

St. Patrick Catholic Church

May 7, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

Office Hours
Mon – Fri : 9:00 AM—2:00 PM
www.stpatrickgrassvalley.org
info@stpatrickgrassvalley.org
facebook.com/stpatrickgvg/



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.	

1st Thursday
Tuesday
Friday
1st Sunday
3rd Sunday
Tuesday
Friday
Saturday

Adoration

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
2:00 - 7:00 PM
2:00 - 6:00 PM

Confession

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

Clergy and Staff

Fr. Alexander Estrella
Fr. Jossy Vattothu CMI
Richard Soria

James Chatigny

Brian Moore

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

Pastor

Parochial Vicar
Deacon

Deacon (retired)

Deacon (retired)

Principal, Mt St. Mary's
Director of Faith Formation
Business Manager
Receptionist
RCIA
Young Adult Coordinator
Hispanic Ministry
Music Director
Facilities Manager
Seminarian

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PASTORS PONDERINGS

Father Estrella was on vacation this week so please enjoy this reflection from last year (note that Rogation Days this year are May 15th—17th).

Dear Family,

This past Monday we received an email from our Bishop asking us to join in an ancient tradition of the Church called "Rogation Days." The name "Rogation" comes from the Latin word "rogare" which means to ask or to beg. These days are traditionally associated with the feast of the Ascension and were marked with prayers and processions asking the Lord for the protection of fields and crops and an abundant blessing. As life became more urban and focused on industry and less on farming and country living the Rogation Processions became less and less a practice.

At the height of their observance was a practice called "beating the bounds" which involved a procession which followed the parish boundaries and a beating down the grass and bushes to create a visible marking of the boundaries. Soon these processions became simple observances and eventually discontinued in the life of many parishes. As spring soon yields to summer, once more we find ourselves finding drought and the increased danger of wildfires. Our dependence on the elements reminds us that no matter how advanced technology may become we are still dependent on God's grace and mercy.

What better way to express that dependence than observing this ancient tradition of the Church? Rogation days are typically penitential days; purple vestments were worn in the sacred liturgy and fasting, and abstinence were kept. Fr. (Jossy) and I will soon determine how these days are going to be observed in our parish, I urge us all to make some sacrifice on these days and to participate however you can in these devotions.

As we take up this aspect of the Church's life we implore God's mercy but also express our trust and confidence in Him and His goodness. We turn to our God in prayer because we know that He is slow to anger and rich in compassion. (Ps 103) Our Lord in the gospel tells us "If you then being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children: how much more will your Father who is in heaven, give good things to them that ask him?" (Matthew 7:11)

These Rogation Days help us remember that it is God's goodness and mercy that are the source of the blessings we enjoy in our lives and that we are not the source of these things. These days of penance during the Easter Season also serve to remind us that even during the joyous days of our Easter celebration we are called to continual and deepening conversion. The practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, which are the dominate theme of Lent are also meant to be a part of our lives during the course of the liturgical year.

We can all agree that our world is in urgent need of this campaign of prayer that will be marked by the coming Rogation Days. Let us unite under the banner of faith, with the weapons of prayer and fasting and so combat both our temporal needs and the many evils of our day.

Your Father in Christ

Fr. Estrella

WORLD YOUTH DAY

 We're going to Lisbon!!! Several of our youth will be attending World Youth Day in July. The total cost of each pilgrim to attend is \$4,100. We'd be grateful for your prayers and if you'd like to help support our pilgrims financially, you may donate through our website, the collection basket, or by mailing your donation to the office. Thank you so very much for your generosity! We will pray for you!





STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

As Christian stewards, we are well aware that our earthly home is not our permanent home. We know our true home is Heaven. Yet, as we make our way to Heaven, we are called to make our earthly home — whether we live alone or bursting at the seams — a true “domestic church.” In other words, the stewardship way of life begins in our homes long before we enter the church. Stewardship starts at home.

Stewardship is not just about going to Mass once a week, serving in ministries, and giving financially to the parish, although these are all essential and good practices of stewardship. It goes beyond parish life. Living as disciples of Christ means infusing the stewardship way of life in our families, friendships, and work. Wherever we go, it's who we are. However, and most importantly, it needs to begin in our homes, the place where we cultivate prayer, gratitude, service, and hospitality. The place where we practice intimate and selfless love of others.

Let us never forget, stewardship starts and lives in our homes and then goes into the world.



COMING UP THIS WEEK

Day	Saint/Feast	Readings	Gospel	Intention	
Mon	5/8 Saint Peter of Tarentaise	Acts 14:5-18	Jn 14:21-26	8:30	Phil Chavez (si)
Tues	5/9 Saint John of Avila	Acts 14:19-28	Jn 14:27-31	8:30	Increase in vocations
Wed	5/10 St Damien de Veuster	Acts 15:1-6	Jn 15:1-8	8:30	Carmen Collins (d)
Thur	5/11 Saint Ignatius of Laconi	Acts 15:7-21	Jn 15:9-11	8:30	Fr. Michael Cormack (d)
Fri	5/12 Saint Leopold Mandic	Acts 15:22-31	Jn 15:12-17	8:30	TBD
Sat	5/13 Our Lady of Fatima	Acts 16:1-10	Jn 15:18-21	8:30 5:00	Mario Devincenzi (d) TBD
Sun	5/14 Sixth Sunday of Easter	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 1 Pt 3:15-18	Jn 14:15-21	7:30 9:00 11:00	Helen Archer (d) Giuseppe Gatti (d) & Assunta Maccari (d) For the People



Vespers and Dinner
with Bishop Soto
May 21st 5:00 PM
More info coming soon



**ANNUAL SHRED DAY
IFM Fundraiser!**
Owen's Estate and Wealth Strategy Group is once again hosting their Annual Shred Day on Saturday, May 20th, from 10:00 am - 2:00pm. The location is in Owens Plaza, 426 Sutton Way, Grass Valley. Suggested donation is \$10/box or bag. IFM is the recipient of the proceeds. There will be several shredding trucks on site and will shred while you wait (if you want).

Acts 6:1-7 1 Pet 2:4-9

Like the gospel, the second reading calls us to follow in Christ's footsteps. Here, we are to follow him in becoming "living stones" that might be built into a "spiritual house." This house is akin to the temple, a place for offering sacrifice. But it can also serve as shelter for others. The first reading reminds us that part of the work of the church is to distribute goods in a just way. This is so important that a new group is established: deacons are initiated to oversee the social work of the church.

Some of the metaphors in these readings can seem obscure and unreachable. We are to wait for Jesus to prepare a place for us in his Father's house; we are in the meantime to become living stones built into another house. Reflecting on themes of home and hospitality might help these readings take on a more robust meaning.



KOC PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Returning next weekend!

Now that we are back in the church, we are excited that the Knight's monthly pancake breakfast will resume, starting next Sunday, May 14th. All mother's will be honored with a free meal and a rose. Mimosas will be available too!



EUCCHARISTIC
ADORATION
This Sunday, May 7th
2:00 - 7:00



CREATION CARE

"Leaving an inhabitable planet to future generations is, first and foremost, up to us. The issue is one which dramatically affects us, for it has to do with the ultimate meaning of our earthly sojourn." (Laudato Si', 160) This coming Laudato Si' Week (May 21 -28) we pray that God may inspire the Catholic Church's efforts to advocate practices that support a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment for all.

John 14:1-12

"I am the way and the truth and the life." We are past the midpoint of the Easter season, and the readings start to turn from the immediate aftermath of the resurrection and toward the ongoing work the church will face after Jesus's bodily presence departs earth. We see that while the work of Easter is complete in one sense – Jesus has conquered death once and for all – it will be an ongoing project to bring it to its fullness. Jesus has gone ahead of us in death and has conquered it for us so that we might participate in his life. In this gospel, Jesus tells us that he will go ahead of us to heaven, as well, but it is not to leave us alone. He goes ahead to open the way for us and to prepare our place there. Jesus also affirms his unity with his Father here; he already dwells in the Father and the Father in him, and we are called to follow him into such intimacy with God, which is truly heaven.



SUMMER FAITH CAMP

June 19th -23rd

9:00 AM -12:30 PM.

\$55.00 per child.

Register by June 1st.

Visit our website for registration forms, and with questions contact stpatrick-faithcamp2022@gmail.com



MERCY ASSOCIATES

Saturday May 13th
11:30 AM
St. Patrick Small Hall



Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

April 30th \$7,545
Home Missions \$1,089
April egiving \$21,386



Sierra Roots Project

Thank You

Thank you so much to our amazing St. Patrick community!! Because of your great generosity, the Faith Formation families collected \$1,848 for the homeless served by Sierra Roots. Many boots and shoes will be purchased with this money. Your donations of, socks, scarves, soap, toothbrushes, and toothpaste, and so much more enabled us to assemble 25 "Blessing Bags." Included in these bags were caring notes written by the children and their parents. You are truly a wonderful and supportive community to the needy in our county!



BABY SHOWER

supporting
LivingWell Medical Clinic

The LivingWell Embracing Family Boutique provides material support to approximately 2,500 women and children each year free of charge. Please help us restock their Boutique with items for pregnant women, newborns and young children. Requested items include: Baby Front Carriers, Activity Walkers, Breast Pumps, Baby Monitors, Newborn Diapers, Mini Cribs, Newborn and Infant Clothing, Childrens Clothing ages 2 – 6 and Children's Books. New or gently used items are welcome along with Gas and Grocery Gift Cards. LivingWell is registered at both Target and Amazon for online shopping.

Location: St. Canice Hall

Date: May 11, 2023

Time: 10:30 am, **or**

Drop off unwrapped gifts at St. Patrick's after Masses on May 6 and 7.



WE'RE LISTENNING!

We are postponing
our May retreat

Our retreat is geared for families and we have heard from them that May is a challenging time. We will reschedule in the fall and we look forward to our many parish families being able to attend.

WITH OUR CONDOLENCES



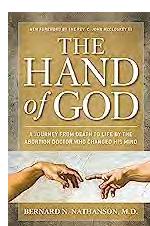
St. Patrick Parish community extends our deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of **Richard Osterholt** who passed away April 8, **Colleen Krebs** who passed away on March 13, and **Vinzetta Aratari** who passed away March 2. Please remember them and all the Faithful Departed in your prayers.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



WE PRAY FOR:

Baltazar Andrade, Richard Borlik,
Bonnie Burke, Mike Casey, David
Cerrona, Pat Chargin, Diane
Damron, David & Wendy
Detweiler, Cathie Fideli, Marilyn & Tom Falls,
Bob Galletta, Gary & Linda Grube, Jack Harris,
Virginia Hedges, Sharon Henry, Joan & Tom
Jacobs, **Linda Kilass**, Annette Krulisky, Gere
Lampman, Dee Lavrador, Sharon Mahar,
Wayne McHone, John Mercurio, Kathleen
Montavon, David Mott John Perego, Susan
Roberts, Gary Ross, Chuck Ryan, Pat Rutter,
Frank Santos, **Sue Schrag**, Larry Schmidt, John
Schwaebacher, Dcn Rick & Maureen Soria,
Stella Spring, Barbara Stephens, Maddie Testa,
Amber Turner, Skip & Trudy Tyrrell, Henry
Vasquez, Margie Wagner
and their families.



PARISH BOOK CLUB

Next Monday! May 15th

All Parishioners are invited to a meeting of the St. Patrick and St. Canice Book Club on Monday, May 15 at 1:30 P. M. in the Small Hall. We will be discussing *The Hand of God*, by Bernard Nathanson. Refreshments will be served!

My Journey to Full Communion in the Church

This is the fourth of five reflections we will be sharing during the Easter season from our neophytes who just received or completed their Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.

My name is Samuel Sankey. I was baptized as an Episcopalian, due to a sort of compromise between my Catholic father and Methodist mother, I've been around Catholics my whole life. Every year when I was younger we would visit family in Iowa, and go to a place called the Grotto of the Redemption. The Grotto is a massive complex, built entirely from rocks from around the world. It shows the history of salvation, from Adam's expulsion from the Garden of Eden, to the death and resurrection of Christ. I had always found the place beautiful, but never associated it with Catholicism.

My conversion started during junior year of High School. I was one of the nones, or a Non-Denominational Christian, someone who just sticks to the basics of the faith. That's when I met Jacob. We became good friends, and I eventually found out he was Catholic. He made me reconsider Catholicism and how it related to my life. How could I have been surrounded by Catholics my whole life, and yet be so ignorant to it? I decided it was time to change that. Through studying church history and doctrines, I came to understand that the Catholic Church is the one true church, established all those years ago, when Christ and the Apostles walked the Earth.

RCIA has been a wonderful time, and I just want thank the people of St. Patrick's for all they've done. Learning about the faith in that friendly environment helped me to open up and complete the process. People outside of Catholicism have a conception that RCIA is an extremely strict process, but that's not what I experienced here.

Thank you again St Patrick's, and please, come say hi, I'd love to get to know my fellow parishioners better. I don't bite!

Deacon Rick here, just a thought for you who are reading this; have you been a "Jacob" to a "Samuel" in your life?



CULTURE OF LIFE

When the "right to choose" isn't.

60% of women who have had abortions report that they felt some level of pressure to abort usually from their boyfriend, husband or parents. Here is a tragic example from the recent 40 Days for Life Campaign of a woman having no choice.

On Day 28 of the campaign vigil participants in Los Angeles learned of their first "save". The campaign reported they had rescued an abortion-bound homeless mother from both an abortion and life on the streets. They arranged for the mother to stay at a maternity home where she would get the help she needed to get back on her feet. Unfortunately, the woman's pimp found out and was pressuring her to have the abortion. She indicated that, "He needs to know that she is no longer pregnant or her family will be in danger." The terrorized woman left the maternity home and blocked the phone number of the manager.

One must wonder who really benefits from the abortion of children. Irresponsible men? Rapists? Human traffickers?





DEACON'S CORNER



Beloved..., like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.....

You are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises” of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Jesus said to him, “**I am the way and the truth and the life.** No one comes to the Father except through me.... Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

Writing my Deacon's Corner this week has been very difficult for me because I have been struggling with the pending loss of Dan, one of my closest friends and brother deacon. In fact, even though he is younger than me and I was ordained 5 years before him, he has always been my inspiration for what it means to be a deacon, husband and father. As I sat with him a week ago, I was struck by the peacefulness and aliveness in his deeply sunken eyes, how each word he struggled to say tried to convey that he was okay, and how much he appreciated us. Since we left, I have pondered where did his peace and strength come from, as both he and his wife deal with his final days.

As I sat with these readings, it began to dawn on me where that peace and strength has come from. Ever since Dan's “conversion” 40+ years ago, both He and Laurie had become “living stones”. What a beautiful concept Paul had when he talked about how the ecclesial relationship with God is not about what happens within a building, but rather what happens within an individual during the Eucharist. We become the very edifice for the Creator of the Universe to humbly dwell within us, giving us eternal life. We become living temples within the temple. In our gathering for worship as a community, we each become the very fabric of the community; we become the stones that give structure to the community, to the Body of Christ.

Deacon Sid Galvin shares this story: The ancient historian Plutarch, in writing about the king of Sparta, tells this story. It seems that an ambassador on a diplomatic mission visited the famous city of Sparta. Knowing that its strength was acclaimed throughout all Greece, he expected to see massive fortresses surrounding the city, but he found nothing of the kind. Surprised, the ambassador said to the king, "Sir, you have no fortifications for defense. How can this be?" "Oh, but we are well protected," replied the king. "Come with me tomorrow and I will show you the walls of Sparta." The next day he led the ambassador to the plains where Sparta's army was assembled in full battle dress. Pointing proudly to his soldiers, who stood fearlessly in place, the king said, "Behold! The walls of Sparta--ten thousand men and every one a brick!" Through our baptism, and in receiving the Eucharist, we become the Body of Christ and when we see the struggle and pain of our neighbor and reach out to them and lift them up, we become the “living stones” that builds the Kingdom of God

Dan and Laurie, many years ago, made a choice to live their life based on these words of Jesus: **I am the way and the truth and the life.** Jesus did not say I am a way, a truth, and a type of life; He said I am THE Way and The Truth and THE Life. Jesus is not one of many choices, His is not one of many voices. The way is not a set of rules to follow; it is a relationship. Truth is not relative; it is a person. Life is not terminal, it is eternal.

In Deuteronomy 30, God says to the nation of Israel “I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. **Choose life**, then, that you and your descendants may live, by loving the LORD, your God, obeying his voice, and holding fast to him. For that will mean life for you, a long life for you to live on the land which the LORD swore to your ancestors. In the Gospel today Jesus says to each of us: “**I am the way and the truth and the life.** No one comes to the Father except through me... Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” There are only 2 choices in life, either we live by and accept Jesus' words or we don't. We choose to live or we don't. In Scripture, in the Eucharist and the Sacraments we are given the way, and the truth and the life. Choose life. If we do, then in this life and for all eternity we will experience a life portrayed in these lyrics from Marty Haugen: “**Our lives are but a single breath, we flower and we fade, yet all our days are in your hands, so we return in love what love has made. Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has ready for those who love him; Spirit of love, come, give us the mind of Jesus, teach us the wisdom of God**”

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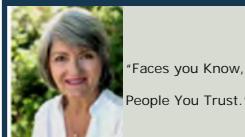
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