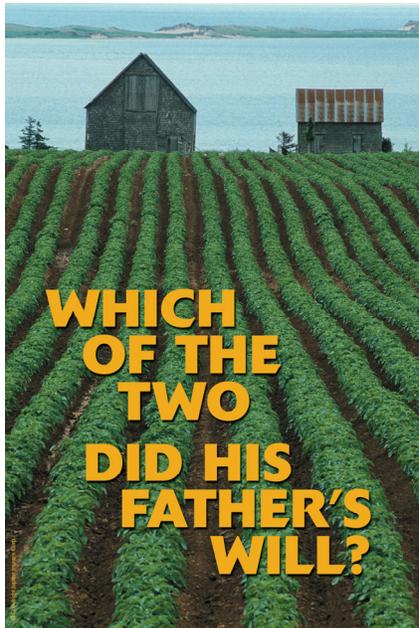
Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you (Matthew 21:28-32).

It's possible to read the two sons in this parable as the Jewish and Gentile peoples respectively, but there's a deeper point that transcends that historical one. In every age of the Church, there are those who say yes to God but then don't follow him and those sinners who see their sin and repent of it. Jesus suggests to the officials that the conversion of the tax collectors and sinners at the preaching of John should've signaled his authenticity as a prophet. If the sinners are converting, take note, he tells us. That's the sort of fruit one ought to see from God's work.

Neither Jesus nor John is particularly harsh with sin. They correct it, certainly, but it's only to unrepentance that they show scorn. Jesus can cleanse us from sin, but he doesn't have any cure for unrepentance. The unrepentant invariably see themselves as first and the whole offer of salvation as unnecessary. They'll be the last to enter the Kingdom, if indeed they're able to enter at all, because the King himself is suspect to them. The King is a Savior and if you have no need of the Savior, you'll not get the King or his Kingdom, either.

This *Opening the Word* reflection by FORMED.org has been printed with permission from Augustine Institute.

Download this week's *Opening the Word* prayer journal at FORMED.org



Grow in Discipleship

It is helpful to understand the context in which Jesus was speaking when he taught in parables. In the case of our Gospel passage this week, Jesus had been preaching and teaching in the Temple when the chief priests and elders began questioning his authority. In response, Jesus tells them about two sons who are asked to work in their father's vineyard.

For us to fully understand what he was saying, we need to realize that whenever a vineyard appears in the Old Testament, it is an image of Israel. So Jesus is really challenging his audience to look at how they, as the leaders, have been "tending" the people. Have they been saying one thing and doing another? Have they been like the second son, talking respectfully and lovingly to God, but then acting willfully and arrogantly? Or have they been like the first son, who rebels in words but then repents

and does the father's will? In this story, one question we can ask ourselves is this: Are our actions speaking louder than our words?

However, Jesus doesn't just leave it at that. He always goes beyond convicting us of our faults to invite us to repentance and humility. The entire message of the Gospel is that the mercy of God is always available but God cannot forgive an unrepentant heart. When we are locked in willful pride, we are unable to repent. But when we recognize our sinfulness, then God can do great things for and through us. However, it's not enough for us to just give lip service to repentance. We actually have to become repentant. We have to act, not just talk.

Discussion

Please watch the short *Opening the Word* video presentation available

free at FORMED.org

The presenter, Jim Beckman, explained a bit about the context in which Jesus told this parable. Who was Jesus talking to? What prompted his response?

What was Jesus inviting the priests and elders to do when he talked about the two sons?

Jim Beckman is a lecturer at the Augustine Institute, teaching the Discipleship and Leadership for the New Evangelization courses. He also works at the St. John Vianney Theological Seminary for the Archdiocese of Denver, where he runs a Leadership Institute for the Lay Division of Formation. He is the author of *God Help Me: How to Grow in Prayer* and many others.

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

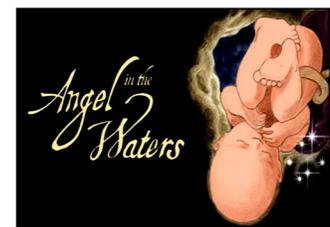
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—Irene K, Huron, OH

Get free access to watch this movie and hundreds of other movies, audio talks, video-based study programs and eBooks at FORMED.org Register with parish code **P4XNPZ**

Mass Intentions

Saturday 9/30

8:30am Edward Wadge †
5:00pm Gregory Ure †
Ralph Melendez †
7:00pm The Alarcon Family
Alan Winslow

Sunday 10/1

6:45am Melanie Maher †
8:00am Maria de Lurdes Cardoso †
9:30am Semplicio Fortes †
Mitchell Withrow
11:00am Patricia Werner †
Mass for Our Parish
12:30pm Sharon and Family
6:00pm Mary Watkins †

Monday 10/2

8:30am William Lawrence †
Danny Ramos †
Tom Heise †

Tuesday 10/3

8:30am Andrea Quinones †
Richard J. Gandolfo, Jr. †

Wednesday 10/4

8:30am Slegfried Forsprever †
William R. Warnock
7:00pm Sharon and Family

Thursday 10/5

8:30am Josefina Bridge †
Angeles Mercado †

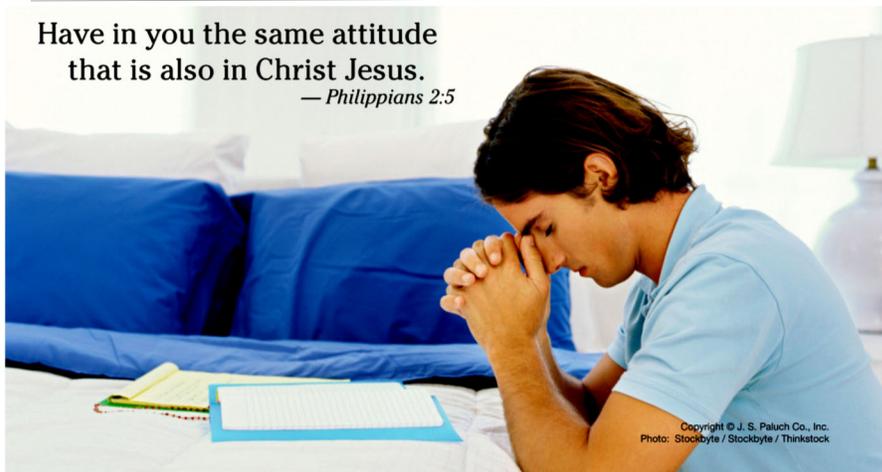
Friday 10/6

8:30am Slegfried Forsprever †
Cyril Lacaba †

To request a Mass intention, please visit the church office.

Prayers & Devotion

Have in you the same attitude
that is also in Christ Jesus.
— *Philippians 2:5*



Put yourself in the scene. Imagine you are with Jesus as the priests and elders come up and begin to question his authority to teach. In response, you hear him tell the parable of the two sons who were asked to work in their father's vineyard. When he finishes, he asks you the same question he asked the priests and elders: "What is your opinion? Which son did the father's will?" Now prayerfully consider which of the two sons you are most like. Listen as Jesus says that tax collectors and prostitutes will enter the kingdom of heaven before some of those who are listening to him. What does it challenge you to do?

Resolution

When you feel prompted to do something for the kingdom, ask yourself which son you are being—the one who says "yes" but does not follow through, or the one who initially refuses but then performs the action?

Download the free *Opening the Word* guide at FORMED.org to write down your thoughts and prayers this week.

Parish Prayer Requests

For Cheryl Ruth, who has suffered a cardiac event.

For Kim Romero, newly received into the Church, who is fighting stage 4 cancer.

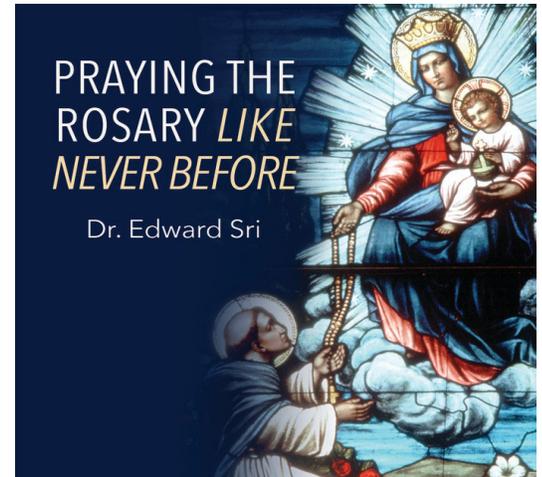
For Chris, who is addicted to heroin, and all those enslaved by addictions.

For the repose of the soul of Sister Catherine Browne, OP who died on September 16.

For the victims of the recent hurricanes and earthquakes.

Please send your prayer requests to Prayers@StMichaelLivermore.com

October: Month of the Rosary



Join Brother Francis in this entertaining and guidance-filled presentation that will inspire children to deepen their faith by praying the Rosary! This episode includes the prayers of the Rosary, wonderfully visualized, and an animated portrayal of the Annunciation. Watch this video free with your children or grandchildren on FORMED.org, under "Watch" then "Youth".

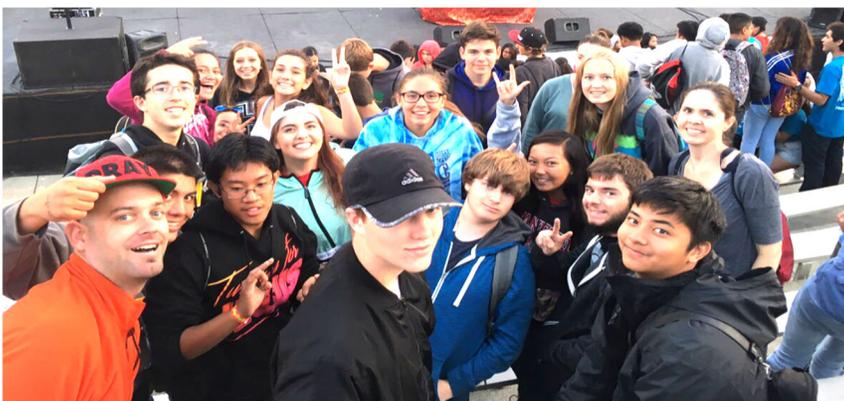
In this audio discussion, Dr. Sri shares Saint John Paul II's practical strategies for praying the Rosary better so you can encounter Jesus more deeply in prayer. Listen free on FORMED.org, under "Listen" then "Prayer".

Need a Rosary?

No Catholic should ever be without a rosary. If you need one, please stop by the church office and ask for a special rosary, blessed with a St Michael medal, as our gift to you.

Audio Talks on CD

A huge selection of excellent Catholic audio talks on CD are available on the kiosk in the church office lobby: 3 for \$10.



Teens had a BLAST at OnFireNorCal!

Inspiring talks, amazing worship concerts, fellowship with hundreds of other Catholic teens (and the rides!) all made for a unique encounter with Christ. LifeTeen meets on Sundays after the 6 pm Mass. For more info, contact Joseph at Youth@StMichaelLivemore.com

Middle School Youth Ministry Kick Off

Calling all 6th-8th graders! Come this Thursday at 6:30 pm to the Youth Portable (behind the church) to kick off another awesome year!

This Week

MONDAY, OCT 2

The Holy Guardian Angels

Readings: Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Mt 18:1-5, 10

Suggestion:

Teach someone the Guardian Angel prayer:

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day, be at my side, to light and guard, rule and guide. Amen.

THURSDAY, OCT 5

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

Readings: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8-11; Lk 10:1-12

Events:

Edge Middle School Youth Ministry Kick Off for 6th-8th graders at 6:30 pm in the Youth Portable (behind the church).

SUNDAY, OCT 8

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

Events:

LifeTeen! High school students, celebrate Mass with us at 6:00 pm, then meet us in the Convent after!

The Vineyard of the Lord

It's said there are only a few basic plots for most stories. What the storyteller does with the plot—the twists and turns that are added—is what makes a story memorable. In this week's Gospel, Jesus takes a story of a vineyard, which would have been very familiar to his audience, and gives it an unexpected twist.

TUESDAY, OCT 3

Readings: Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-7; Lk 9:51-56

Events:

Ministers of Holy Communion training after 8:30 am mass until about 10:30 am in the church.

School Mass at 8:30 am. Expect the liturgy to last a bit longer than usual.

FRIDAY, OCT 6

St. Bruno; Blessed Marie Rose Duchrocher

Readings: Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Lk 10:13-16

Events:

KofC Movie Knight: Disney's UP at 7:30 pm at St Charles.

WEDNESDAY, OCT 4

St. Francis of Assisi

Readings: Neh 2:1-8; Ps 137:1-6; Lk 9:57-62

Suggestion:

Listen to Brother Francis: The Barefoot Saint. Dozens of accomplished, award-winning actors bring characters to life, and cinematic sound and music in this radio theater drama available on FORMED.org.

SATURDAY, OCT 7

Our Lady of the Rosary

Readings: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-37; Lk 10:17-24

Events:

Anointing of the Sick after the 8:30 am Mass.

Blessing of the Animals at 10:00 am in the Courtyard.

Parish Wide Study

SESSION 4: THE STORY OF SALVATION CREATION, FALL & REDEMPTION

The story of salvation began with Creation itself—and a decision that affects all of us to this present day. How did the events of an ancient past set into motion God's rescue operation to save us from eternal death?

This week, watch the 30-minute video *Symbolon: Knowing the Faith, Session 4*. Download the participant materials located just under the video for your own reflections or to discuss with a friend.

Access the Symbolon video study series free from any browser at FORMED.org. Get your free account using parish code **P4XNPZ**

Upcoming Events

Livermore Knights of Columbus Membership Drive

Oct 14 & 15

Did you know that the Livermore Knights donated \$15,000 to the hall renovation and \$10,000 to local charities in September?

Our Knights will hold a membership drive at St Michael's on Oct 14 & 15. All Catholic men are invited to join. Contact Jim Shirley for info at 925-518-1189 or Jshirley@lvjUSD.k12.ca.us

100th Anniversary of Fatima Celebration

Saturday, Oct 14

100 years ago, on October 13, Our Lady appeared in Fatima, Portugal. The miraculous event of the sun "dancing" before thousands of on-lookers followed. Join us in celebration!

12:00 pm Public Rosary at Carnegie Park, on the 4th Street side

4:30 pm Rosary in the Church

5:00 pm Mass in English

Marian Procession

Blessing of Rosaries in the Courtyard

7:00 pm Mass in Spanish

KofC Blood Drive

Saturday, Oct 14

St Charles' Hall, 1315 Lomitas Avenue
Saturday, Oct 14, from 9 am - 2 pm.

To schedule your donation appointment, call 1-800-RED-CROSS and enter sponsor code 94550

Mass of Remembrance

Mon, Oct 23

We gather to remember departed loved ones at St Michael's at 6:30pm. Our bilingual Mass helps us honor the memory of our passed loved ones by celebrating Mass in their honor. All are welcome.

The Solemnity of All Saints

November 1
Holy Day of Obligation

Mass at St Michael's at 8:30 am, 10:00 am (St Michael School), 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm (Spanish)

On All Saints, the Church honors every saint in heaven, known and unknown.

"We believe in the communion of all the faithful of Christ, those who are pilgrims on earth, the dead who are being purified, and the blessed in heaven, all together forming one Church..." (CCC 962)

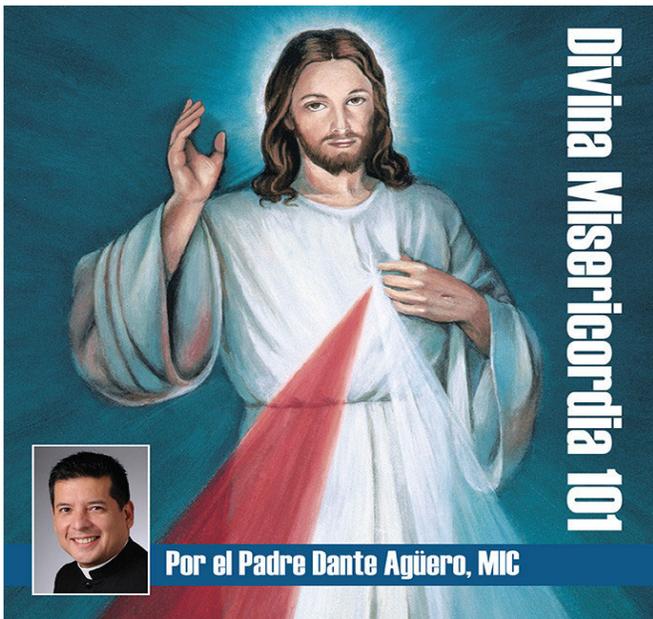
Catholics are obliged to celebrate Mass on All Saints.



Plenary Indulgence For the Souls in Purgatory

A plenary indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted each and every day from Nov 1 to Nov 8, when the faithful devoutly visit a cemetery and there pray, if only mentally, for the departed.

Requirements: Receive the Sacrament of Confession, Eucharist, pray for the intentions of the Pope and have no attachment to sin (make an act of the will to love God and despise sin.)



Divina Misericordia 101

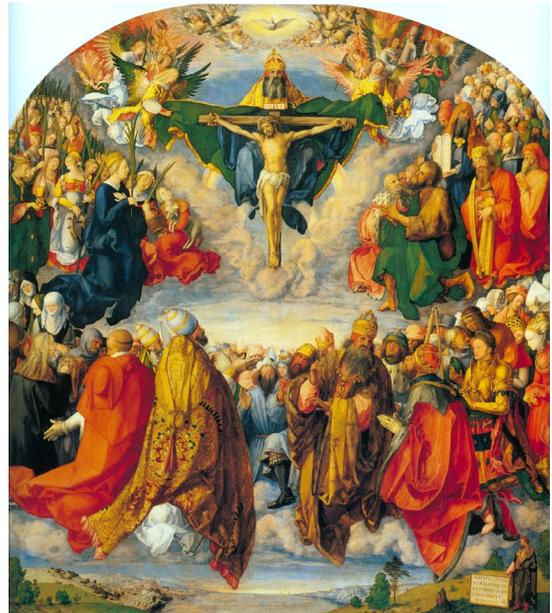
Padre Dante Agüero, MIC

La Divina Misericordia es el mensaje urgente de esperanza para el mundo. En esta presentación dinámica, por el Padre Dante Agüero, MIC, aprenderá más sobre esta poderosa devoción y las gracias asociadas a ella.

La Divina Misericordia 101, proporciona una visión clara y concisa sobre la Divina Misericordia y del importante papel de la misión de Santa María Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), el apóstol de la Divina Misericordia a quien San Juan Pablo II llamó "un regalo de Dios para nuestro tiempo". Esta presentación es ideal, para todos aquellos que apenas la están conociendo, así como también para aquellos que buscan lograr un nivel avanzado de conocimiento. El formato de instrucción es perfecto para clases religiosas, grupos de oración y para todas las personas que desean profundizar su conocimiento sobre la Divina Misericordia.

Jesús le dijo a Santa Faustina, "La humanidad no conseguirá la paz hasta que no se dirija con confianza a Mi misericordia."

Acceda a esta conferencia gratis en FORMED.org bajo "Listen" y luego "Español "



La Solemnidad de Todos los Santos

01 de noviembre Día Santo de Obligación

Misa en San Miguel a las 8:30 am, 10:00 am (Escuela San Miguel), 6:00 pm y 7:30 pm (Español)

En Todos los Santos, la Iglesia honra a cada santo en el cielo, conocido y desconocido.

"Creemos en la comunión de todos los fieles de Cristo, de los peregrinos de la tierra, de los muertos que están siendo purificados y de los bienaventurados en el cielo, todos juntos formando una sola Iglesia ..." (CCC 962)

Los católicos están obligados a celebrar la Misa sobre Todos los Santos.

Indulgencia Plenaria Para las Almas del Purgatorio

Una indulgencia plenaria, aplicable sólo a las almas en el purgatorio, se concede todos los días del 1 de noviembre al 8 de noviembre, cuando los fieles visitan devotamente un cementerio y allí rezan, aunque sólo mentalmente, por los difuntos.

Requisitos: Recibir el Sacramento de la Confesión, la Eucaristía, orar por las intenciones del Papa y no tener ningún vínculo con el pecado (hacer un acto de la voluntad de amar a Dios y despreciar el pecado.)



TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

La práctica de usar nudos en una cuerda para contar oraciones tiene una larga trayectoria en la fe cristiana. Originalmente un cordón con 150 nudos o piedritas se usaba para contar la recitación de los 150 salmos encontrados en la Sagrada Escritura. Con el tiempo, visto que mucha gente no podía leer o recitar de memoria los salmos, se sustituyeron por el uso de 150 Padrenuestros. A finales de la Edad Media muchos sustituyeron los Padrenuestros con el saludo del ángel Gabriel a María. En el siglo XVI se formuló lo que hoy reconocemos como el Avemaría, y en el año 1569, el Papa Pío V estableció el Rosario en su forma y uso actual.

En 1592 un fraile dominico mandó hacer una imagen de la Virgen del Rosario para su convento en Guatemala. Según la leyenda, María viajaba por América con su Hijito y éste se quedó dormido en Guatemala, por lo cual se quedaron allí. En 1821 los independistas guatemaltecos tomaron a la Virgen del Rosario como protectora y en 1833 fue nombrada patrona oficial de Guatemala.

--Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gl, OFM,
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Sesión 4: La Historia de Salvación

La Historia de la Salvación comenzó con la Creación misma — y una decisión hecha entonces que nos influye hasta el día de hoy. ¿Cómo es que los eventos del pasado antiguo ponen en movimiento la operación de rescate de Dios para salvarnos de una muerte eterna?

ESTA SESIÓN CUBRIRÁ:

- Las tres partes principales en la historia de salvación: La Creación, la Caída, y la Resurrección
- Cómo estábamos unidos originalmente con Dios y experimentamos la armonía entre la familia humana
- Cómo el pecado rompió nuestra unidad y nos dejó con una inclinación hacia el pecado, llamada concupiscencia
- Cómo Jesús vino a restablecernos con el Padre, pero también a establecer la Iglesia Católica para unir la familia rota de la humanidad en la familia unida de Dios

Accede el Symbolon serie estudio video libre desde cualquier navegador en FORMED.org. Obtenga su cuenta gratis usando código parroquial **P4XNPZ**

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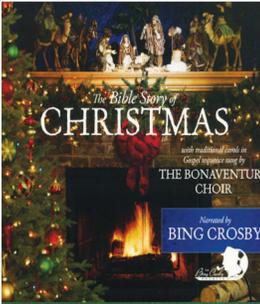
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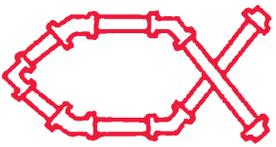
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Mass | Misa

Mon-Sat | Lu-Sa 8:30 am

Wed | Mi 7:00 pm (español)

Sat Vigil | Vigilia del Sábado

5:00 pm (English), 7:00 pm (español)

Sunday | Domingo

6:45 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am,
12:30 pm (español), 6:00 pm

Sign Language | Lenguaje por Señas

1st Sun, 11:00 am

Primer domingo a las 11:00 am

Vietnamese | Vietnamita

4th Sun, 3:30 pm

Cuarto domingo a las 3:30 pm

Confession | Confesión

Saturday, in the church |

Sábado en la iglesia

9:00 am & 3:45 pm in English

6:15 pm en español

1st & 3rd Wed in the Convent Chapel,
at 2:30 pm in English

Anointing of the Sick |

Unción de los Enfermos

1st Saturday after 8:30 am Mass or by
appointment: 925-447-1585 |
1er sábado después de las 8:30 am Misa
o con cita previa: 925-447-1585

Eucharistic Adoration |

Adoración Eucarística

24/7 in the Chapel. For after hours
access code, call 925-980-4826 |
24/7 en la Capilla. Para el código de
acceso después de las horas, llame al
925-980-4826

Clergy | Clero

Rev. Van Dinh, Pastor

Rev. Alfonso Borgen, Parochial
Vicar

Rev. David Staal, Associate

Rev. Alfred Amos, In Residence

Rev. Stanislaus Poon, Retired

Rev. Deacon Bill Archer

Rev. Deacon Rob Federle

Rev. Deacon Dave Rezendes

Rev. Deacon Bob Vince

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michaelpereira@comcast.net

Fr. Van, Eric Hom, Ricardo Echon,
Fidelis Atuegbu, Jo Anne Lindquist,
Dave Parks, Frank Draschner, Ken
Varallo, Irving Garcia, Cynthia Garay
and Glenda Dubsy.

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daveruth@alrinc.com

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