

# St. Patrick Catholic Church

February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

235 Chapel Street  
Grass Valley CA 95945  
Phone (530) 273-2347  
Fax (530) 272-9681

Office Hours  
Mon – Fri : 9:00 AM—2:00 PM

[www.stpatrickgrassvalley.org](http://www.stpatrickgrassvalley.org)  
[info@stpatrickgrassvalley.org](mailto:info@stpatrickgrassvalley.org)  
[facebook.com/stpatrickgv/](https://facebook.com/stpatrickgv/)

Visit our YouTube Channel  
for weekly live-streams of our  
Sunday 11:00 AM Mass



## Mission

We, the parish of St. Patrick Church, being one community growing in faith and proclaiming our belief in the message and mission of our Lord Jesus Christ, invite all to open their hearts, hear His call, and become one with the Body of Christ.

### Masses

Weekday	Mon - Sat 8:30 AM
Saturday Vigil	5:00 PM
Sunday	7:30 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM 1:00 PM (Español)
Daily Rosary	7:40 AM
Divine Mercy	Mon, Tues, Fri after Rosary
Devotion to Our Lady	Wed. after Rosary
Liturgy of the Hours	Thurs. after Rosary

For anointing, hospital visits and communion visits, please call parish office.

### Adoration

1st Thursday	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Tuesday	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Friday	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
1st Sunday	2:00 - 7:00 PM
3rd Sunday	2:00 - 6:00 PM

### Confession

Tuesday	7:30 AM-8:15 AM
Friday	5:00 PM-6:00 PM
Saturday	3:00 PM-4:30 PM or by appointment

### Clergy and Staff

**Fr. Alexander Estrella**  
**Fr. Jossy Vattothu CMI**  
**Richard Soria**

**Pastor**  
**Parochial Vicar**  
**Deacon**

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**Brian Moore**

Edee Wood  
Deacon Rick Soria  
Kathleen Hardin  
Maria Beltran  
Traci Jagger  
Kellen Lake  
Fr. Alexander Estrella  
Colleen Deneen  
John Evans  
Edgar Lozano

**Deacon (retired)**  
**Deacon (retired)**  
Principal, Mt St. Mary's  
Director of Faith Formation  
Business Manager  
Receptionist  
RCIA  
Young Adult Coordinator  
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Music Director  
Maintenance  
Seminarian

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## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Family

The other morning, I started doing Lectio Divina on the Second Letter of St. Peter and nearly fell out of my chair when I read this: Since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. And I will see to it that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things. (2nd Peter 1:14-15) St. Peter is preparing his audience for his death and promises his solicitude for them. As I was praying with these verses, the Communion of the Saints came to mind, and as repetitive the topic was, I was delighted to read these words of St. Peter. In Mass that morning we were reminded about the great cloud of witnesses who continually watch us run the race to Heaven.

While these readings brought into focus the beauty of the Communion of Saints, it also reminded me how easily the Bible can be misread. One popular misconception is that what one believes has to be explicitly found in the Bible, but yet that belief itself is not explicitly in the Bible. Nor can we cherry pick verses or even string them together in an attempt to justify something we either believe or wish to disprove. The bible has to be read as a whole and in light of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Second Vatican Council confirmed this in its Constitution on Divine Revelation, Dei Verbum as it quoted the Letter to Hebrews that God the Father's last revelation was His Divine Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. The teaching of the Apostles, including their writings in Sacred Scripture can only clarify what our Lord revealed in His public ministry and His life.

Because all Divine Revelation is rooted in our Lord, the Old and New Testaments are two parts of the greater story which is salvation history. We cannot, therefore, dismiss the Old Testament as obsolete or an incomplete revelation of God. This was condemned as a heresy called Marcionism. Knowledge of the Old Testament informs our understanding of the New and vice versa. Whatever book of the Bible we read, in the end must be read in light of our Lord and His gospel of salvation.

As I close my thoughts on the Sacred Scripture, I am reminded that we cannot approach the word of God as if it were a textbook or manual, rather the Scriptures are meant to be treated as an encounter with the living God, with respect and with reverence. A helpful way for this is to become familiar with how we read Sacred Scripture in the liturgy, especially in the Holy Mass. Certain passages are read during certain seasons or for certain feasts. Our hymnals give us the Sunday readings but a person can purchase a daily missal which is hardbound and gives us the vast majority of the Mass readings.

Perhaps these ponderings are more like academic ramblings, but to quote St. Jerome, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ." The more we immerse ourselves in Scripture, the more we encounter our Lord, the more we love Him.

Your Father in Christ

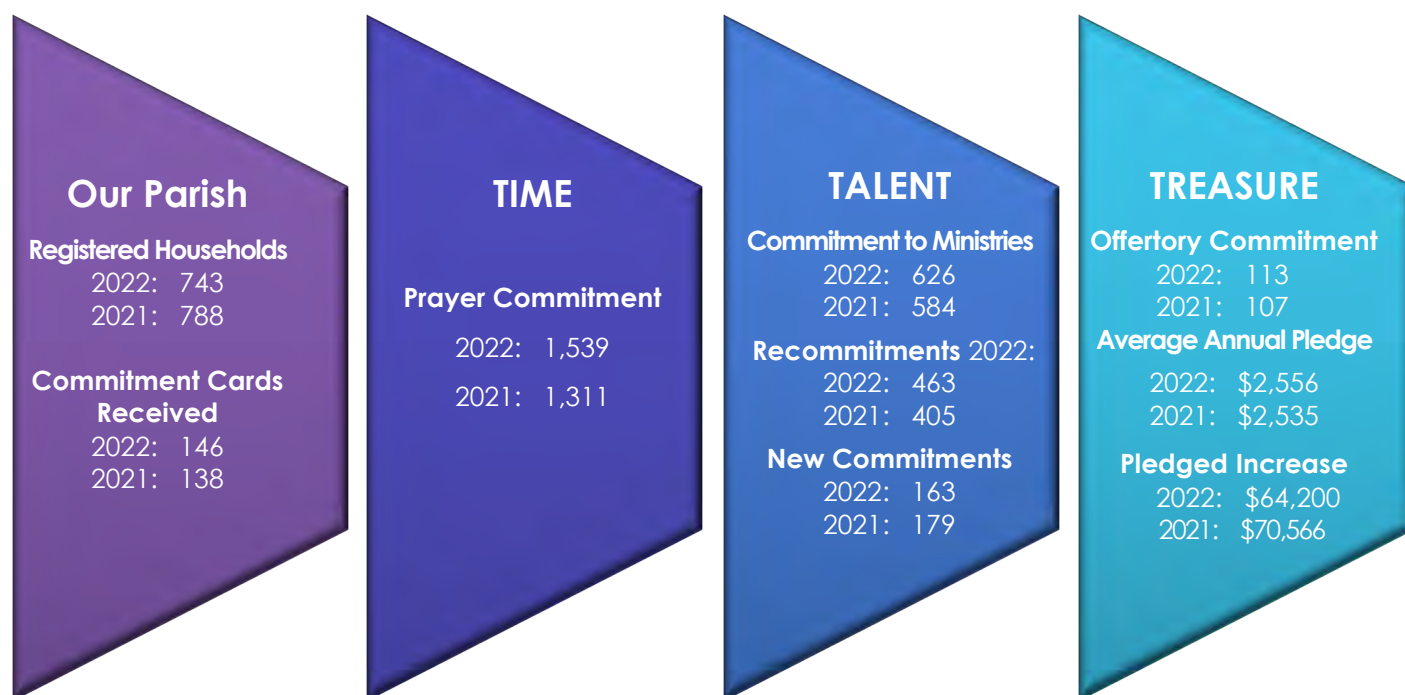
Fr. Estrella

Dear Family

This past autumn, our St Patrick parish leadership conducted the 2022 Annual Stewardship Renewal. The Stewardship Renewal provides our parish community the opportunity to discern how we are sharing our individual gifts to serve the Kingdom of God - in our homes; church; community; and diocese. I am very pleased with the good progress our parish is making in the Stewardship Way of Life - growing closer to our Lord in prayer, service, and sharing. God bless St Patrick's church.

We thank all those who participated in our 2022 Stewardship Renewal. I invite those of you who have been considering participating to continue to discern God's will for your life. You are all in my daily prayers. God bless.

Fr Estrella



*My Lord, I thank you for the countless ways in which you have gifted me, my family, and my church. I thank you for the ways you speak to me day and night in the depths of my soul. Help me to continue to be attentive to you and your will for my life. Continue to help me see the vocation of my life as your disciple. May your voice alone guide and direct my life. And, may I trust in your Word and never waiver from the mission, the vocation you have given me. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen*



**STEWARDSHIP**  
*Managing God's Gifts To Us*



**Isa 58:7-10**  
**1 Cor 2:1-5**

The first reading shares the light imagery of the gospel, and gives us more explicit instructions for becoming light to the world. We are to provide food, shelter, and clothing for those in need. In readings of the previous weeks, this has been identified as God's work, as God's special area of interest. When we perform these deeds, we participate in God's preferential love for those who are poor. And we share in the beauty that God is continuously bestowing on the world in God's infinite generosity.

Performing works of mercy does not always look or feel good. This work is very often thankless, unglamorous, and inconvenient. The light we become is not the literal kind others can see; it takes practiced eyes of faith to see this sort of light. God reassures us, though, that these good deeds are beautiful in God's eyes and are worthy of our time.



Join us for Adoration  
this Sunday from  
2:00-4:30

**Matt 5:13-16**

"You are the light of the world"

This week, our light imagery shifts a bit. We've been hearing for weeks about God being light for those who walk in darkness. Here, Jesus tells us that we, too, can become light for others. Our participation in God's will—in enacting justice and compassion—allows us to also participate in the beauty of God. We don't create anything new here; the light is not our own. Rather, we reflect God's light out to the world, amplifying it and making it more visible. We spread God's goodness to corners it may not have reached. We see this image clearly at baptism, when a light from the paschal candle is handed to the newly baptized. We are charged with carrying Christ's light into the world wherever we go, thus giving others reason to glorify God.



**HERE TO HELP**

Marriage, family,  
and individual  
therapy is now



available to interested parishioners that are in need of these services. Counseling sessions will be held at St. Patrick's and a goodwill offering in the amount of your choosing should be made to St. Patrick. **All information is strictly confidential and all proceeds will benefit St. Patrick's.** For more information or to make an appointment contact Sue Schwarz, licensed marriage and family therapist, at 530-559-5462.



**RCIA INQUIRY SESSION**

Have you been worshipping with us, but never taken the step to become Catholic? Have you been Catholic all your life, but never celebrated the sacraments of initiation? Are you from a different faith background, and would like to learn more about the Catholic faith? If you, or someone you know, answered yes to any of these questions, please join us at our first of this year's Inquiry session of RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) on Saturday, **Feb. 18**, from 9-11 am in the RCIA room at St. Cecelia's Center. Contact Traci at 530-575-0176, 530-237-2336 or [rcia@stpatrickgrassvalley.org](mailto:rcia@stpatrickgrassvalley.org) for any questions.



**BOOK CLUB GATHERING**

All are invited to a meeting of the St. Patrick and St. Canice Book Club on Monday, March, 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 P.M. at a Church location to be determined. We will be discussing *Undistracted*, by Bob Goff. The author will show us how to live a beautiful and purposeful life. In addition to stimulating conversation, coffee, tea and cookies will be served.

**Caring for God's Creation**



**CREATION CARE TEAM**

Try not to get discouraged by climate issues. It will take years for the earth to see improvement, but our children and grandchildren will benefit from all our efforts. An old Greek proverb states: "A nation is great when its elders plant trees whose shade they know they will never sit in". If we all do what we can, when we can, there is a lot of hope for the future!



### Please Join us...

...on Sunday February 5th at  
6:00 PM in St. Patrick Hall as  
Fr. Estrella unveils a  
comprehensive picture of our  
renovation including the  
scope of work, the rationale,  
and the various  
maintenance projects that  
are being done.  
We look forward to seeing  
you there!

### WE PRAY FOR:

Baltazar Andrade	Kathy Gutierrez	Janice O'Brien
Trish Biasatti	Virginia Hedges	John Peregoy
Richard Borlik	Macelino	Cheryl Riopel
Bonnie Burke	Hernandez	Gary Ross
Mike Casey	Christopher	Pat Rutter
David Cerrona	Hutchinson	Frank Santos
Daria Cividino	Pat Hutchinson	Sue Schrag
Larry Clony	Veronica Jones	John
Linda Colombo	Annette Krulisky	Schwaebecher
Brian Deily	Anita Lesch	Amber Turner
David & Wendy	Gere Lampman	Skip & Trudy
Detweiler	Dee Lavrador	Tyrrell
Bob Galletta	Sharon Mahar	Margie Wagner
Gary & Linda	Annie McDaniel	Doloris Vasquez
Grube	John Mercurio	Mary Zink
	Susan Merport	

...and their families.

Names are included for 8 weeks automatically, but for an extension, just let us know.

### CULTURE OF LIFE

#### Good News:



**Abortion Pill Reversal is available at LivingWell Medical Clinic in Grass Valley.**

In 2000 the FDA approved RU-486 known as the Abortion Pill. It changed abortions from being a surgical procedure to a chemically induced miscarriage. It took the abortion procedure out of hospitals and clinics under the supervision of medical personnel into the bathroom of the mother, often scared and alone. The use of RU-486 took off slowly as it was not a less expensive alternative nor simpler. It still required pre and post doctor visits... until Covid hit. With the threat of clinics being closed the abortion industry insisted that abortions must be available even while other life-saving and elective procedures were made unavailable. Temporary accommodations were made to remove the requirement for a physical exam and to receive the pills at a pharmacy. In January 2023, the FDA permanently removed an in-person dispensing requirement for the abortion pill allowing certified pharmacies to offer the medication in stores or by mail with a prescription.

Unfortunately, in recent years chemical abortions, also known as medical abortions, have been on the rise. Even before this new FDA ruling it was projected that by 2023 over 57 percent of abortions would be induced by the abortion pill RU-486. It has been found that some mothers soon regret taking the pills and the good news is that there is help for that mother and her child. If the first set of pills have been taken, causing the eventual death of the child, but not the second pills, causing the uterus to contract and expel the baby, intervention can be done to save the baby. But time is of the essence. The goal is to start the reversal process within 24 hours of taking the first pills. **LivingWell Medical Clinic has a team on standby ready to respond 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to meet with the mother at the clinic to confirm viability of the child and begin treatment. Success rates are highest, 64%-68% if the first dose of the treatment is received within 72 hours.**

**Women seeking abortion pill reversal can find LivingWell online through the Abortion Pill Rescue Network, by calling 1 877 558 0333 or texting LivingWell APR text line 530 278 8234.**





Mercy Associates—Join us  
Saturday February 11th at  
11:30 PM in the hall



Culture of Life  
Monday February 6th  
6:00 PM  
in the hall

Day		Saint/Feast	Readings	Gospel		Intention
Mon	2/6	Saint Paul Miki and Companions	Gn 1:1-19	Mk 6:53-56	8:30	Gisela Ford (d)
Tues	2/7	Saint Colette	Gn 1:20—2:4a	Mk 7:1-13	8:30	Thomas Baldwin (d)
Wed	2/8	Saint Josephine Bakhita	Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17	Mk 7:14-23	8:30	Thomas Baldwin (d)
Thur	2/9	Saint Jerome Emiliani	Gn 2:18-25	Mk 7:24-30	8:30	Thomas Baldwin (d)
Fri	2/10	Saint Scholastica	Gn 3:1-8	Mk 7:31-37	8:30	Dee Lavrador (si)
Sat	2/11	Our Lady of Lourdes	Gn 3:9-24	Mk 8:1-10	8:30 5:00	Lady of Lourdes Cilione Family (d)
Sun	2/12	Saint Apollonia	Sir 15:15-20 1 Cor 2:6-10	Mt 5:17-37	7:30 9:00 11:00	Delia Chatigney (d) Jack Valentine (d) For the People



### ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Come together in the charity of Christ to restore dignity and hope to others 25% comes back to our parish for our own outreach to those in need. Later this month, we will have the opportunity to accompany those who are suffering through the Annual Catholic Appeal. Each of our gifts, no matter the amount, makes a difference in someone's life. Catholic Charities can respond to the greatest needs in our communities. Seminarians receive support as they prepare to serve our local parishes. Catholic schools in economically-challenged neighborhoods can provide tuition assistance. Prayerfully consider what you can give this year.

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2023 | 6:00 p.m.**

**\$70/Per Person**

**MARINATED OR UN-MARINATED UPON REQUEST**

**Crab FEED**

fresh crab  
pasta  
salad  
garlic bread  
desert  
**NO-HOST BAR**

**council 1875**

**PICK-UP TICKETS AT FRESCHI CONSTRUCTION OR CALL (530) 272-2051**

**Dinner will be held at St. Canice Center, 236 Reward St., Nevada City**



KOC meets this  
Tuesday February 7th  
at 6:00 PM in the hall.



Your generosity is greatly  
appreciated!  
January 29th \$7,921



## Deacon's Corner



*Thus says the LORD: Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your back on your own.*

*Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.*

Two of the techniques we were taught in preparing a homily were to read the reading from the prior week and the following week to get a sense of what the Church intended when they chose the readings. And also to read the bible verses before and after the reading to get a fuller sense of what God was revealing or why it is important for us to understand them. In the verses prior to the first verse of today's readings from Isaiah, God is telling the Israelites that there is more to worshipping Him than just ritual or fasting. **"Is this not, rather, the fast that I choose:** releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; Setting free the oppressed, breaking off every yoke?" To come to mass every Sunday, to hear His Word and receive Christ's Body in the Eucharist is an amazing gift from God, but that gift must be brought out and lived in the world or it loses its meaning.

I shared this story in a homily once about Canadian hockey player Warren Hudson. "One night at the end of Saturday night mass, a thunderstorm unleashed a bolt of lightning that plunged the church into darkness. With the congregation seated in total darkness, our pastor found some candles and handed them out to everyone. We lit our candles like we do at the Easter Vigil, each person lighting the candle of the person next to them. Then we made our way to the front door. "Peering out, we could see the rain coming down in sheets, with traffic snarled, people were running for the nearest shelter. Looking around they realized that the entire city was in darkness. There in the darkness we stood, a little band of Christians, each clutching a light, not sure whether to venture out into the storm or stay inside the church in hopes that the storm would soon blow over." There in the darkness the light of truth struck him. In this most dramatic way he realized what it means to be the "light of the world." He writes, "It occurred to me then that this is the temptation I face every day. It is easy to play it safe and be a good Christian in church. It is a lot harder to venture out in faith into the storms of the world."

Roble Nebres shares in "Reflect the Light," about the time he drove to the summit of Mt. Haleakala. After watching the sunset it became dark and he anxiously descended down the steep, winding road. When he left the parking lot, the median strips on the road suddenly came alive with reflectorized lights. They provided a much-needed directional guide on the mountain road. The reflectors illuminated the way for him to safely descend down the treacherous mountain road. The reflectors, however, were useless without his headlights shining on them. The light they gave depended on the light from another source. Otherwise they could not help him see.

When Jesus told his disciples they were the "light of the world," he meant they were to be reflectors of the light of God. God is the illuminating source. God provides the light that is reflected from us. And God needs us to be reflectors of God's light to a world of darkness. Is our life about us or is it about God? From where does it flow?

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.



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