

BISHOP'S MONTHLY REFLECTION

February 2025

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month of February is a month filled with special joyful celebrations that contribute toward this Jubilee Year of Hope.

We began the month with the annual acknowledgment of the World Day of the Sick with Mass and the Sacrament of the Sick on February 2.

Then, on February 3, we honored and thanked the women and men religious who serve us throughout the diocese as we celebrated the World Day of Consecrated Life.

Within this Jubilee Year, we celebrate the living witness of the Sacrament of Matrimony with our annual Mass of Wedding Anniversaries. A great time to uplift the importance and need for fostering strong and holy marriages and faith filled family lives.

In this month of February, we will begin the beautiful celebrations of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit for our youth, and adults, with the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is in this Sacrament of the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit that we are empowered to become *Pilgrims of Hope* which is the call and challenge of this Jubilee Year 2025.

I hope you take the opportunity to participate, and to celebrate, this grace filled annual events offered for you, the faithful people of the Diocese of Stockton.

Many great things are going on in our diocese within this Jubilee Year of Hope!

God bless you throughout this month of February!

Bishop Cotta

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