

St. Patrick Catholic Church

July 23, 2023

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Office Hours
Mon - Fri : 9:00 - 2:00 PM



stpatrickgrassvalley.org

info@stpatrickgrassvalley.org

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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, Tu, & Fri after Rosary
Devotion to Our Lady	Wed. after Rosary
Liturgy of the Hours	Thurs after Rosary

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

Adoration

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

Rosary & Adoration

Tuesday	Rosary @ 5:30 PM Adoration 6:00 - 7:00
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Confession

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

Clergy and Staff

Fr. Alexander Estrella
Fr. Jossy Vattothu CMI
Richard Soria

Pastor
Parochial Vicar
Deacon

frestrella@stpatrickgrassvalley.org
frjossy@stpatrickgrassvalley.org
Faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org
Faith Formation #: 273-2336 x3201

James Chatigny
Brian Moore
Edee Wood
Deacon Rick Soria

Deacon (retired)
Deacon (retired)
Principal, Mt St. Mary's
Director of Faith Formation

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Fr. Alexander Estrella
Colleen Deneen
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RCIA
Young Adult Coordinator
Hispanic Ministry
Music Director
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PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Family,

One of my favorite professors in seminary is the now abbot of Mt. Angel Abbey, Fr. Jeremy Driscoll. He is a very passionate and intelligent theologian. Our first class with him was an introduction to theology which was done through reflection on the Mass and its various parts and prayers. We enjoyed the class very much and often wished we had it before Mass instead of after. To this day it still shapes my own theological reflection.

In one of our classes, Father had us pray together all out loud, about 25 odd men all saying different prayers at different speeds and voices-it was quite the circus of sounds! After a minute or so it became quite unbearable, and so Father made us stop and chant the "Easter Alleluia." The Alleluia is most commonly sung at Easter. In an instant that horrific sound of 25 competing voices was changed into a beautiful, crisp, chant of "alleluia" that almost sounded as if it were only one voice.

During Holy Week, because the confessionals were not finished, I would play chant and sacred music through the church as we heard confessions. The sounds filled our beautiful church and provided a prayerful background to the recollected experience of Reconciliation. In Hispanic culture it is considered disrespectful to listen to music for at least 40 days as a sign of mourning. When my grandmother passed I observed this custom. Music is such an integral part of our life and is used to express many things and emotions. Yet in the context of the Mass, music has a nobler purpose.

The primary reason for music at Mass isn't to adorn the ritual to make it more expressive or lively, nor to express or evoke a sentiment. Imagine if we sang "Immaculate Mary" as the entrance on Easter Sunday or "Away in a Manger" for Communion on Ash Wednesday! While these examples are absurd, it makes the point-liturgical music serves a purpose we often miss. It is meant to draw us into the mystery being celebrated and express the unity of the Church manifest in the liturgical action.

During the reforms of the liturgy following the Second Vatican Council, our Holy Father, Paul VI, was fond of saying, "sing the Mass, don't sing at Mass." In the mid 1960's a document came out called *Musicam Sacram* which was meant to help implement the direction of the council regarding sacred music. Prior to *Musicam Sacram* a Mass was either read (think daily Mass) or sung (think Easter Sunday) there was no in between. In the 1950's permission was given for vernacular hymns to be sung. This was often done independent of what the priest was doing and had to end as to not interfere with certain parts.

All the popes since Paul VI have affirmed not only this document but others reaching as far back to the Pope St. Pius X. It is because of the guidance given in these documents that we sing so much of the Mass. *Musicam Sacram* lays out a hierarchy of what should be sung. First the exchanges between the priest and people, then the fixed parts of Mass (e.g. Lord have mercy, Glory to God, Holy, Holy Holy etc.) and lastly the variable or proper parts e.g. entrance antiphon or hymn. It is always a joyful and inspiring thing to hear our church "shake with the mighty voices of the people" as we "lift up our hearts to the Lord our God."

Your Father in Christ,

Father Estrella

WE PRAY FOR:

Diana Boyarsky, Vida Santos, Bonnie Burke, Pat Chargin, Diane Damron, Marilyn & Tom Falls, Cathie Fideli, Gary & Linda Grube, Jack Harris, Jeff Hill, Linda Kilass, Dee Lavrador, Wayne McHone, John Mercurio, Kathleen Montavon, Cheryl Riopel, Susan Roberts, Chuck Ryan, Frank Santos, Larry Schmidt, Dcn Rick & Maureen Soria, Stella Spring, Barbara Stephens, Maddie Testa, Kathy Smith...and their families.

Names are automatically included for 3 months, please call the office if you would like a different time frame.



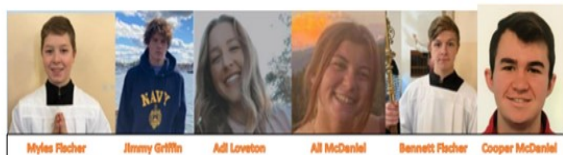
WORLD YOUTH DAY LISBON, PORTUGAL AUGUST 1-6, 2023

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Thank you so very much for your generosity!!!! We will pray for YOU!



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\$75



\$100



\$200



\$500

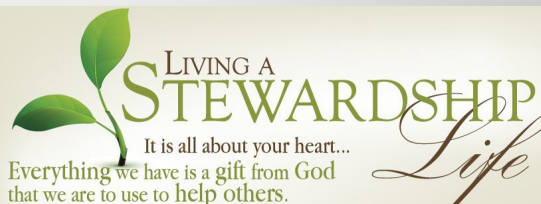
WORLD YOUTH DAY

**PLEASE CONTINUE PRAYING FOR OUR
PILGRIMS AS THEY LEAVE ON FRIDAY, JULY
28TH.**

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 SO 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!

The cost for each pilgrim is \$4,100 and we'd be grateful for your prayers and if you'd like to help support our pilgrims financially, you may donate by scanning one of the QR codes or drop off any amount you wish. in the collection basket,

STEWARDSHIP



In today's gospel, Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to His church, where both wheat and weeds have been sown. God allows the weeds to grow with the wheat for His purposes, typically veiled or hidden from us. For example, God permitted Judas to act unjustly to allow Jesus to complete His Father's mission. The Stewardship way of life instructs us on how to respond to the wheat and weeds of daily living by first praying and listening to God's will in silence before we speak or take action. This formula, properly understood and practiced, is full proof if we only trust God's love for each of us and His church. In the kingdom of God, both wheat and weeds are permitted to grow and only at the harvest time are they separated, or judged by Jesus himself.

Let us remain faithful to the mission entrusted to our care for the building of the kingdom of heaven - especially our church.

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FAIR TIME!



It's that time of the year where we need volunteers to help with getting the fair booth ready, helpers to cover daily shifts and kitchen helpers.

for further information or to sign up, please contact:

Marilyn Peters

Email: marilyn@petersdrilling.com

Call or text: (530) 913-6583

OR

Greg Peters

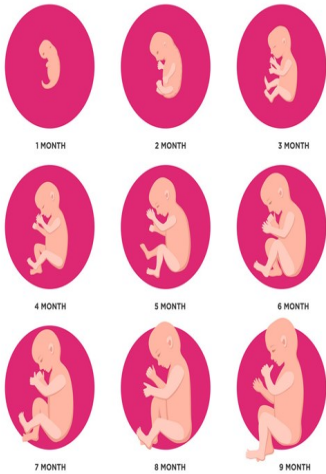
Email: greg@petersdrilling.com

Call or text: (530) 205-7011

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<https://tinyurl.com/3j4sc254>

CULTURE OF LIFE

"The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government." — Thomas Jefferson



The overturning of Roe v Wade did not make abortion illegal rather it determined it was not a constitutional right. Pro-lifers went into action and 25 states passed laws to protect unborn babies. Seventeen of the 25 states have protection during all 9 months, four states protect the life of babies once their heartbeat is detected, two at 12 weeks, one at 15 weeks when the child is pain capable, and one with laws that are currently stalled in state courts. Catholic Hospitals and Doctors have been protected since 1973 from being forced to perform sterilization procedures and abortions. However, protection for unborn babies, hospitals and doctors is under attack due to the 2022 Biden Executive Order directing U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to safeguard and expand abortion, both medical and surgical.

The non-profit law firm Thomas More Society, championing Life, Family and Freedom, sees the order and the troubling letter written by HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra to clarify the Executive Order as a threat "to turn every hospital emergency department into an abortion facility." "The letter states that when a pregnant woman has an emergency medical condition and abortion is allegedly the 'stabilizing treatment necessary to resolve that condition, the physician must provide' an abortion." The Becerra letter also firmly states, "when a state law prohibits abortion and does not include an exception for the life and health of the pregnant person (...) that state law is preempted. "[emphasis added] Thomas More Society stands firm in the belief that abortion is not health care and that it is never necessary and it urgently warns that even states with strong protection for the unborn are at risk. Committed to fighting this injustice the Thomas More Society is assisting the Catholic Bishops of Texas and other Catholic organizations in the State of Texas v. Becerra case currently before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit. Let us pray for their success to protect pre-borns, and Catholic hospitals and doctors.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Wednesday July 26



The Circle of Friends meeting is going to be a BBQ at the Oregon Creek Day Use Area starting at 10 AM.

Address: CA-49, Camptonville, CA 95922.

If you would like to join, please contact Dolores at 530-263-6537.



Teacher Position

Mt. St. Mary Academy is seeking a FOURTH Grade Teacher for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. If you are interested in joining the MSM team, send your resume to ewood@mtstmarys.org.



Sponsor the 23rd Annual Fr. Phelan Golf Classic

The Knights of Columbus will host the 23rd Annual Fr. Phelan Golf Classic at the Alta Sierra Golf Course on September 10th. This fun event will benefit Mt. St. Mary's Academy and Sierra Roots. **If you would like to be a sponsor and have your company's logo or your name on the upcoming flyer, please contact Bert Tomasino at radar-nav52@yahoo.com or (530) 615-6262 as soon as possible** as we plan to have the first edition of the golf flyer published very soon.

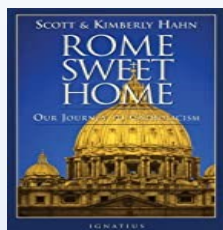
MAKING A COMMITMENT TO SPIRITUALLY ADOPT AND PRAY FOR TRAFFICKED CHILDREN



In response to the movie, "Sound of Freedom" in making aware the plight of trafficked children, please make a commitment to spiritually adopt and pray the following prayer daily for a trafficked child known to God alone:

"Through the mercy of Jesus and with the Father and Holy Spirit, I spiritually adopt this child, this victim of trafficking, and ask through your mercy and love, that you send your angels to release her/him into your protection. Jesus you said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these.' Through the intercession of your Blessed Mother Mary and St. Joseph, and all the holy saints, I pray. Amen."

Thank you, Helen Albano (530) 210-1721



Parish Book Club Gathering

BOOK CLUB ON MONDAY, JULY 24 IN THE SMALL HALL

All Parishioners are invited to a meeting of the Book Club on Monday, July 24, at 1:30 P. M. in the Small Hall. We will be discussing Rome Sweet Home: Our Journey to Catholicism, by Kimberly and Scott Hahn.



Creation Care Team: Pope Francis, in his encyclical Laudato Si', cautions us to avoid the "culture of consumerism". He warns us that "A constant flood of new consumer goods can baffle the heart and prevent us from cherishing each thing and each moment." A simpler life, free of clutter and distraction, makes it easier to be more spiritual. In turn, greater spirituality leads to a less attached and simpler life. Material simplicity is an intentional pathway to more joy, happiness, and the flourishing of God's Creation. Filter your acquisition decisions through a lens of needs versus wants. "Less is more."

MT. ST. MARY'S ACADEMY IS NOW ENROLLING:

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(4 years old by Sept 1st)

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*Priority registration for Kindergarten

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Call 530-272-4694 to schedule an interview.

(Summer office hours Tues, Wed, Thurs. 9am-3pm)

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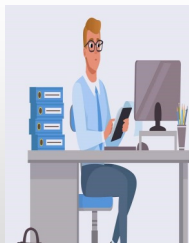


Your generosity is greatly appreciated!
July 9th — \$10,307



Mt. St. Mary's Academy
collection
June 16th \$1,959
Thank you!

BOOKKEEPER POSITION

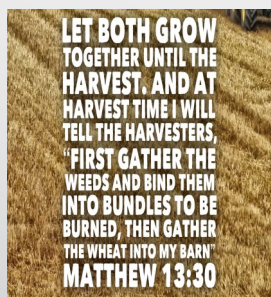


We are still looking to recruit a bookkeeper to support our office team. The role is 15 hours a week to do the bookkeeping for St. Canice and St. Patrick's church. Please let us know if you are interested about this bookkeeping position or if you know someone that would be interested. For more details please email

Father Estrella frestrella@stpatrickgrassvalley.org

**CONFESSION FROM
5:00 PM– 6:00 PM ON
FRIDAY, JULY 28 HAS
BEEN CANCELLED.**

Reflecting on the Gospel



Jesus lays out a feast of parables in today's gospel. Last week, we took in the parable of the sower and the seed. You may recall issues that some seeds faced just getting into the ground like rough soil and thorns. It seemed at least somewhat left up to chance which seeds prospered and which did not. The first of this week's parables introduces new problems for the crops: weeds and intentionality. Any farmer or gardener knows the pain that comes with weeds, which take significant time to uproot and can spread quickly. One wrong move and the good crops surrounding the weeds can be ruined. The weeds in today's parable did not appear by a stroke of bad luck, either. When asked where the weeds came from, the master of the house offers an ominous reply: "An enemy has done this."

This parable points to the reality of evil in the world. Jesus is acknowledging that there are forces at work that want to see good falter and often, these forces persist. Like pesky weeds that will nonstop spreading, forces of evil continue to wreak havoc on our world. We need only consider the realities of racism, sexism, violence, and the many other forms of hate to realize how widespread the weeds have grown.

Still, in the end, let us hold out hope that God the master gardener can and will separate the good plants from the evil weeds. God who made heaven and earth will surely make all things right in the end.

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Day	Saint/Feast	Readings	Gospel	Mass Times	Intention
Mon 7/24	Saint Sharbel Makhluf	Ex 14:5-18	Mt 12:38-42 (395)	8:30 am	
Tues 7/25	Saint James, Apostle	2 Cor 4:7-15	Mt 20:20-28 (605)	8:30 am	Selso Davila (SI)
Wed 7/26	Saint Joachim and Anne, Parents of Blessed Virgin Mary	Ex 16:1-5, 9-15	Mt 13:1-9 (397)	8:30 am	Jack Hill (D)
Thurs 7/27	Blessed Mary Magdalene Martinengo	Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b	Mt 13:10-17 (398)	8:30 am	Henry Hammock (D)
Fri 7/28	St. Victor I, Pope	Ex 20:1-17	Mt 13:18-23 (399)	8:30 am	
Sat 7/29	Saint Martha, Mary and Lazarus	Ex 24:3-8(400)	Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42	8:30 am 5:00 pm	
Sun 7/30	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12 Rom 8:28-30	Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46 (109)	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am	Marilyn Ausman (D) For the People



DEACON'S CORNER



Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

Whoever has ears ought to hear."

Just a brief thought on today's scriptures. We live in an era that puts great emphasis on God's unconditional love and that Jesus is our friend and does not judge us. What a beautiful thought. But this parable of the wheat and the weeds gives us a slightly different sense. God is unconditional love, that is the foundational truth of existence. But where there is love, justice is also present. This parable makes it clear to me that at some point at the end of my life, I will either be brought into the home I was created for or I will be cast out into emptiness and desolation. What is also clear to me, is that until that moment, *"The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness"*.

That the Spirit comes to the aid of **my** weakness, gives me a deep sense of hope and the courage to trust in God's mercy. With this hope, I can try just one more time to plant and care for the wheat of goodness in my life in spite of the weeds that continually sprout in my life. And when God purifies and refines my life of the weeds I have created here, will there be enough wheat still standing that God can actually harvest. This story, told by Pastor Chris Brundage, may help reflect this.

Pastor Brundage presided at the funeral for Vic, a 96-year-old man. He had only known Vic for a couple of years. Vic was a widower with no children and the whole time Pastor Brundage knew him, Vic lived with some parishioners who brought him into their home. Vic had no family and was 96-years-old at his death and suffering from the ravages of alcoholism. The only thing of value Vic had was a Detroit Tiger uniform and the friends who cared for him wanted that and a coffee mug with the words *"The Lord is my Shepherd"* on his coffin during the funeral. The baseball uniform was all he had left from his early life when he played major league baseball. A career that was way too short because of his alcoholism and the scorched-earth lifestyle he had lived with others. The coffee mug went with him wherever he went.

Pastor Brundage expected an empty church and was surprised as he set up for the funeral to see his church fill up with men and women from all walks of life and ages. There were people there from multiple states. As he listened to people share about Vic, the image of a different man appeared. For over 50 years, Vic had gone to AA meetings with his coffee mug, and with a gentle voice, shared his testimony of how God gave him life. He humbly walked with anyone who needed help. He helped others see the wheat in the weeds of their life. He gave them hope.

This story reminds me of a deacon friend of mine who for most of his life put himself first and had few friends. It seemed only his wife and pastor saw any good in him, his daughters certainly didn't. For some reason, that God only knew why, the pastor asked him to consider becoming a deacon. He did, and a few years after his ordination, he was presiding at a funeral vigil. The deceased man's son, who did not live in the area anymore, came to him and shared: "When my sister said you were going to lead the services, I was shocked. When I knew you, you were such a a not a deacon." God saw the wheat my friend was capable of bringing forth. My friend was willing to trust in God's mercy.

Yes, this parable is about our accountability before God, but in the Eucharist and with the Sacrament of Reconciliation it is also a parable of Hope in God's Mercy and a call to bring His Love into our life and world. In the words of St. Irenaeus:

The Glory of God is a man (or woman) fully alive.

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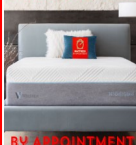


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