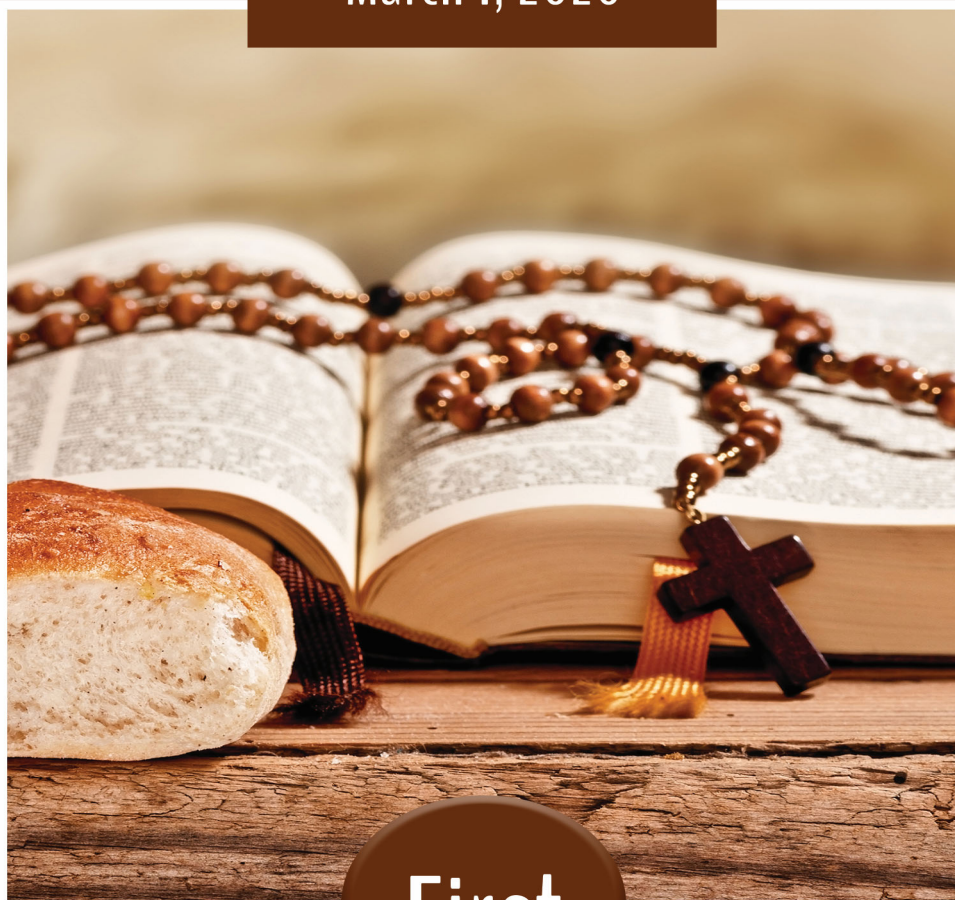


St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church Martinez, California

March 1, 2020



First

Sunday of Lent

Jesus said,
"One does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God."

Matthew 4:4

LITURGY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM
SUNDAY: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM
1:00 PM (Spanish)

ADORATION: Thursdays from 12:00 - 8:00 PM
HOLY DAYS: VIGIL MASS 7:00 PM ; 8:00 AM, 7:00 PM
RECONCILIATION: Saturdays from 3:00 to 4:00 PM

PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF

PARISH OFFICE (925) 228-2230
FAX: (925) 228 - 1318

Fr. Anthony Huong Le,
Parochial Administrator - Ext 6
franthonyl@stcmtz.org

CHURCH LOCATION:

606 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA

PARISH OFFICE/CENTER & MAILING ADDRESS:

1125 Ferry Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1720

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stcmtz.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 AM - 1 PM
2:00 PM - 5 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM - 1 PM

Sylvia Lloren Ext. 2
Office Administrator/ Sacramental Coordinator /Bulletin
sylvial@stcmtz.org

Troy Killorn Ext. 3
Director of Music Ministry / Maintenance Manager
troyk@stcmtz.org

Karen Glen Ext. 4
Bookkeeper / Safe Environment Coordinator / RCIA
kareng@stcmtz.org

Andrea Watkins Ext. 5
Director Religious Education (K-8)
Family Sunday Faith Formation Ministry
andreaw@stcmtz.org

Deacon Albert Dizon Ext. 7
dcnalbertd@stcmtz.org

Deacon David Holland Ext. 7
dcndaveh@stcmtz.org

Paul & Jennifer Holland Ext. 8
Co-coordinators, Confirmation Ministry
paulh@stcmtz.org & jennyh@stcmtz.org



ST. CATHERINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Jessica Griswold, Principal

jgriswold@csdo.org

SCHOOL K-8: 604 Mellus Street,
Martinez, CA 94553

TELEPHONE: 925-228-4140

FAX: 925-228-0697

OFFICE HOURS: 9AM – 2 PM

SCHOOL WEBSITE: <http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com>

ST. CATHERINE PRE-SCHOOL

Mea Auld, Pre-School Director mauld@csdo.org

Before serving or continuing in your ministry or organization, please complete the Diocesan required Safe Environment for Children Project Training @ www.virtusonline.org

SAFE ENVIRONMENT: www.virtusonline.org

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

BAPTISMS:

Registration is mandatory two months prior to the Baptism month. Please call the Sylvia at the office to make an appointment once you have all your documents ready. Parents & Godparents are required to attend a mandatory Baptism preparation class one month before reception of the Sacrament. All information regarding requirements and schedules, can be found on the parish website at www.stcmtz.org

FIRST EUCHARIST:

The Religious Education ministry begins annually in Sept. and ends in May. The First Holy Communion program is a two year program. In the 2nd year, nine First Communion "Parent Only Classes" are conducted on Monday's (Oct — May) See faith formation calendar posted on the website for dates.

CONFIRMATION:

Youth Confirmation ministry begins in September and ends in June It is a one year program for all incoming Freshmen or above. Contact: Paul or Jenny Holland at **Ext 8** for more Information.

MARRIAGES:

Arrangements and mandatory preparation need to be arranged at **least eight months** prior to a wedding date. No dates can be set prior to an initial meeting with a priest. No exceptions.

www.stcmtz.org

RECONCILIATION:

Confession times are weekly on Saturdays from 3:00 - 4:00 PM and/or by appointment.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is the continuation of the Lord's compassion for the sick. The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is one of two sacraments which heals and saves the baptized person from sin. The other sacrament of healing is Penance. For an anointing during working hours, please call the Parish office.

FUNERALS:

We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services at 925-932-0900. A representative will contact the parish office to coordinate your arrangements.

RCIA: "Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults"

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Do you need Adult Baptism? Holy Eucharist Communion)? Confirmation? St. Catherine offers a friendly and supportive program. Please call the office for more information or **Karen at Ext. 4**

IGNITE YOUR TASTE BUDS!



A sweet & unexpected way to experience Lent this season.

Reflect on the significance of the gifts we often take for granted- the gift of chocolate and the gift of faith.

KNOW CHOCOLATE FOR LENT

It is much more satisfying to experience Lent in community.

We Offer Two Options:

Monday Evenings : 6-8pm

Dates: **March 9th & March 30**

Friday Mornings: 8:45-10:45

Dates: **March 13 & April 3**

TO REGISTER or find out more... CALL OR TEXT

Cindy Buscaglia 925 787-8396

***** Meetings will be held in the Parish Center

The Lenten season is a special opportunity to grow spiritually through penitential practices, especially those of self-denial, almsgiving, and through works of kindness and compassion. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of universal fast and abstinence. Fasting is obligatory for all who have completed their 18th year until the beginning of their 60th year. Fasting allows a person to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may be taken, not to equal one full meal. Abstinence (from meat) is obligatory for all who have completed their 14th year of age. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare to share more fully and celebrate more readily his Resurrection. Fridays in Lent are obligatory days of abstinence (from meat) for all who have completed their 14th year. As always, anyone for whom fasting or abstinence would pose a health risk is excused.

Communal Anointing of the Sick March 14, 2020 at 10AM



DISCIPLESHIP

To empower a community of Christian people walking together as disciples of Jesus in order to share His good news.

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SAT	2/29	8:00	Agapito & Erlinda Bonifacio†
		4:30	Kerry Marie Nakasone†
SUN	3/1	7:00	Int. Marvin Juan - Birthday Blessing
		8:30	Int. Avril & Roger Lewis
		11:00	Mario Rose†
		1:00	Int. People of the Parish
MON	3/2	8:00	Int. Esther Concepcion - Birthday Blessing
TUE	3/3	8:00	John Delchini
WED	3/4	8:00	Int. St Catherine School and Families
THU	3/5	8:00	Pilar Gonzalez†
FRI	3/6	8:00	Ann & Tom Thompson†
SAT	3/7	8:00	Patrocinio Nano†
		4:30	Mary Ann Martini†
SUN	3/8	7:00	Int. People of the Parish
		8:30	John De Vito†
		11:00	Tullio DeSantis†
		1:00	Cardenas and Polina Families†

Mass Intentions forms can be found in the vestibule and on the Parish website. (www.stcmtz.org) Parish forms can also be picked up at the Parish Office.

St. Catherine Parish offers deepest sympathy and prayers for the family; and, the repose of the soul of



Galen Edward Burgstaller
Esperanza Ronquillo
who entered eternal life.



Memorial services for Esperanza Ronquillo
March 6, 2020 at 10:30AM



St. Catherine
Parish Communal Penance
March 28, 2020
(Saturday)
at 10AM



Why do Catholics Genuflect in church?

It is easy to “go through the motions” as Catholics, and one of the easiest gestures to forget the meaning of, is the genuflection.

Often, we will find ourselves mindlessly walking into church, finding a pew and kneeling quickly on one knee before sitting down. We sometimes do it so much without thinking that when we walk down the aisle of a movie theater we end up genuflecting before we sit down for the show!

So why do Catholics genuflect when they walk into a church?

Historically speaking, the act of genuflecting on one knee comes from court etiquette and was done while in the presence of a medieval king or noble. It was a sign of respect as well as a pledge of service.

Christians adopted this custom over time, and it became fully integrated into the liturgy of the Roman Rite by the 16th century. The left knee was always used to give reverence to a king and so to distinguish the Christian usage of the custom, Christians would genuflect in church on the right knee to God.

God has always been known to Jews and Christians as a king who is rich in mercy and boundless in love. To give honor to that “King of Love,” Christians thought it fitting to pay respect and honor to Him by genuflecting every time they entered His “court.”

This meant bending on one knee whenever they passed in front of the tabernacle — the little house in every Catholic church that holds the Blessed Sacrament.

For Catholics, we believe that Jesus is truly present, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist and so when we genuflect, we do so because we *are* in God’s presence.

The Catechism affirms this teaching, “In the liturgy of the Mass, we express our faith in the real presence of Christ under the species of bread and wine by, among other ways, genuflecting or bowing deeply as a sign of adoration of the Lord (CCC 1378).”

This also means that Catholics should *only* genuflect when there is a tabernacle present with the Precious Body within it. There are times in the liturgical year, Good Friday, for example, when the tabernacle is emptied and the doors are open. Since the Eucharist is not within the tabernacle, Catholics do not need to genuflect before getting into the pew. A simple bow is substituted whenever the Eucharist is not present.

A practical tip to know if it is appropriate to genuflect in a Catholic church is to look for the red sanctuary lamp. (***At St. Catherine’s, the sanctuary lamp is located on the wall by the left side of the tabernacle, facing the altar.***) If it is lit, that means Jesus is present, and the proper response is to genuflect to show your love and honor. As a reminder, Catholics are only asked to genuflect while passing before the tabernacle. That means, if a Catholic church has the tabernacle in a separate chapel of Eucharistic reservation, you only genuflect when walking by it, not every time you enter the main body of the church. In the end, we do these bodily actions because, as Pope Benedict XVI wrote in his book (*continued on next page*)



Reflection

Dear Families in Christ,

The transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of the Disciples Peter, James and John in the Holy Land is clearly connected with the death and resurrection of Jesus. The transfiguration of the Son of God inspires faith and hope in the disciples and in us, that the power of death is not definitive and final. It is a shining example of the paschal mystery manifesting the abounding life of God that washes over all our suffering and pain, all human treachery and sin, death itself and transform all of it into new and risen life.

Death is overcome by glory: and the light of Christ’s rising drives all darkness itself. Leaving behind the blistering, torturous wilderness of hunger, thirst and temptations of the desert for 40 days, and 40 nights, the King of Kings and Magi who walked alone now walks with His disciples on the mountain. The Transfiguration in today’s Gospel reading, (Matthew 17:1-9) is a preview of Jesus resurrection. It proclaims that life overcomes death. The stunning bright light of God breaks in the midst of darkness as Jesus erupts as the person of lights, “and His clothes become dazzling white.” Jesus leads His disciples up a high mountain apart by themselves. We have come to understand the significance of the mountain imagery in this Gospel. The high places of the mountains are those exotic high places where earth intersects with heaven inhabited by the divine presence with the God of mystery.

Moses also had been on the high mountain, prostrated at the burning bush, in the desert to meet God and he reappear on this mountain with Jesus. This is a very Holy place—the dwelling place of the Almighty God and when the Disciples hear the voice that speaks to them from the cloud, “This is my beloved Son. With whom I am well pleased; Listen to Him.” So the disciples come to witness this Divine affirmation of Jesus, on this Holy mountain and behold His radiant presence as He is suffused with Divine light. Prophetically, this is the same voice from heaven that proclaimed the same message when the Holy Spirit descended on Him at His Baptism by John the Baptist at the River Jordan, “This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased, on Him my favor rest. (Matthew 3:16-17).

To listen to Jesus is to embrace with one’s whole self the word that He speaks, for He Himself is the word that God speaks. Jesus Transfiguration is a word of hope which proclaims in His and our own dark night of earthly hopelessness that darkness and death are not the victors in our journey. Life is triumphant. Jesus Transfiguration revealed His glory to the disciples to strengthen them for the scandal of the Cross. His glory shone from a body like our own to show that the Church which is the body of Christ would one day share His glory. The light of the Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ fills our own bodies and continues to grow in us, moving to its climax when everything is gathered up completely in God.

The Disciples, and we, must listen to Jesus’ teaching. We must leave the Shining Glory of the mountain top and continue the journey that will take them and us around the world. Father Anthony Le, our Disciple, recently installed an identical message, with the same symbolism and layer of meaning, above St. Catherine Church’s vestibule entrance door on the choir loft. It is loud and clear, and it says: “Go out into the world and proclaim the Gospel to all creatures.” (Mark 16:15). Amen.

May God bless you all.
C.C Salonga

LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

March 1, 2020 First Sunday of Lent

The story of Adam and Eve, in Genesis 2 and 3, considers the origins of the trials and sufferings that we experience in human life. Part of the problem, the story suggests, is the human effort to be like God. Humans are therefore forbidden to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The story is quite a contrast to Genesis 1, which proclaims that we are made in the image and likeness of God, and called to seek to become more like God. This creates a tension that points to a challenge in our life of faith: we are created both to embody God by developing our God-given human capacities, and also to live in radical trust and dependence on God. We are called to embrace and to live into this tension.



1º de marzo de 2020 Primer Domingo de Cuaresma

La historia de Adán y Eva, en el libro del Génesis 2 y 3, es considerada como el origen del juicio y sufrimiento que experimentamos en la vida humana. Parte del problema, sugiere la historia, es el esfuerzo humano por ser como Dios. Por lo tanto, a los humanos se les prohíbe comer del árbol del conocimiento del bien y del mal. La historia es absolutamente un contraste de Génesis 1, donde se proclama que somos hechos a imagen y semejanza de Dios, y llamados a buscar hacernos más como Dios. Esto crea una tensión que se dirige a un reto en nuestra vida de fe: somos creados tanto para encarnar a Dios desarrollando nuestras capacidades humanas dadas por Dios, y también para vivir una confianza radical y dependencia en Dios. Estamos llamados a aceptar y vivir en esta tensión.

GOD'S BELOVED

When the people of Israel were freed from Egypt, they were declared to be God's chosen and beloved people. They wandered in the desert for forty years, often with great resistance, as God prepared them to enter the Promised Land.

Jesus' forty days in the desert echo their story, and offer a contrast. At his baptism, just before being led into the desert by the Spirit, Jesus was declared by a voice from the heavens to be God's "beloved Son." So, twice in today's passage, he is lured with the words "If you are the Son of God . . ." The devil tempts Jesus to redefine his sonship of God on his own terms, instead of following his Father. Israel had failed to understand its identity as God's people, but Jesus demonstrates how to live as God's Beloved.

These contrasting stories of Israel and of Jesus present us with a challenge. We are regularly tempted to redefine our identity as Christians on our own terms, to make faith comfortable and non-threatening. This Lenten season can re-mind us to allow God to transform our minds and hearts on God's terms.

Today's Readings: Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17;
Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11

LOS AMADOS DE DIOS

Cuando el pueblo de Israel fue liberado de Egipto, fueron proclamados ser los elegidos por Dios y pueblo amado. Durante cuarenta años deambularon en el desierto, frecuentemente con gran resistencia, y Dios los preparó para entrar a la Tierra Prometida.

Los cuarenta días de Jesús en el desierto refleja esta historia, y ofrece un contraste. En su bautismo, justo antes de ser guiado al desierto por el Espíritu, Jesús fue declarado por una voz del cielo ser el "Hijo amado" de Dios. Así que dos veces en el pasaje de hoy, él es tentado con las palabras "¿Sí eres el Hijo de Dios . . ." El diablo tienta a Jesús para redefinir su filiación de Dios en sus propios términos, en lugar de seguir a su Padre. Israel falló en entender su identidad como el pueblo de Dios, pero Jesús demuestra cómo vivir como el amado de Dios.

Estas historias contrastantes de Israel y de Jesús nos presenta un reto. Regularmente estamos tentados a redefinir nuestra identidad como cristianos en nuestros propios términos, para hacer a la fe confortable y no amenazante. Este tiempo de Cuaresma podemos recordarnos permitir que Dios transforme nuestras mentes y corazones en los términos de Dios.

Lecturas de hoy: Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Sal 51 (50):3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17;
Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11

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Continued from ("Why do Catholics genuflect in church") *God Is Near Us: The Eucharist, the Heart of Life* : Our religion, our prayer, demands bodily expression. Because the Lord, the Risen One, gives himself in the Body, we have to respond in soul and body ... all the spiritual possibilities of our body are necessarily included in celebrating the Eucharist: singing, speaking, keeping silence, sitting, standing, bowing, kneeling.

~Source: Aleteia



STEWARDSHIP

To create a culture
in the parish rooted
in gratitude and
generosity.

February 23, 2020

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Sunday Collection \$ 4,877.00
Bingo \$ 949.00

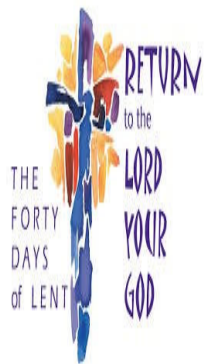


Thank you for your continued generosity



**REBUILD
MY CHURCH**
2020 BISHOP'S APPEAL

There are five specific areas that receive funds from the Appeal: Religious Education & Formation; Clergy Formation & Support; Pastoral Ministries & Services; Priest Retirement & Care; and Support for Catholic Schools & Parishes in Need. Please consider donating to this very important appeal.



HUNGER IN OUR WORLD

Join our faith community—and more than 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. **Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from the Ushers in the vestibule after Feb. 26.** During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the challenge of global hunger and how it affects our human family.

When Jesus fed the 5,000, he said, "Give them some food yourselves." Reflect on the challenge of global hunger. How can

you contribute to support the hungry in your community? Visit crsricebowl.org for more information.



**Lenten Soup Supper and Stations of the Cross
Friday's, February 28, 2020—April 3rd, 2020**
Soup Supper begins at 6PM followed by
Stations of the cross at 7PM



HOSPITALITY

To form a joyful family
community that reaches out and
receives one another as Christ
reaches out and receives us.

2020 Hospitality Calendar

MAR 1 Esther Concepcion Family & Friends
MAR 8 Guadalupanas
MAR 15 Pancake Breakfast—Knights of Columbus
MAR 22 Choir
MAR 29 Italian Catholic Federation

APR 5 No Hospitality
APR 12 Easter Sunday— No Hospitality
APR 19 Pancake Breakfast—Knights of Columbus
APR 26 Respect Life / St. Vincent de Paul

MAY 3 Mrs. Abelina Huerta and Fran Backhaus
MAY 10 Mother's Day—No Hospitality
MAY 17 No Hospitality—1st Communions
MAY 24 Choir
MAY 31 Needed
JUNE 7 Needed
JUNE 14 Needed
JUNE 21 Pancake Breakfast—Knights of Columbus
JUNE 28 San Lorenzo Ruiz Community

If you as a individual/group of friends or organization/ministry would like to host a Sunday in 2020, please email: debpelizzari@comcast.net
Your selected date(s) will be confirmed by our hospitality leader.
Thank you for your continued Participation.



Thank you to all the volunteers that have hosted Hospitality for all four Masses as well as supplied food for the parents of the Faith Formation and Confirmation students. A wonderful change has happened. The parents of Faith Formation and Confirmation are now supplying their small groups with delightful appropriate snacks after the 8:30AM and 11:00AM Masses.

The Host that is doing Hospitality for that Sunday will still be responsible for serving them with coffee, tea, juice, cream/milk, sweeteners, stirrers, cups, plates and utensils. All of this is still supplied by the Church. This new act of hospitality is just a reflection of how the entire parish community is sharing and giving sacrificially from the heart. Thank you to all the leaders and parents of the small groups for your participation in this wonderful act of service and love to others

*Prayer, Fasting,
and Almsgiving*



Thank you!

Saint Catherine of Siena Music Ministry would like to express our gratitude to all those who supported the "Karaoke Night" fundraiser for our new organ. It was such a treat to see people from our parish get up and sing, dance, and have a Great Time. A special "Thank You" to our very own Knights of Columbus for preparing the delicious pasta dinner. We appreciate the support that each of you have given to the music ministry and its members!



FACILITIES

To assure that our Church and facilities testify to the greater honor and glory of God.

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sunday, 3/1

8:00 AM PH

8:30 AM CH/PH/SC
11:00 PM PH/PCL
CH

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Hospitality — Esther Concepcion & Friends

Faith Formation Mass/Class
Confirmation Mass/Class
Rite of Sending

Monday, 3/2

7:30 AM CH
8:00 AM CH
5:00 PM PCL

Pray the Rosary
Mass
St. Vincent de Paul Mtg

Tuesday, 3/3

7:30 AM CH
8:00 AM CH
6:00 PM CH
7:00 PM PH
7:00 PM PC
7:30 PM CH

Pray the Rosary
Mass
Choir Rehearsal
YLI Meeting
Reflections with Clergy
Spanish Choir

Wednesday, 3/4

7:30 AM CH
8:00 AM CH
3:15 PM CH
6:30 PM PCL
7:00 PM PC

Pray the Rosary
Mass
Children's Choir
Legion of Mary
RCIA Mtg - Room 206

Thursday, 3/5

7:30 AM CH
8:00 AM CH
12:00 PM CH
6:00 PM CH
7:00 PM PCL

Pray the Rosary
Mass
Adoration
Beneath his Cross (Cenacle)
Pastoral Council

Friday, 3/6

7:30 AM CH
8:00 AM CH
10:30 AM CH
2:15 PM CH
4:30 PM CH
5:00 PM CH
6:00 PM PH
7:00 PM CH

1ST FRIDAY MASS

Pray the Rosary
Mass
Memorial - E. Ronquillo
Stations of the Cross (School)
Chaplet
1st Friday Mass
Soup Supper
Stations of the Cross

Saturday, 3/7

7:30 AM CH
8:00 AM CH
3:00 PM CH

Pray the Rosary
Mass
Reconciliation

Sunday, 3/8

8:00 AM PH
8:30 AM CH/PH/SC
11:00 PM PH/PCL

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

Hospitality — Guadalupe's
Faith Formation Mass/Class
Confirmation Mass/Class



*Don't Forget!
"Spring forward"*

*Set your clocks
one hour ahead*

Saint Catherine of Siena Parish Community and School Families



The St Catherine 8th grade Girls National League won their championship game against Christ the King 38-20. Head Coach: Arvin Victa ; Asst. Coach: Jeremy Cooley



The 7th Grade National Boys League Champions defeated St. Perpetua last Sunday. Head Coach: Jeff Marks



Students "Jumped for Heart" to raise awareness of healthy hearts and raised funds to support the American Heart Association!



The St. Catherine 8th Grade Boys also won their National Division Championship against St. Perpetua. Head Coach: Ron Solorio ; Asst Coach Mark Riccabona

UPCOMING EVENTS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #6039



ST. PATRICK'S DINNER

MARCH 14, 2020

Adults \$15.00

Children 6-12 \$7.00

Children 5 and under—FREE

FAMILY \$40.00

(Parents and Children under 12)

OPEN BAR: 6:00 PM ~ DINNER: 6:30 PM

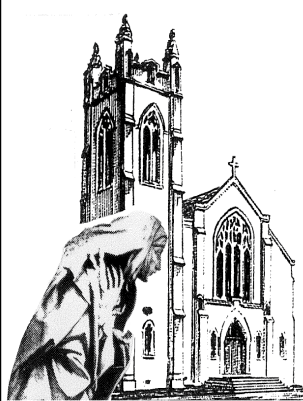
Contact: Jim Kelly 372-6357 or
Tim McLoughlin at 639-9946

TICKETS MUST PURCHASED BY
MARCH 4, 2019

Parish Mission



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**"Please Mark your
Calendars"**

April 6th—April 8th

*The Lord invites us to
follow him as disciples.
Yet our daily lives are so
full that we sometimes
forget who we are and
whose we are.*

*A Parish Mission (Renewal) is a time of listening
and reflection for those who wish to be more faithful
disciples of Jesus Christ.*

*Fr. John Mark Ettensohn, OMI, a member of the
Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, will con-
duct a three-day Mission (Renewal) in our parish.*

*As our Parish Mission (Renewal) approaches, we
urge every parishioner to pray for its success. Fr.
John Mark Ettensohn, OMI, who will preach the
Mission (Renewal), is merely an instrument in the
hands of our Savior. It is God "who gives growth,"
as St. Paul reminds us. The principal Mission
(Renewal) presentation will be each evening at 7 PM
from April 6th until April 8th.*

IT'S TOO GOOD TO MISS!



Calling All Women!

**Magnificat SOTI,
a Ministry for Catholic Women**

**invite all to join them at their
Prayer Breakfast**

Saturday, March 21st - 9:30 -12:30

Crowne Plaza

45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, CA

**Please join us for a morning of Praise,
Prayer, and Inspiration** from our speaker Cindy Rippee
as she shares with us her testimony.

A religious educator and bible study teacher, Cindy will
share with us how the Life in the Spirit seminars have
changed her life and the life of her family. Born into an
alcoholic home, she is now a Benedictine Oblate affiliat-
ed with the Prince of Peace Abbey. Cindy will share with
us how the word of God and His unyielding faith has
brought her through unspeakable loss into living with joy
each day. Men are always welcome to attend!

Tickets are \$33/\$40 after

For more information:

Email Magnificatsotirsvp@gmail.com for reservations or
call Kim Sullivan at 925-683-8220 for any questions .

Respect Life Ministry Announcement:

If you missed the Walk for Life you may want to participate
in Forty Days for Life. This upcoming Lent there will be two
local vigils at which you can participate: one at the Walnut
Creek Planned Parenthood and one at the Concord Planned
Parenthood. At both sites the vigil will be 12 hours each
day, Mondays through Saturdays. **The spring campaign
runs from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday, from Febru-
ary 26 - April 5.** Anne-Martine Moore, the Respect Life
Coordinator at Queen of All Saints is heading-up the Con-
cord program. You can contact her at adapadoop@aol.com
or call 925-595-0401. This is a program in which you can
sign up to peacefully pray the Rosary in front of one of the
Planned Parenthood facilities. You can sign up for a day and
time that suites your schedule. I have participated on a Fri-
day at the Concord location with parishioners Carolyn Susin
and Tom Greerty after attending Mass at Queen of All
Saints. Carolyn and I also participated at the Walnut Creek
location. It is beautiful way for you to take a small, yet pow-
erful step toward the saving of innocent lives. For more in-
formation see the website. www.40daysforlife.com

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 19 & 20, 2020

OAKLAND DIOCESE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

(<https://oakdiocese.org/eucharistic-congress>)

STRENGTH AGAINST TEMPTATION

The first Sunday of the season of Lent always includes a Gospel account of the temptation of the Lord Jesus in the desert by the devil. This year, the story is set against the backdrop of the first reading from Genesis, which recounts the very first temptation by the devil. That story is set in a garden of delight. The Gospel story is set in the desert. As believers, we know that temptation comes our way in our own gardens of delight as well as the deserts of our lives. As Lent begins, our attention is drawn to that temptation within each of us to become like God—we want control, power, and answers to all of life's difficult questions. As communities of faith, we are given this season of repentance so that we can join our hearts with others on the difficult journey of conversion. We look to God and to one another for strength against temptation.

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WHO: St. Catherine of Siena 8th Graders
WHAT: Italian Catholic Federation Marina Ellis Eighth Grade Scholarship
WHEN: Applications must be postmarked on or before March 31, 2020
WHERE: Get an application from your eighth grade teacher or from the school principal or you can request one from icfbranch13martinez@gmail.com
WHY: An opportunity to receive a \$200 scholarship
HOW: Send completed application to: ICF Scholarship Committee, C/O 4461 Alhambra Way, Mz, CA 94553

PRAYER

The value of persistent prayer is not that God will hear us, but that we will finally hear God.

—William McGill

Before serving or continuing in your ministry, you must complete the Diocesan required Safe Environment for Children Project Training @ www.virtusonline.org
 Thank you.

Our Parish has a Facebook Page!

<https://www.facebook.com>

OfficialStCatherineofSienaChurch

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Thur. 8:30 AM - 1 PM

2:00 PM - 5 PM

Friday: 8:30 AM - 1 PM



BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS DEADLINES:

The following deadlines are in effect:

All requests must be submitted no later than:

March 6th by Noon for the March 15th bulletin.

March 13 for the March 22nd bulletin.

Please direct your submissions to:

stcathmtz@yahoo.com All submissions must be submitted via email and copy/camera/paste ready. Please reference **Bulletin Submission** in the subject note. Thank you.

MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS

Altar Servers

Jack Watkins.....925-957-0437

Art & Environment

Troy Killorn..... Ext 3 925-228-2230

Beneath His Cross Apostolate

Jessica Preciado925-354-1656

Bingo

Don Brocca925-858-7330

Catholic Youth Organization - CYO

Gina Marks..... 925-817-9429

Communications

Sylvia Lloren..... Ext 2 925-228-2230

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Mary Cook925-229-2665

Faith Formation - Religious Education (PreK-8th Grades)

Andrea Watkins..... Ext 5 925-228-2230

Finance Council

Don Brocca..... 925-229-4158

Grief /Card Ministry

Mary Cook.....925-229-2665

Guadalupe Society

Guadalupe Cruz..... 925-997-2432

Hispanic Choir

Carolina Bruno..... 925-437-4074

Hispanic Liturgy

Fernando Nunez..... 925-348-2178

Hospital/Sick/Homebound

Dave Holland 925-413-9240

Hospitality

Debbie Pelizzari.....925-370-3874

Ignite

Cindy Buscaglia..... 925-787-8396

Italian Catholic Federation - ICF

Tom Cook..... 925-229-2665

Knights of Columbus - K of C

Rik Silva.....925-334-2429

La Comunidad Latina

Lucia Cruz.....925-348-2620

Lectors

Carlos Melendez.....510-385-0506

Legion of Mary

Bobby Kiefer..... 925-658-1442

Maintenance

Troy Killorn..... 925-228-2230

Music Ministry—Choir

Troy KillornExt 3 925-228-2230

No More Secrets

Sherrie Hammon 925-372-6091... Yoly Dizon 925-370-8143

Pastoral Advisory Council

Karen Glen....925-788-7716 & Karen Sandri....925-370-7997

Respect Life

Debbie Pelizzari..... 925-370-3874

Safe Environment for Children Project - SECP

Karen Glen.....Ext 4 925-228-2230

San Lorenzo Ruiz Community - SLRC

Esther Concepcion..... 925-381-1835

Social Awareness

Anne Crisp 925-356-8822

Stewardship

Karen Glen.....925-788-7716

St. Vincent de Paul Society - SVdP

Karen GlenExt 4 925-788-7716

Ushers

Rob Saucedo..... 925-250-4007

Young Ladies Institute - YLI

Rori Polvorosa510-734-4907

Confirmation /Youth Ministry (High School 9 -12 grades)

Paul & Jenny Holland.....Ext 8 925-228-2230

READINGS & REFLECTIONS

Join in the Weekly Scripture Reflection with the Clergy Tuesdays (Parish Center) 7:00 –8:15 PM

Sunday, Mar 01, 2020 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Count me in

A fresh supply of blood keeps the body nourished, just as children add a new chapter to the story of every family. In the same way, our nation's vitality has always been renewed by the welcoming of immigrants. The church likewise depends on making the way of Jesus attractive to new members. Today we celebrate those entering our church community through the Rite of Election. As they sign their names in the Book of Election, we might ask: What are we doing to keep the Body of Christ alive and well?

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11 (22). *"How much more did the grace of God . . . overflow for the many."*

Monday, Mar 02, 2020 LENTEN WEEKDAY

Heaven all the way

Today's gospel raises the specter of "eternal punishment," better known as hell. In popular imagination, hell is a fiery place of suffering that a punishing God sends people to. Not so fast, say today's Catholic theologians, including the last three popes. God is not a torturer. Hell is not so much a physical place but a separation from God chosen by humans. "It is heaven all the way to heaven," declared Saint Catherine of Siena. To which Father Richard Rohr, O.F.M. adds, "It's hell all the way to hell." Today choose heaven.

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46 (224).

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

Tuesday, Mar 03, 2020 MEMORIAL OF KATHARINE DREXEL, VIRGIN

Stand for equality

The first American-born U.S. saint, Katharine Drexel was exactly what the country needed. Born into wealth and privilege in 1858, she learned about charity from her parents and took an interest in serving Native Americans and African Americans, who she saw were unjustly excluded from the American dream. Of all the great things she did, perhaps her biggest accomplishment was the founding of Xavier University in New Orleans, the first Catholic university in the United States for African Americans. Look to her and help everyone get an equal chance.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15 (225). *"Give us this day our daily bread."*

Wednesday, Mar 04, 2020 MEMORIAL OF CASIMIR

Let's be the royal we

It's that day of the year when you can joke about the date also being a direct order—to "march forth." But under whose authority? And for what purpose? In biblical times, of course, it was at the behest of a powerful king or other sovereign. But what about us? If we were baptized as children in the Catholic rite that anoints us "priest, prophet, and king" along with Jesus, we can look to someone such as Saint Casimir. Like this beloved prince of Poland in the 1400s, we act like a sovereign

whenever we use our resources for good and influence those under our direction—be they children, students, coworkers, or fellow citizens—to do the same.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32 (226). *"When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne."*

Thursday, Mar 05, 2020 LENTEN WEEKDAY

Let the body guide you

Prayer takes many forms—mental, verbal, visual, and physical. We speak, sing, reflect silently, stand, kneel, clasp our hands together. One time-honored Catholic tradition that is rarely seen—except perhaps on Good Friday or at ordinations and monastic professions—is prostration, the act of lying facedown on the ground. It symbolizes profound adoration, humility, or sorrow before God, and also expresses the "earthy" connection between God, humanity, and all creation. We "shorten" this prayer form when we bow our heads. As you enter into your own prayer, consider how bowing your head or lying prostrate might assist you in connecting more fully or in a different way with God.

TODAY'S READINGS: Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12 (227).

"Queen Esther, seized with mortal anguish, had recourse to the LORD. She lay prostrate upon the ground."

Friday, Mar 06, 2020 LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Be a little more careful

Lent invites us to a conversion of heart; any practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving can be the means of surrendering anger and loving more deeply. How might we do that? Smile at everyone you encounter today. Pray for ourselves and the people (or leaders) with whom we struggle. Ask each morning for the grace to imagine a walk in the shoes of a difficult person. Work to remove the judgment from your heart, and find the courage to mend a broken relationship. As the poet e.e. cummings put it, "be of love (a little) / More careful / Than of everything."

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26 (228). *"Go first to be reconciled with your brother."*

Saturday, Mar 07, 2020 MEMORIAL OF PERPETUA AND FELICITY, MARTYRS

Courage can be costly

Questions of conscience tend to get overlooked in the daily demands of work and family. But as totalitarian regimes around the world proliferate, some may face dilemmas similar to that of Perpetua and her servant Felicity. Both martyrs chose fidelity to Christ despite—or because of—their obligations as new mothers. Franz Jagerstatter, centuries later, in fidelity to his Catholic faith and love for his three daughters, refused a loyalty oath to Hitler and was beheaded. The sun rises on evil and good. But death does not have the last word. So risk speaking the truth.

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48 (229).

"For [God] makes the sun rise on the evil and on the good."

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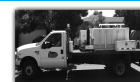
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