St. Patrick Catholic Church

August 6, 2023
The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

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

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



stpatrickgrassvalley.org

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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

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

James Chatigny Brian Moore

Edee Wood Deacon Rick Soria

Maria Beltran Traci Jagger Kellen Lake Fr. Alexander Estrella Colleen Deneen John Evans Pastor Parochial Vicar Deacon

Deacon (retired) Deacon (retired)

Principal, Mt St. Mary's Director of Faith Formation

Receptionist RCIA Young Adult Coordinator Hispanic Ministry Music Director Facilities Manager frestrella@stpatrickgrassvalley.org frjossy@stpatrickgrassvalley.org Faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org Faith Formation #: 273-2336 x3201

info@mtstmarys.org 273-4694 faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org admin@stpatrickgrassvalley.org frontdesk@stpatrickgrassvalley.org rcia@stpatrickgrassvalley.org youngadults@stpatrickgrassvalley.org frestrella@stpatrickgrassvalley.org colleen_deneen@hotmail.com facilities@stpatrickgrassvalley.org 277-2934

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Family,

I'm writing this on Thursday the 27th of July, barely able to concentrate as my mind wanders to World Youth Day and the packing I have to finish. When you read this we will have finished World Youth Day and will enjoy some time on the beach waiting for the crowds to disperse. I'm sure there will be many moments to reflect upon and unfold the graces our Lord has given us. While I'm looking forward to the experience, I know I'll be glad to be home, back in my parish with my people.

The month of July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of our Lord, there was once a solemnity of this on July 1. Devotion to the Precious Blood is a powerful thing and one I encourage us to develop. The Blood of our Lord is precious because it is the blood poured out on the Cross for our salvation, it is the blood that won us back for God. It is the only human blood which has the great worth and dignity of divinity. It is a powerful invocation in times of temptation, in those moments when everything seems to be going wrong and when we feel that there is truly an attack by the enemy.

There is a litany to the Precious Blood as well, but any prayer where we invoke it over a person or situation is powerful on its own. St. Ambrose composed a beautiful prayer that includes the line, "remember the creature You have redeemed with Your own Blood." There are many people who pray this at the elevation of the Chalice. I personally like a line from the hymn Adoro Te Devote by St. Thomas Aquinas, "Bathe me, Jesu Lord, in what thy bosom ran Blood whereof a single drop has power to win All the world forgiveness of its world of sin."

This month of August is devoted to our Lady and her Immaculate Heart. Like the Precious Blood, the feast of the Immaculate Heart was celebrated in August a week after the Solemnity of the Assumption. While we celebrate the Immaculate Heart in June following the Sacred Heart the devotional aspect of August remains the same. Our Lady's Immaculate Heart became special to me because it was the feast on the day of my priestly ordination. A beautiful reminder of how we should strive to have great purity of soul.

While our Lady herself is the model of the great saints we can become, it is only possible by the grace of God won for us by our Lord and His redeeming sacrifice and it is this grace that is given to us when we celebrate the Sacraments. This reaffirms a principle I hold dear to me: whatever is true of our Lady has to be true of our Lord. Our devotion to our Lady is an integral part of the holiness toward which we strive.

As you've seen, we finally have our votive candles back, slowly but surely all the little details are being wrapped up. Once I'm back I hope the sound system will be in high gear so that we can get that wrapped up. As the Bishop says (and now that we have them!) light a candle and say a prayer that it's done soon! While you're at, spare an Ave or two (Hail Mary) for our safe return.

Your Father in Christ.

Father Estrella

WITH OUR CONDOLENCES



St. Patrick Parish community extends our deepest sympathies and condolences to the families of **Jean Love** and **Amber Haldane**. 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.

FUNERAL SERVICE

Below are the funeral service times for Jean Love, grandmother of Edee Wood, our school principal.

August 9:

Rosary @ 10:15am

Funeral Mass @ 11:00am



ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY AUGUST 15TH

Please join us for Mass on Tuesday, August 15th to celebrate the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven. This is the feast in which the Blessed Virgin Mary was assumed, body and soul, into heaven.

MASS SCHEDULE

August 14 at 6:30 PM Vigil Mass in Spanish

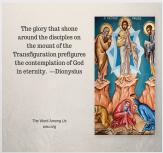
August 15 at 8:30 AM

12:15 PM

6:30 PM

We celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the firm belief that her Dormition to heaven is the climax of her experience of God's favor. God lifted up the Blessed Mother by granting her the divine favor of a heavenly home. From her immaculate conception to her glorious assumption into heaven, the Blessed Mother enjoyed the gratuitous gift of God's favor. She was a faithful servant of God and her faithfulness led to her experience of heavenly habitation. Likewise, our faithfulness to God no matter the circumstances of our life is the sure hope of our own experience of being judged as righteous before God.

Reflecting on the Gospel

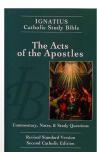


The gospels tend to highlight "mountaintop moments," times that display Jesus's power as the Son of God. Stories like Jesus multiplying loaves and fishes, healing the sick, or transfiguring before his disciples illuminate the uniqueness of Jesus's vocation. He is a member of the holy Trinity, born into this world to bring about salvation for all.

Yet most of the time, Jesus probably seemed pretty ordinary to Peter, James, and John. The gospel writers could not record everything. For every mountain top moment like we hear in today's gospel, Jesus no doubt experienced many other mundane moments that received no fanfare, times hanging out with friends, cooking dinner, relaxing, or doing the countless other actions that fill every human's day.

Both kinds of moments -- the mountain top ones and the mundane ones hold value for the Christian life. We receive life from a God who does marvelous deeds in the created world. Our almighty God interacts with humankind, lifting up the lowly in situations that seem impossible and gracing us with blessings beyond belief. It is right to approach God Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit with awe in these mountain top moments. It is also right to approach God with awe during the mundane times, giving thanks and praise for simply existing. On this feast of Transfiguration, let us rejoice for the many ways God encounters us each day.

Bible Study of The Acts of the Apostles



Discover the Book of Acts as a presentation of the Christian way of following Jesus, as seen in the lives of the earliest Christians. It is the Book of the Apostles, written to build the faith of the reader. Commentary by Biblical Scholar, Scott Hahn, shows us how what happened to Jesus and what the Old Testament foretold is brought together in Acts. Join us on Wednesday

mornings, from 9:30 to 11:30 in St. Patrick's Hall, beginning September 6. 2023. The fee is \$15.00. Pre-registration is required by August 18. Registration forms are available in the Church vestibule. For more information, contact Gere Welden, 530-264-7638 or Mike Maples, 805-478-2264.

Next Donut Sunday: August 20th

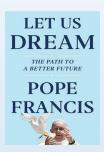


We do have donut lovers in our parish, and we want you to mark your

calendars once again for August 20th to fill your donut cravings.

We will have donuts, juice and coffee after all the Sunday morning Masses.

Please join us and meet your fellow parishioners.



Another Exciting Book Club Gathering

Monday, September 25, 2023

All Parishioners are invited to a meeting of the St. Patrick and St. Canice Book Club on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 1:30 P. M. in the Small Hall. We will be discussing Let Us Dream: The Path to a Better Future, by Pope Francis. The discussion, which will last about an hour and a half, will be led by Michael Moreland. The book is available at your favorite book store or online. In addition to stimulating conversation, coffee, tea, and cookies will be served.





Arriving in Lisbon for World Youth Day 2023, Pope Francis on Wednesday called on Portugal's leaders to promote peace, families, and environmental stewardship, policies he said would help light "lamps of hope" across Europe. "Lisbon is an ocean city ... but the oceans are becoming increasingly polluted; it reminds us that human life is meant to be an integrated part of an environment greater than ourselveshow can we claim to believe in young people if we do not give them healthy spaces in which to build the future?" (From National Catholic Register).

WE PRAY FOR:



Juan Gutierrez, Kathy Smith, Michaels family, 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, Stella Spring, Barbara Stephens, Maddie Testa...and their families.

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

STEWARDSHIP

The Transfiguration of Christ



Today, we celebrate the feast of the transfiguration - Jesus proclaims the victory of his church over evil, but the victory is achieved on the cross. The apostles are, understandably, scared. But Jesus, understanding their struggle, brings three of his closest companions up the high mountain. There He reveals His

divine identity, and His relationship to the Father, the Prophets, and the Law. Thankfully, this encounter changes them, strengthens their faith.

What's the important message for us as Christian stewards? Transfigure, in other words, Change. Go beyond who you are now. How can I grow closer to Jesus, today? The mystery of the transfiguration doesn't just reveal who Christ is, but who we sinners are to become - Children of God. As His children, we are trusting, curious, and full of joy. Following our individual vocations for growing the kingdom of God is personal, unique, and different for each one of us. The Stewardship way of life is the umbrella under which we move close to Jesus.

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FAITH FORMATION



Faith Formation is more than just the 2-year cycles to prepare for First Holy Communion and Confirmation; it is the opportunity to provide our children the chance to be formed in The Truth of who we are in Our Father's eyes. Faith Formation gives both our children and you their parents

the tools to navigate life in an increasingly crazier secular world. Classes for our children will begin Sunday September 10th. Registration forms will be available beginning the week of August 7th in the parish office. If you participated this last year your registration package will be mailed to you.

Because of the growth in the number of young families in our parish we are in need of parishioners who will help in the formation of our children. If you are interested in joining our parish formation team, please contact Dcn Rick Soria at 530-273-2336 or faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org.

CULTURE OF LIFE

C of L Meeting: Aug 7 at 6:00pm

Church Teaching on Organ Transplants and Organ Donation.



The topics of organ transplants and organ donation discussed last week, it turns out, are very complex and technical topics which have been studied and debated for several decades. The Catholic Church recognizes the good that can come from donating one's organs for the benefit of another but remains adamant that the motives and procedures do not diminish the life and dignity of the human person. Below you will find helpful information in an excerpt from When is Organ donation Moral? Stacy Trasancos (6/13/18) Catholic Answers Magazine.

"The ethics of organ donation depends on two criteria: 1) whether the patient or the family gives free and informed consent to organ procurement and 2) whether the patient is in fact **deceased** (emphasis added) when vital organs are removed. (The willing donation by the living of non-vital organs, such as one kidney; a lung; or a portion of the liver, the pancreas, or intestines is always permissible.) *

All determinations of death occur after the fact. If some organs are procured too long after the heart stops beating, they are no longer usable because the blood supply to them has ceased. Therefore, the question shifts to a very difficult one, the one raised by the first organ transplant in Cape Town, South Africa in 1967: can organs be removed before life support is stopped? An ethical standard called the Dead Donor Rule (DDR) states the obvious edict that vital organs should be removed only from a dead body and not from a living person."

This brings us back to the question raised last week. What is the definition of death and why are those who draft legislation considering changing it?

*Other resources include exceptions.

FAIR TIME! 16 spaces available

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



SECOND COLLECTION ON AUGUST 12-13

Bishop Octavio Cisneros invites you to help strengthen families, fund Catholic education, and foster priestly and religious vocations by giving to the Collection for the Church in Latin America. For over 50 years, Catholics in the United States have expressed solidarity with

the Church from Mexico to the Caribbean, to the southern tip of South America through the Collection.

https://www.usccb.org/committees/church-latin-america/collection-church-latin-america-resources



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July 30th— \$6,900



CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!

It's that time of year again to reserve your booth at the CLRS annual craft fair. Booth fee is \$40 for the two day event. Craft fair dates are Saturday Nov 4th & Sunday Nov 5th.

For questions or to reserve a booth please contact: Kathy Souders

ksouders@gmail.com (530) 263-5767

BOOKKEPER 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 at frestrella@stpatrickgrassvalley.org

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Saint/Feast	Readings	Gospel	Mass Times	Intention
Mon	8/7	Saint Sixtus II, Saint Cajetan	Nm 11:4b	Mt 14:13-21	8:30 am	Fr. Liam McSweeney(D)
Tues	8/8	Saint Dominic	Nm 12:1-13	Mt 14:22-36	8:30 am	J. Gerald (SI)
Wed	8/9	Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross	Nm 13:1-2, 25	Mt 15:21-28	8:30 am	Ginger Murrray (D)
Thurs	8/10	Saint Lawrence	2 Cor 9:6-10	Jn 12:24-26	8:30 am	Reader family (D)
Fri	8/11	Saint Clare	Dt 4:32-40	Mt 16:24-28	8:30 am	Cilione Family (D)
Sat	8/12	Saint Jane Frances de Chantal	Dt 6:4-13	Mt 17:14-20	8:30 am 5:00 pm	
Sun	8/13	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	1 Kgs 19:9a, 11- 13a Rom 9-15	Mt 14:22-33 (115)	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am	Maxine Hjilte (D) Jack Valentine (D) For the People



DEACON'S CORNER





"All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you."

"Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate & were very much afraid. But Jesus came & touched them, saying, "Rise, & do not be afraid." When the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone."

A brilliant magician was performing on an ocean liner. But every time he did a trick, the Captain's parrot would yell, "It's a trick. He's a phony. That's not magic." Then one evening during a storm, the ship sank while the magician was performing. The parrot & the magician ended up in the same lifeboat. For several days they just glared at each other, neither saying a word to the other. Finally, the parrot said, "OK, I give up. What did you do with the ship?" — Peter, fortunately or unfortunately, like the parrot, doesn't always see the big picture. But in his actions in this gospel & next week's, he does give us the 3 keys of discipleship: be open to the Divine in this moment (listen to Him), Trust (Rise & do not be afraid) & Focus (they saw no one else but Jesus alone). Each quality helps form the 3-legged stool that creates the foundation for us to stand on & see beyond our own graves. So often our struggle is not that we lack these 3 qualities, but that we so often allow our expectations to override them. How do we take our "Mountain top Experiences" & allow them to bring meaning into our lives when we are struggling? Do we see God in that moment as we ponder its meaning? How do we allow them to shape our lives?

In 1464 a sculptor named Agostino di Duccio began working on a huge piece of flawed marble. Intending to produce a magnificent sculpture of an Old Testament prophet for a Cathedral in Florence, Italy, he labored for two years and then stopped. In 1476 Antonio Rosselino started to work on the same piece of marble and in time he abandoned it also. In 1501 a 26-year-old sculptor named Michelangelo was offered a fortune to produce something worthwhile from that enormous block of marble called 'the giant.' As he began his work he saw a major flaw near the bottom that had stymied other sculptors, including the great Leonardo da Vinci. He decided to turn that part of the stone into a broken tree stump that would support the right leg. The rest he worked on for four years until he had produced the incomparable 'David'. Today the seventeen-foot-tall statue stands on display at the Accademia Gallery in Florence. Even more than a masterpiece, it is one of the areatest works of art ever produced. How did he do it? Here is the answer in Michelangelo's own words: "In every block of marble I see a statue as plain as though it stood before me, shaped and perfect in attitude and action. I have only to hew away the rough walls that imprison the lovely apparition to reveal it to other eyes as mine see it." Said in more colloquial terms, "I cut away everything that didn't look like David." — The feast of transfiguration of Our Lord challenges us to prepare ourselves for transformation in our Christian lives by eliminating everything evil and renewing our lives through His Grace. Our mission if we accept it is to allow God to "chisel away" all that is in us until He can see His Son in us. I was at a vigil service for a brother deacon years ago who had died in an accident. At the vigil, person after person shared stories about how the young deacon had touched their life. Finally a young man stood up and said something along these lines. I am not a Catholic, I am a Christian although I don't belong to any church. So many people talk about Jesus but Gaston was a transparent Christian. When I saw Gaston, I saw Christ. I wonder if someone would say that of me, of us? Maybe as we receive the Body of Christ, we need to listen to Him and choose to spend time with Him each day, so that He can touch us and say: "Rise & do not be afraid." May you know that we were created so that: "All communities of the earth shall find blessing in you."

May we be a blessing to our families.



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