

Christ Our Light Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
9677 HIGHWAY 6 • NAVASOTA, TEXAS

OFFICES AND MAILING ADDRESS
510 Manley Street • Navasota, TX 77868

Phone: 936-825-3920 • Fax: 936-825-7612

Religious Education: 936-825-1869

After hour emergencies: 936-825-3920

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday

9:15am - noon & 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Friday 9:15am- noon

Other times by appointment

Website: www.christourlight.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Rev. Elias Lopéz

Grant Holt, Permanent Deacon

Garry Janota, Permanent Deacon

Russell Pasket, Permanent Deacon

Gregory Jelinek, MD, Permanent Deacon (Retired)

Ryan Burns, Seminarian in Resident

ADMINISTRATION & BOOKKEEPER

Nelda Kurten

COORDINATOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Carolyn Katkoski

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY AND MUSIC

Susan Russell

SACRISTAN

Samuel Pry

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Michael Culver (Chairperson), Teresa Morales, Jason Katkoski, Laura Quirino, and Sam Pry

FINANCE COUNCIL

Teresa Morales, Carolyn Katkoski

DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN

Deacon Grant Holt, Jason Katkoski, Mitch Kroll, Gregorio Gonzalez

RE BOARD

President: Brandi Tejeda, Vice President: Jessica Herrera

Secretary: Teresa Morales, Board Members: Lucy Coronilla, Jason Katkoski, Allyson Sweeney, Den Grant Holt

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Deacon Grant Holt, Danny Clark, Richard Krolczyk, and Joe Rangel

YOUTH MINISTER COORDINATOR

Jessica Herrera

SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm

Sunday: (English) 8:00am

Sunday: (Spanish) 1:00pm

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

First Saturday 9am

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30am

Tuesday 6:00pm (English)

Thursday 6:00pm (Spanish)

ROSARY PRAYED IN COMMON

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:40pm

Wednesday & Friday: 8:10am

Saturday: 5:15pm

Sunday: 7:15am & 12:15pm

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

Tuesday, Thursday and

2nd & 4th Saturdays 5:00-5:45pm

and by appointment 936-825-3920

RECONCILIACION/CONFESIONES

Los Martes, jueves y el

segundo y cuarto sábado a las 5:00-5:45pm

y por cita 936-825-3920

October 10, 2021 - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Christ Our Light Catholic Church • Navasota, Texas

October 09 & 10, 2021

Under the Patronage of St. Patrick and Our Lady of Guadalupe

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

No Mass

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

6:00 PM For Rain or in Thanksgiving for Rain

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

8:30 AM Louis Sandidge †

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

8:30 AM Otto † and Dorothy † Wilde

6:00 PM* Fatima Murillo 15 Años Devida

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

8:30 AM Ted Bolcerek †

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

6:00 PM Nina Rotello †

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

8:00 AM People of the Parish

1:00 PM* Martin Ruiz, Jr. †

*Spanish

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

5:00 AM Spanish, Legion of Mary Cry room, CH

6:15 PM Altar Society Meeting, SPH

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM Confession, CH

7:00 PM Parish Council Meeting, SPH

7:00 PM English Choir Practice, CH

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

5:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul, Meeting, KC Hall in Anderson

6:00 PM CCE, 1st-5th Grades, SPCC

6:00 PM RCIC, SPCC

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

12:00 PM English, Legion Mary, Cry room CH

5:00 PM to 5:45 PM Confession, CH

7:00 PM Spanish Choir Practice, CH

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

5:30 AM TMIY Men's Group, SPH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

10:15 AM CCE 6-12th Grades

4:00 PM 1 Confirmation Workshop, SPCC

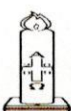
OCTOBER 16 & 17, CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Christ Our Light Catholic Church



The Architecture of Guadalupe - Houston

The Church is open every day from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. for people to come stop by and Pray.



The Sanctuary Candle will burn October 10th through October 16th in Memory of Mary Ann McKimmey.

E-Mail Addresses for the Parish

To e-mail Fr. Elias...fr.eli@christourlight.org

To e-mail Nelda: nelda@christourlight.org

To e-mail RE Board: reboard@christourlight.org

Christ Our Light web-site: www.christourlight.org

BULLETIN DEADLINE TUESDAY 12:00 NOON

Announcements and or articles are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office, or faxed to 825-7612 or e-mailed nelda@christourlight.org.

Events, meeting etc. for the Parish Calendar are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office in advance.

AFTER MASS WEEKLY PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

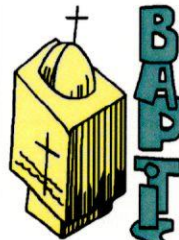
Deadline Tuesday, 12:00 Noon. Announcements are to be submitted in writing to the Parish Office. The Pastor reserves the right to pick and choose which announcements are made in this forum as there is a need to keep these to a minimum.

Todos los anuncios deben ser presentados por escrito en la oficina de la parroquia no mas tarde que los martes al mediodia. El Pastor decidirá si las noticias son de importancia para ser pronuncia das.

PARISH REGISTRATION

To our new parishioner, we welcome you to Christ Our Light Parish. Please register at the parish office or ask one of the Hospitality Ministers to help you. For parishioners moving out of the parish or changing your address or phone number, please notify the parish office, 825-3920.

Sacrament of Baptism Schedule



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English Baptism Class Schedule for 2021: 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM, & October 9th PARTICIPANTS MUST REGISTER AT LEAST 1 WEEK PRIOR TO CLASS. To register please contact Deacon Grant Holt at 936-825-6448 or Lucy Coronilla at 936-419-9296.

Spanish Baptism Class Schedule for 2021: 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM, October 24th. For Information, call Rosa Torres at 936-419-8974

ALL DOCUMENTS AND FORMS must be completed and turned in before Baptism Date. **SCHEDULED** Baptism will be celebrated once a month at 11:30 AM in English every 3rd Saturday and every 4th Saturday at 11:30 AM in Spanish following completion of the baptismal classes the prior month and **Fr. Eli has been informed in advance.** The Sacrament of Baptism is a communal celebration. Therefore, private baptisms are not celebrated here.

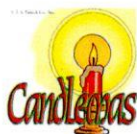


**PRAY for THE CONTINUING
RECOVERY OR COMFORT OF
the infirmed and homebound
members of our community.**

Sarafina Alo, Andrew Castillo, Jo Ann Clepper, Frank Crouch, Elizabeth Culmer, Herman Culmer, Eva Estrada, Liz Estrada, Lois Finke, Fabryna Hitchcock, Liz Johnson, Rachel Kammel, Mary Ann Knowles, Liz Kubricht, Glenda Lawrence, John Lawrence, Nancy Lopez, Ramon Mendez, Christian Mills, Leslie Mills, France Munoz, Delia Nunez, Anita Olguin, Leona Pasket, Cecelia Pearson, Angelina Peterson, Wallace Peterson, Irene Ramirez, Lucila Rivera, Zek Rueda, Rosalinda Salazar, Josh Sechelski, Sherrie Shiflett, Dana Sowell, Lydia Torres, Jessie Torres, Robert Mario Torres, Jessie Valadez, III, Crystal Winkler.

Call the parish office when a member of our community has a need to be remembered in prayer, 825-3920.

Also, if you have added a name to the prayer list, please call to let us know when to remove the name from the list.
Thank you.



New Memorial Candles

The new Candle Stands are electrical. Anyone wanting to light a candle may do so by pressing the red button and give an offering. The candle will burn for 12 hours. Memorial Candles burning for one year are \$150.00 each. Come by the parish office to schedule and pay your offering of \$150.00 for your Memorial candle.



**YOUR PARISH
SUPPORT
SU APOYO
PARROQUIAL**

TRESASURE YOU HAVE SHARED:

GIFTS FOR GOD — YOUR TITHE REPONDS

October 02 & 03, 2021

| | |
|---|----------|
| (77) Offertory Envelopes/Loose Checks, On Line Giving, Mail Ins, Drop Ins | 4,723.00 |
| Children Offering | 50.00 |
| Maintenance | 70.00 |
| Hurricane Ida US Disaster Recovery | 445.13 |

Thank you thank you for Mailing, Bringing in, and On Line Giving your Offertory. Baskets will be passed during the Offertory. Baskets will also be passed when we have a II Collection.



The Parish thanks Juan and Angelina Olguin for the Altar Flowers this past weekend.

In Our Prayers

We remember in prayer our friends and loved ones in active military duty, both in and out of harms way, in the service of their our country. Pray for peace in the world and for our leaders.

Ssg Jorge Aguilar, Jr., Alexander Cortez, Jesus Cortez, Spec. SFC Antinia Franco, 1SG, Jason Malek, Antonio Magallon, Jose Rene Milan, Christopher Munoz, Javier Salinas, Shelby Seale, SSgt Allen Thane

**OUR HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS
FOR OCTOBER**

Intention for Evangelization — We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel



**P.E.R.A. (Perpetual Eucharistic
Reparative Adoration)**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has resumed on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. following the 8:30 AM Masses and will be reposed at 9:00 PM on Wednesdays and Friday and Thursdays at 5:45 PM before the 6:00 PM Spanish Mass.

The "Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, in contemplation full of faith, and open to make amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world. Let our adoration never cease."

Please call Mary Rangel @ 936-419-9024 to sign up for a time slot on Thursdays.

**THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND
Web site is FORMED.ORG
The Parish Code to access the website is
MVMZKF**

Then register to create an account.

**There are 2 easy ways to connect to
FLOCKNOTE (pick one):**

NOTE: Do not use Mozilla Firefox browser.

1. Visit our church at: www.flocknote.com/christourlightchurch
2. Text SPOLG to 84576 from your phone to subscribe to updates.



October 10, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 7:7-11 | Heb 4:12-13 | Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

In the Old Testament, wealth was considered a sign of God's favor. So imagine the rich young man's surprise when he approached Jesus, only to find out that he would need to sell what he had and then give to the poor in order to follow Jesus. His face fell and he walked away. His demeanor highlights the fundamental error of equating what we have, and what we do, with salvation – of relying on earthly things, rather than God, for our deepest comfort and security. In contrast, the Book of Wisdom speaks of the richness and worth of divine wisdom over that of any precious gem or gold. We understand that divine wisdom to be manifested in the person of Jesus Christ. Therefore, true wisdom means having faith in Jesus rather than in our own efforts and whatever we might have earned in our lifetime. Otherwise, we are like a camel trying to squeeze through the eye of a needle. Jesus truly offers us the only way. I like to think that the young man came around eventually. After all, as Jesus says, "all things are possible for God." As we reflect, we can ask Jesus what we need to "let go of" to turn our sights, our minds, and our lives over to God, knowing that following his will is the surest path to the Kingdom.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Just a few days ago, we celebrated the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The behavior of the rich young man in today's Gospel – daring, enthusiastic, confident – brings the young Francis to mind. Born into wealth, he relished his carefree lifestyle and sought to become a knight. His dreams of glory, however, quickly became a nightmare as his comrades fell and he was imprisoned in a dank cell for a year. After his release, he fell seriously ill, and God spoke to him. Francis cast aside the trappings of wealth, choosing instead to seek God's will in all things. His example invites us to pray about our priorities: What things or attitudes get in the way of our relationship with God and one another? What is the Lord asking of us and how can we respond? How can we give witness to our belief that all things are possible with God?

ACTION Perhaps try a "consumption fast" for the next couple of weeks, purchasing only what you need – food and other necessities. Use time and energy you may have spent shopping to deepen your relationship with God and others by participating in Eucharistic adoration, going to confession, visiting an elderly relative, or contacting an old friend.



Announcing the 104th Anniversary 2021

PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY CRUSADE

The world is at a crossroad. God is more offended than ever as people ignore Our Lady's maternal request to "stop offending God." Yes, we must listen to Our Lady's re-quest and stop sinning if we hope to enjoy God's blessings and to avert His wrath. He will hear us, if we pray through the intercession of His Blessed Mother. That's why we're doing the 2021 Public Square Rosary Crusade.

In The Secret of the Rosary, Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort said: "Public prayer is far more powerful than private prayer to appease the anger of God and call down His mercy, and Holy Mother Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, has always advocated public prayer in times of public tragedy and suffering."

JOIN THE 2021 PUBLIC SQUARE
ROSARY CRUSADE TODAY!

What: *THE HOLY ROSARY*

Where: St. Stanislaus Catholic Church - Anderson

When: October 16th at noon



For more information, contact:

Name: Joe Vitanza

Phone Number: 713-504-8183



Coordinated nationally by Tradition, Family and Property and its *America Needs Fatima* campaign

For questions or comments, e-mail us at
ANFRosaryRally@aol.com

Visit our website at **www.ANF.org**

(866) 584-6012

A Women's Day Retreat on Prayer

BE STILL AND KNOW
Reviving a Heart for Prayer

Saturday, November 6, 2021

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Christ Our Light Catholic Church

Navasota, Texas

Sherri Southers, Spiritual Director

Retreat Director

\$10.00 fee for Lunch & Retreat

Cash or Check

R.S.V.P. by November 3, 2021

Helen.kimball@outlook.com or 832-771-3001

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B

Sunday, October 10, 2021



God speaks to us in many ways, including through the Sunday Scripture readings. The Sunday Connection provides useful background and activities to better understand the upcoming Sunday's Scripture readings, helping you to connect the Scripture to daily life in a meaningful way

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we continue reading the Gospel of Mark from where we left off last Sunday. Last Sunday our Gospel told how Jesus was tested by the Pharisees about the requirements for divorce. Recall that these chapters come from the second part of Mark's Gospel, which chronicles the beginning of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem.

In today's Gospel, an unnamed man approaches Jesus and inquires about what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus replies that one must follow the commandments of the Law of Moses. The man acknowledges that he has observed all of these since his childhood. Jesus then says that only one thing is lacking: he must give his possessions to the poor and follow Jesus. The man leaves in sadness, and Mark tells us that this is because he had many possessions.

The belief in resurrection and eternal life was a relatively recent development in Jewish thought at Jesus' time, and it wasn't shared by everyone. The Pharisees taught that there would be a resurrection from the dead; the Sadducees did not share this belief. Jesus taught that there would be a final judgment for everyone and eternal life (the Kingdom of God) for believers.

Jesus makes two requirements of the wealthy man who approaches him. First, he must give up his possessions. Throughout history, some Christians have taken this literally. Their example witnesses to us a radical commitment to the Gospel of Jesus. Some have read this as a particular requirement directed to this specific individual. Still others have sought to explain the meaning intended by the word *possessions* as those things that prevent one from following Jesus. Christians have generally understood that at the least, following Jesus requires that believers hold material possessions loosely and remain vigilant against seeking security in accumulating possessions.

A Stewardship Minute

Inspiring a deeper understanding of true giving
An introduction of **Stewardship** to the congregation

October 2021

In 2 Corinthians 8, Paul held up the generosity of the Macedonian churches to those in Corinth. It seemed his desire was that they show some kind of proof for their appreciation of the Lord's blessing and sustaining power to them. He urged them, therefore to bring to completion the great work begun earlier in their ministry: *"Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have."* (2 Corinthians 8: 11-12)

Apparently they had forgotten, like we often do, the passion with which they had started to serve the Lord. We, too, could use this urging of Paul's periodically. He wanted to bring the churches in Corinth from their relaxed attitude toward giving and sharing, and found it necessary to remind them of their oneness in the body of Christ. The Corinthians had begun to take pleasure in what others were doing for God's kingdom and the sustaining of the earthly churches, and had forgotten their own part.

"Strive for equality" was Paul's urging to the Corinthians. Since Christ bore the total weight of our salvation on himself, could we not at least share in the earthly ministry as a body so that *"He who gathered much does not have too much and he who gathered little does not have too little?"* (2 Corinthians 8:15)

Prayer: Do not, O Lord, allow us to grow weary in well-doing. Stir us up to exercise our total stewardship, that our efforts may always please you. **Amen**

A Stewardship Minute is available to subscribers of Stewardship at www.parishpublishing.org. Simply click on the "Parish Resource Center" and log in using with your account number (Username) and zip code (Password), both of which can be found on the invoice or mailing label.

parish

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Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

October 2021

Christ Our Light Catholic Church and St. Stanislaus Church

Rev. Elias Lopez, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

God is Love

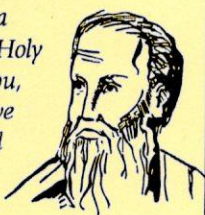
God is the creator of the universe, who made everything from nothing.

Yet, He is not a remote, uninvolved God. Nor is He an unforgiving judge waiting for us to mess up. Rather, God is our Father who loves us more than we could ask to be loved.

His temple

St. Paul teaches that "your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own." We understand it is unhealthy to overeat or abuse drugs or alcohol. Yet, we don't always acknowledge the harm of watching movies and television shows with violence or sex, or listening to music with profane lyrics. God's temple deserves respect. "Therefore, glorify God in your body" (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

"Daily prayer is the foundation of sanctity. Some prefer it in the morning. Some late at night. However, whenever, wherever, it's a must!" Timothy Cardinal Dolan



"Lead us not into temptation ..."

No one is exempt from temptation. Being enticed by the attractions of this world is part of our human condition, but successfully fighting it makes us stronger and holier.

Watch for it. Temptation strikes when we are least able to fight it. Identify what tempts you most and try to anticipate when you are weakest. Then devise a plan of action – not just a resolution – to help you resist.

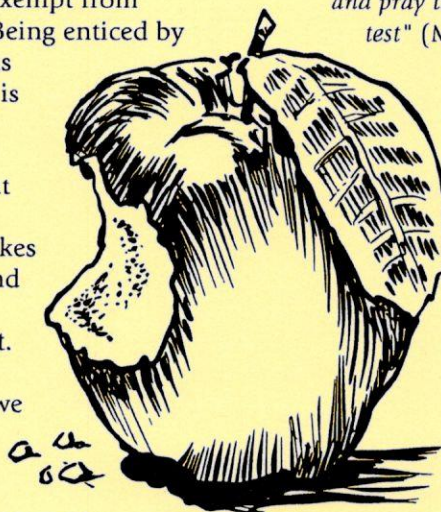
Pray through it. When Jesus caught His disciples sleeping in the garden instead of praying, He said, "Watch

and pray that you may not undergo the test" (Matthew 26:41). Overcome temptation by being alert to it and praying instead of indulging in it.

Run from it.

Sometimes fleeing temptation is the best way to resist it. "God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it" (1 Corinthians 10:13). Avoid people, places or situations that give you trouble.

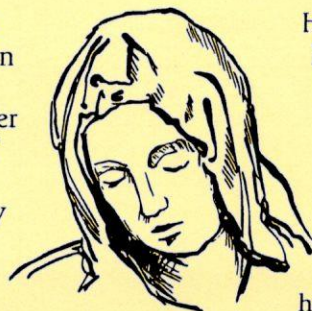
Don't start it. It is easier to resist temptation if you stop it when it starts. Then it won't have the force of habit. Though it is never too late to ask for God's help, the longer you live with the temptation, the harder it will be to turn to Him.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics turn to Mary?

In Old Testament kingdoms, the queen mother played a significant role in her son's governance of His kingdom. Her power and authority flowed from her position as it related to her son.



His subjects often petitioned her to speak for them. As Queen Mother of Heaven, Mary's purpose is to further her Son's kingdom. When we turn to her, she acts with her authority to bring our concerns to her Son, and He is always inclined to fulfill her wishes.

God's love never changes

It's only human to want to be loved. Unfortunately, even the best friend or lover will let us down once in a while. That can leave us lonely or searching for the wrong kind of love. Fortunately, God will never let us down. His love is the right kind of love to have.

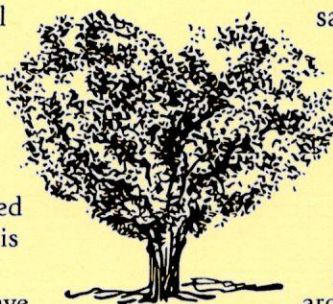
His love never changes. Standards set by humans change over time. Something considered "in" today, can be "out" in no time. God's love is unchanging and unending.

Friends come and go. Sooner or later, you have

to leave your friends or they leave you. But Jesus said, "... behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). God never leaves.

He loves us for who we really are.

There's nothing God doesn't know about us, and He adores us anyway. If God likes you, others will, too. To please God we have to fill ourselves with love for Him and other people, and that makes us even nicer to be around. Pass it on.



from Scripture

Mark 12:28-34 – The first Commandment

The Jewish authorities often tried to draw Jesus out and get Him to say something counter to Jewish law. That way He could be discredited – or worse. Yet, the strategy never worked for them. In fact, one of the scribes was so impressed by Jesus' response to a challenge by the Sadducees that he posed a question of his own. He sincerely wanted to learn from Jesus' answer.

The scribe asked which of the commandments was most important. Jesus said everything starts and ends with love – love of God and love of each other. To love God is to

love one another. They are as inseparable as the beams of the cross. While it is easy to love God, loving others is more difficult.



But true love of neighbor is measured by how we treat those who are neither family nor friends. It means including people when the natural inclination is to exclude or avoid them. Jesus loved prostitutes, thieves, lepers, even His political enemies. This is how God loves and He calls us to do no less.

Feasts & Celebrations

In October we celebrate the Rosary especially on the feast of **Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7th**. The Rosary helps us to meditate on Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection.

October 6 – St. Bruno (1101). Bruno was born in Germany, studied in France and became a theology professor. With six other companions, Bruno founded the Carthusian Order in 1084 and helped reform the clergy in Rome.

October 14 – St. Callistus I (222). A Roman slave, Callistus obtained his

freedom and was ordained a deacon by Pope Zephyrinus, whom he later succeeded. Callistus's election caused an eighteen-year schism, spawning the first anti-pope. In a time of trial and confusion, he reopened the Church to all. He was martyred in Rome.

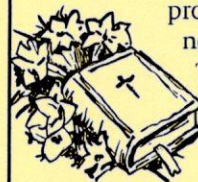
October 20 – St. Paul of the Cross (1775). Paul was inspired by a vision to start a religious order dedicated to the Passion of Christ.

He founded the Passionists in 1720, lived a penitential life, worked miracles, and cared for the poor and sick.



Q & A Why is a Catholic Funeral important?

Although no one enjoys dwelling on death, most of us will mourn and bury loved ones in our lifetimes. Friends may counsel us to skip the church funeral and just "get it over with," but our faith provides the strength we need to deal with death.



The Church has created Rites to help us face the difficulties and reality of death.

Every baptized Catholic has a right to a Catholic funeral. The Rites of a Catholic Funeral include Prayers after Death, Prayers in the Presence of the Body, the Scripture Prayer Service at the Wake, the Funeral at Church (with or without Mass), and the Interment Prayer Service at the cemetery. Together these services not only make up the total Catholic Funeral Service, but also provide the Church's special prayers for the deceased. The Rites also support families and friends who are grieving for their loved one.

Catholics are entitled to a Catholic Funeral whether they are frequent or infrequent Mass attendees. (For specific questions, check with your local parish.)

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

Creciendo en la Fe

Descubriendo esperanza y gozo en la fe católica.

Octubre de 2021

Christ Our Light Catholic Church and St. Stanislaus Church
Rev. Elias Lopez, Pastor

Meditaciones breves

Dios es amor

Dios es el creador del universo y creó todo de la nada. Sin embargo, no es un dios remoto y distante.

Tampoco es un juez implacable que espera a que cometamos un error. Dios es, en cambio, nuestro padre que nos ama más de lo que podríamos pedirle que nos amara.

Su templo

San Pablo enseña que *"sus cuerpos son templos del Espíritu Santo que habita en ustedes y que han recibido de Dios"*. Entendemos que no es sano comer en exceso o usar drogas o alcohol. Pero no siempre somos conscientes del daño que causa ver películas o programas de televisión con violencia o sexo, o escuchar música con palabras obscenas. El templo de Dios se merece respeto. *"Por lo tanto, glorifiquen a Dios en sus cuerpos"* (1 Corintios 6:19-20).

"La oración diaria es el cimiento de la santidad. Algunos la prefieren por la mañana. Otros tarde por la noche. Háganla cuándo y dónde quieran, pero ¡es un deber hacerla!" Cardenal Timothy Dolan



"No nos dejes caer en la tentación..."

Nadie está libre de tentaciones. La atracción de las cosas terrenales es parte de nuestra condición humana, pero luchar contra ellas y vencerlas nos hace más fuertes y más santos.

Identifíquela.

La tentación golpea cuando menos capaces somos de enfrentarnos a ella. Identifique lo que más le tienta y procure anticipar los momentos en que es más débil. Luego diseñe un plan de acción – no sólo un propósito – que le ayude a resistir.

Rece. Cuando Jesús descubrió a sus discípulos durmiendo en el huerto en vez de rezando les dijo: *"Estén despiertos y*

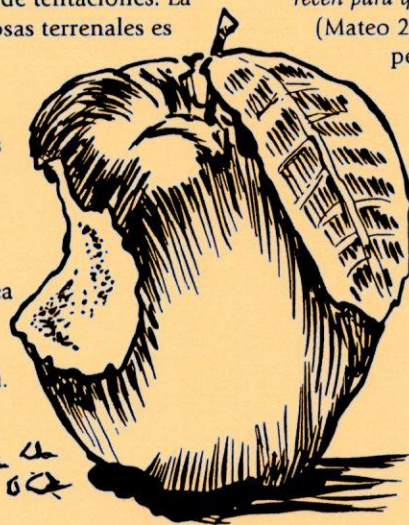
recen para que no caigan en la tentación" (Mateo 26:41). Venga la tentación

permaneciendo alerta y rezando en lugar de rendirse a ella.

Huya de ella. A veces huir de la tentación es la mejor forma de resistirla. *"Dios es fiel y no permitirá que sean tentados más allá de sus fuerzas. Al contrario, en el momento de la tentación les dará el medio de librarse de ella y los ayudará a soportarla"* (1 Corintios 10:13). Evite a las personas, los lugares o las situaciones que les presenten problemas.

No empiece. Es más fácil resistir la tentación si se detiene cuando la tentación

empieza. Así no adquirirá la fuerza de una costumbre. Aunque no es nunca demasiado tarde para pedirle ayuda a Dios, cuanto más se vive con la tentación, más duro será dirigirse a él.



¿Por qué hacen eso los católicos?

¿Por qué se dirigen los católicos a María?

En los reinos del Antiguo Testamento, la reina madre representaba un papel significativo en el gobierno del reino de su hijo. Su poder y autoridad tenían su origen en su posición en relación a su hijo. Los súbditos del rey



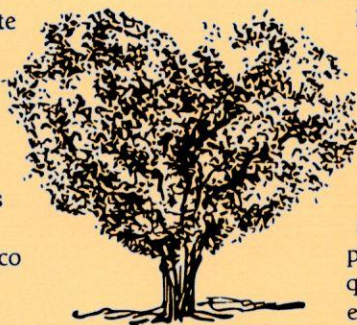
a menudo le pedían a ella que intercediera por ellos. Como Reina Madre del Cielo, la misión de María es promover el reino de su hijo. Cuando nos dirigimos a ella, actúa con autoridad para llevar nuestras preocupaciones a su hijo y él siempre está dispuesto a cumplir sus deseos.

El amor de Dios nunca cambia

Es propio del ser humano querer ser amado. Desafortunadamente hasta el mejor amigo o amante nos decepcionará de vez en cuando. Esto puede dejarnos solitarios o en busca del tipo equivocado de amor. Por fortuna, Dios jamás nos decepcionará. Su amor es el correcto tipo de amor.

Su amor nunca cambia. Los patrones establecidos por las personas cambian con el tiempo. Algo considerado "de moda" hoy puede "pasarse" en poco tiempo. El amor de Dios no cambia y es eterno.

Los amigos van y vienen. Antes o después



uno deja a los amigos o los amigos lo dejan a uno.

Pero Jesús dijo: "Yo estoy con ustedes todos los días hasta el fin de la historia" (Mateo 28:20). Dios nunca se va.

Él nos ama por quienes somos. No hay nada que Dios ignore de nosotros y nos ama por encima de todo. Si usted le gusta a Dios, también les gustará a otras personas. Para agradar a Dios tenemos que llenarnos de amor por él y por otras personas y eso logra que sea más agradable nuestro trato. Compartan ese amor.

de las Escrituras

Marcos 12:28-34 - El primer mandamiento

Las autoridades judías trataban de sonsacar a Jesús para que dijera algo contrario a la ley judía. Así podrían desacreditarlo o algo peor. Sin embargo la estrategia nunca les funcionó. De hecho uno de los escribas quedó tan impresionado por la respuesta de Jesús a un reto de los saduceos que hizo su propia pregunta. Quería sinceramente aprender de la respuesta de Jesús.

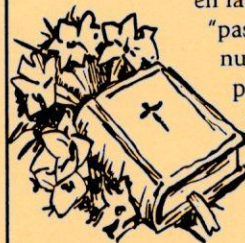
El escriba le preguntó cuál de los mandamientos era el más importante. Jesús dijo que todo empieza y termina con el amor, el amor a Dios y el amor por los demás. Amar a Dios



es amar a los demás. Ese amor es tan inseparable como los troncos de la cruz. Aunque es fácil amar a Dios, es más difícil amar a los demás. Pero al auténtico amor al prójimo se mide por cómo tratamos a quienes no son ni familia ni amigos. Esto significa que tenemos que incluir a gente a la que por inclinación natural excluiríamos o evitaríamos. Jesús amó a prostitutas, ladrones, leprosos, incluso a sus enemigos políticos. Así es cómo Dios nos ama y nos pide que hagamos exactamente lo mismo.

P & R ¿Por qué es importante un funeral católico?

Aunque a nadie le gusta obsesionarse con la muerte, la mayoría de nosotros llorará y enterrará a seres queridos a lo largo de nuestra vida. Quizá los amigos nos aconsejen que eliminemos el funeral en la iglesia y que "pasemos página", pero nuestra fe nos



proporciona la fuerza que necesitamos para enfrentarnos a la muerte. La Iglesia ha creado ritos que nos ayudan a plantar cara a las dificultades y a la realidad de la muerte.

Todo católico bautizado tiene derecho a un funeral católico. Los ritos de un funeral católico incluyen las oraciones tras la muerte, las plegarias en cuerpo presente, las oraciones y lecturas de las Escrituras durante la vigilia (o velorio), el funeral en el templo y las plegarias en el cementerio. Todas estas ceremonias no sólo comprenden la totalidad del rito funerario católico sino que además proporcionan las plegarias especiales para el difunto. Los ritos apoyan también a familiares y amigos que lloran a su ser querido.

Los católicos tienen derecho a un funeral católico tanto si van a misa con frecuencia o no. (Para preguntas específicas, consulte con su parroquia.)

Fiestas y celebraciones

Celebramos en octubre el Rosario especialmente en la fiesta de Nuestra Señora del Rosario el 7 de octubre. El Rosario nos ayuda a meditar sobre el nacimiento de Jesús, su vida, su muerte y su resurrección.

6 de octubre - San Bruno (1101). Bruno nació en Alemania, estudió en Francia y se hizo profesor de teología. Fundó la orden de la Cartuja con seis compañeros en 1084 y ayudó a reformar al clero de Roma.

14 de octubre - San Calisto (222). Esclavo romano, Calisto obtuvo su

libertad y fue ordenado diácono por el papa Ceferino a quien más tarde sucedió. La elección de Calisto fue la causa de un cisma de dieciocho años que dio origen al primer antipapa. En tiempos de dificultades y confusión, reabrió la Iglesia a todos. Fue martirizado en Roma.

20 de octubre - San Pablo de la Cruz (1775). Pablo fue inspirado por una visión a que fundara una orden religiosa dedicada a la pasión de Cristo. Fundó los pasionistas en 1720, vivió una vida de penitencia, realizó milagros y cuidó a los pobres y a los enfermos.



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WHY IS IT?