St. Patrick Catholic Church

October 1st, 2023 26th 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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Weekday Mon - Sat 8:30 AM Saturday Viail 5:00 PM

Sunday (1911 5.00 1 M) 5.00 1 M

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 Ruth Collins Smith Maria Beltran Traci Jagger Kellen Lake Colleen Deneen John Evans Fr. Alexander Estrella

Deacon Rick Soria

Pastor Parochial Vicar Deacon

Deacon (retired) Deacon (retired)

Principal, Mt St. Mary's Bookkeeper Receptionist RCIA Young Adult Coordinator Music Director

Facilities Manager
Hispanic Ministry
Director of Faith Formation

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PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Family,

While I was away, I had the great opportunity to visit the Abbey of Montecassino where St. Benedictine lived, died and was buried. We visited on a Sunday, since I don't speak Italian I couldn't concelebrate but I had the chance to attend Mass there and receive Holy Communion. Normally a priest always self-communicates because he either celebrates or concelebrates when he is at Mass, this time I simply attended Mass and so I received Holy Communion as a congregant. After Mass ended I had the chance to briefly visit the tombs of St. Benedict and his twin sister, St. Scholastica.

It was a beautiful experience to be there at Montecassino both because of the spiritual side but also because of the historical side, Montecassino was a point of fierce battle during World War II. What really stood out was my reception of Holy Communion. When celebrating Mass, the Communion of the priest completes the sacrifice, and he begins immediately to distribute Holy Communion. Normally after Mass I will make my thanksgiving and savor that great encounter with the Lord. Because I wasn't distributing Holy Communion I had that time right after receiving our Lord.

I had forgotten what it was like to approach the Sacrament in this way and at the same time grateful that I would celebrate Mass for our group later that afternoon. It was a beautiful reminder of the great gift Holy Communion is and the disposition we should have when we receive our Lord in the great Sacrament of Love. When we take Holy Communion to one who is dying we call it "Vitacum" from the Latin for the words, "with you on the way." This Communion is given so that the dying may have strength on the way home to eternity.

The beautiful tradition of pilgrimage is to remind us that we are traveling, we are on a journey and Holy Communion is our food, our strength for the journey that we travel. The strength that comes from Holy Communion can only be put into use if we receive Holy Communion worthily: in a state of grace and properly disposed. Confession will restore us to a state of grace if we have committed any mortal sins e.g. willfully or purposefully missing Mass on Sunday or a holy day of obligation, fits of rage, crude language etc. The proper disposition is to have prepared our hearts, approach with devotion and with intention. This worthy reception of Holy Communion is a gift we give ourselves and our Lord.

On a separate note, I will be away Monday-Thursday this week. Normally this time of year we have our fall retreat but every four years we have a different gathering called a "convocation." This is a gathering of all the priests and the Bishop to strengthen our fraternal bond and shared ministry. Please keep us in your prayers that our time together be fruitful for our whole local church.

Your Father in Christ.

Father Estrella

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th 7-8 p.m.

Join us for:





- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Scripture Reading and a Reflection
- Individual and Communal Prayer
- Benediction



Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart

First Friday MassOctober 6th at 6:30 p.m.

All Parishioners are invited

ST. PATRICK AND ST. CANICE PARISH PICNIC



WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

WHERE: Western Gateway Park Penn Valley

Bring your blankets, chairs, change of clothes for kids (who may want to play in the creek), and your favorite outdoor games and activities.

Lunch from 12:30-1:30pm Activities from 1:30-3:30pm

Mass at 4:00pm

Dessert following Mass

Lunch, drinks, and dessert will be provided.

PLEASE NOTE:

THERE WILL NOT BE SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES OR CONFESSION AT EITHER CHURCH ON SATURDAY EVENING.

Baptizing Your Child this Fall?

Parent & Godparent Classes Need to be Scheduled

Welcoming Class: Friday Evening, October 13th In St. Patrick's Hall at 6:00pm Baptismal Catechesis Class: Saturday Morning, October 14th at 10:00am

Register at the Parish Office. For more information contact Deacon Rick at faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org

CORNERSTONE RETREAT FOR MEN

NOVEMBER 10th AND 11th

Join us for 26 hours that can change and deepen your relationship with Our Lord. This retreat gives each of us the opportunity to see God's loving hand in our lives, and how, as Catholic men, we touch the lives of the people we love. Set aside the burdens of your life and through the stories, prayer and fellowship rest in Our Lord's arms and learn from Him. It will be the best gift you can give not only yourself, but also to your family.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Sunday, October 8 after 7:30am, 9:00am and 11:00am masses.

Join us this coming Sunday after all Masses for our usual all-you-can-eat menu. Adults are \$8 and children are \$5. All proceeds go to MSM.



September 17 — \$5,703

Your generosity to St. Patrick Church is greatly appreciated. Donations can be placed in baskets during the collection at Mass, mailed to the office, or online through faithdirect.net (Code: CA1104).



2nd collection. Thank you!

September 24

Parish Restoration \$1,284

WE PRAY FOR:



Geri Lampman, Richard Tumilty, 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, Susan Roberts, Chuck Ryan, Frank Santos, Larry Schmidt, Stella Spring...and their families.

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

Catholic Ladies Relief Society presents the

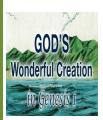
ANNUAL COMMUNITY CRAFT FAIR



Saturday, November 4 from 9am-4pm & Sunday, November 5 from 8:30am-1:00pm

25 local artisans displaying crafts of art, weaving, paper art, quilting, knitting, clothing, antiques, soaps, jewelry and more! Unique holiday gifts for everyone! Enjoy lunch at our craft kitchen serving, soup, salad and beverages! There will also be a homemade bake sale with cookies packaged to take home! Enter the raffle to win a basket overflowing with holiday season items!!

Creation Care Team:



"At its core, global climate change is not about economic theory or political platforms, nor about partisan advantage or interest group pressures. It is about the future of God's creation and the one human family." - US Catholic Bishops,

Global Climate Change: A Plea for Dialogue, Prudence and the Common

Good, 2001.

Many thanks to all who attended the MSM Garden Open House last Sunday - we appreciated your interest!

Come and See!



RCIA, (Rite of Christian Initiation) joyfully extends an invitation to join us for evenings of learning about the Catholic faith in a comfortable, accepting atmosphere. We meet weekly on Thursday evening from 6:30-8:30 in the RCIA room, located in St. Cecelia's NTEGRANTANNTAINNGAUN center. Contact Traci Jagger at rcia@stpatrickgrassvalley.org, or 530-575-

0176 for more information or directions.

CULTURE OF LIFE On Defending Life



Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you: be not afraid! Saint Pope John Paul II

Join us TODAY, SUNDAY OCT 1ST, for the Life Chain held at McKnight Way and Freeman Lane from Target and Raley's at 2:15pm. We will peacefully witness and pray for the end to abortion.

40 Days for Life Fall Prayer Vigil began on Sept 27 and go through Nov. 5. It is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses. There are two

campaigns in our area, one in Yuba City and one in Sacramento. Have you ever wondered if you could do more to offer help and hope to women considering abortion? Maybe you could give one hour of prayer and silent witness to women who are walking into an abortion facility often scared, unsure, and sometimes pressured to be there. Often it just takes reading a sign that offers an alternative to encourage that mother to seek help and change her mind. To find out more go to 40daysforlife.com or the Sacramento Diocese scd.org. As Saint Pope John Paul II said, "Christ is with you: be not afraid."

Please consider being part of the Culture of Life Ministry. Our next meeting is Monday Oct 2 @ 6pm.

BABY BOTTLE DROP OFF — 9/30 or 10/1

Bottles can be filled with spare change, a check or currency.

Please do NOT leave bottles unattended in the church, they can disappear.

IF POSSIBLE, ALL BABY BOTTLES SHOULD BE RETURNED AT THE SEP 30 OR OCT 1 WEEKEND MASSES.

Bottles can be put in the basket outside of church before and after all Masses the weekend of Sep 30/Oct 1st. There will be a Culture of Life member there to collect them.

If you missed the weekend of September 30/October 1st, you'll have three options:

- 1. You can call or text Marilyn Peters at 530 913-6583 and arrange to have her pick up your bottle.
- 2. Bring your bottle to St. Patrick/St. Canice Office.
- 3. You can drop your bottle directly at LivingWell Medical clinic- 105 Catherine Lane, Grass Valley. They are open Monday thru Thursday from 9-5. Thank you for your support!

NATIONAL LIFE CHAIN: OCTOBER 1, 2023

On one Sunday in October, churches nationwide gather to take a public stand and pray to end abortion. Participants hold a sign with a life-affirming message while they stand quietly and pray. Bring chairs for the elderly, hats, sunscreen, your rosary, and water.



<u>When:</u> Sunday, October 1, 2023 2:15-3:45pm. Signs will be available at tables.

<u>Where:</u> On the sidewalk along the road in front of the old K-Mart parking lot and extending to Raley's – every 10-20 feet apart.

We will stand in silent prayer from 2:30-3:30pm. Your prayers and your presence will speak loudly-more than words possibly can.

Flame of Love:



The Flame of Love is a growing apostolate in the church that facilitates prayer for the church and the world while understanding God's love coming from the Immaculate Heart of Mary. A prayer cenacle meets after the 8:30 AM Mass on Thursdays in the church from 9:10-10:30. All are welcome.

For more information see the FOL website: www.flameoflove.us or call 530-559-7488.

MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAN POSITION

We are looking to recruit a custodian for St. Canice Church. The role is 5-10 hours a week.



For more details and a job description, please email Father Estrella at: frestrella@stpatrickgrassvalley.org







Learn about your vital mission in the Church with the Lay Mission Project. Visit laymission.net

← OR SCAN HERE

Reflecting on the Gospel



How open are we to changing our minds? We are often told to stay in our camps in today's deeply divided political and social climate. Shouting matches replace civil debate in many pockets of the community. To some, changing one's mind is a sign of weakness or disloyalty. Jesus takes a different stance in today's gospel.

Changing one's mind is a point of growth for the first son. After an initial decline, he does as his father says and goes to work in the vineyard. The first son ultimately makes a good decision, even if he started off on a rocky foot. The second son, meanwhile, appears to be in alignment with his father's wishes. He gives a suitable answer, presumably because he knew what should be done. But in the end, his actions do not live up to his words. Talk is cheap when it is not followed up by actions. Today's gospel invites us to consider who is worthy to enter the kingdom of God and to beware that the answer might not be apparent at first glance.

Jesus celebrates when we change our minds. The one who God greatly exalted, who emptied himself and took the form of a slave out of love for us, longs for us to draw closer to him. Are there areas of your life that could use a change or a different answer? What will it take for such a conversion to happen? Let us ask the Lord for help and healing.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

As we continue our review of the Stewardship way of life, many have asked, "who is CSC and what do they do?" Good question. Three years ago, the Stewardship council and Fr Estrella decided to engage Catholic stewardship consultants (CSC) to assist our parish's growth in Stewardship. CSC is an organization based in Augusta, Georgia, owned by Eric and Lisa McArdle. For the past 25 years, CSC has been committed to the development of disciples of Jesus Christ through the practice of the Stewardship way of life. The organization is a Christ-centered consulting firm that provides services customized to the needs of individual Catholic parishes. They believe that the ultimate mission of the church is to bring people closer in their relationship with God, through Jesus Christ. When this happens, parishes and dioceses are transformed in mission, unity, and joy.

CSC's organizational foundation was founded in response to the 1992 Pastoral Letter (PL), written by the bishops of the United States entitled - Stewardship: A Disciple's Response. Along with the Holy Bible, the Pastoral Letter offers sound theological teachings and wisdom to guide Eric and Lisa and their services to parishes.

By working behind the scenes, CSC provides pastors and parish staff more time and freedom to serve the needs of the parish. The work of CSC and the Stewardship council is largely focused on bi-monthly newsletters; an Annual Stewardship Renewal; retreats; parish surveys; and Leadership Gatherings. CSC works very closely with our parish Stewardship Council and Fr Estrella in achieving our church's mission.

Parishes who decide to engage the services of CSC hope to see:

- Increase in communication, education, and evangelization.
- Increase in Mass attendance and reception of the Sacraments.
- Greater participation in hospitality, prayer and the sharing of gifts.
- Greater sense of parishioner ownership, and a sense of family or belonging.
 - Greater commitment from parish and diocesan leadership.

Stewardship as a way of life flourishes because God's hand guides it. However, the emphasis must be on spirituality, on growing disciples, on bringing people closer to God, and on changing hearts – not on increasing numbers.

"Stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares his gifts and love of God and Neighbor."

 $\hbox{@Catholic Stewardship Consultants: } www. \hbox{Catholic Steward.com}$

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Saint/Feast	Readings	Gospel	Mass Times	Intention
Mon	10/2	The Holy Guardian Angels	Zec 8:1-8(455)	Mt 18:1-5, 10	8:30 am	Dave Schwarz (D)
Tues	10/3	Saint Theodore Guerin	Zec 8:20-23	Lk 9:51-56	8:30 am	Frances and Yolanda Reader (D)
Wed	10/4	Saint Francis of Assis	Neh 2:1-8	Lk 9:57-62	8:30 am	James Langdon (D)
Thurs	10/5	Saint Faustina Kowalska	Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12	Lk 10:1-12	8:30 am	CLRS Living and Dead
Fri	10/6	Saint Bruno	Bar 1:15-22	Lk 10:13-16	8:30 am	Susan Lundquist (D)
Sat	10/7	Our Lady of the Rosary	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29	Lk 10:17-24	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Mary Stinson (D)
Sun	10/8	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Is 5:1-7 Phil 4:6-9	Mt 21:33-43	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am	Jack Valentine (D) For the People

DEACON'S CORNER



Thus says the LORD: You say, "The LORD's way is not fair!"

Hear now, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair?

Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus, My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

"One night an Admiral on a US Navy Battleship ordered a certain course. The navigation officer, seeing a light in the distance, reported that the battleship now seemed to be on a collision course with another ship. So, the Admiral ordered his radio officer to send a message to the on-coming ship that it should change its course 10 degrees to the south. The reply came simply, "Change your course 10 degrees to the north." After two more unsuccessful exchanges, the Admiral, now quite furious, came thundering into the radio control room, grabbed the microphone, & bellowed into it, "Do you know that you are talking to an ADMIRAL in the UNITED STATES NAVY?!" After a brief moment of silence, the even-tempered reply came back, "This is a lighthouse; alter your course 10 degrees to the North." — So, when God's Word asks us to do something, & we wonder why, we need to remember Whom we're talking to! If we want to avoid disaster in this life & the next, we really need to obey His orders!" I know this sounds silly but one of the key moments in my life occurred when I was in my early 60's. It was the Thursday after Easter & I was going to preach the following Sunday which was Divine Mercy Sunday. was discussing with a young couple the church's teaching on contraception, a teaching I didn't agree with. Then Thomas' words that I was going to preach about, suddenly struck me: "My Lord & my God!" They were followed by the words of Jesus I had proclaimed at countless funerals: "I am the Way & the Truth & the Life.". Jesus does not share an opinion with us about how to live a fruitful meaningful life. He gives us the Truth, that is why the Word became flesh. We just need to Listen. We need to listen in its Hebrew context, which means also to Obey.

For me, Religion is one of the greatest things on earth; & it would be so easy for me to understand & live with, except for 3 little words: Obedience, Love, & Forgive. They are all interwoven for me, & it is great when they all flow toward me. But when I am asked to obey, when self-sacrifice is asked of me or when I need to forgive someone who has hurt me, WOW that is a BIG ask. And yet those 3 words are the very meaning of the cross & Jesus' words that we hear at every Mass: "Do this in memory of me." This is why St. Paul asks us to "put on the mind of Christ". I want to focus this article on the 1st of those 3 words: obedience.

I have grown to realize that not only must I consider my words & actions, but also what motivates those words & actions. There seems to be 3 qualities that motivate my obedience or lack of: expediency, fear, or love. When I was young, either expediency or fear motivated my acts of obedience. Being obedient was either the easier way to get what I wanted, or it saved me from pain or from losing something I valued. But neither form of obedience helped me to grow as a person, husband or a Christian. Two examples of what I mean are: it was expedient for me to do what my girlfriend asked because it helped me get what I wanted. When it didn't, then l left. I was obedient to my mom, because if I wasn't the belt was not far behind & resentment was a constant companion. But the hidden costs of these 2 forms of obedience are destructive. They create a disconnect in the integrity of our words & actions which then begins to chip away at our relationships; & they never bring meaning to our lives. But obedience that flows from love gives life. The reason for this, I think, is that when love is the motivation for our obedience, it opens us up spiritually & emotionally. It helps develop within us the virtues of understanding & trust. It honors the other person & deepens that relationship. Obedience that flows out of love allows us to live in a freedom that transcends following the rules. Obedience, Love & Forgiveness are the foundation of discipleship. The obedience that Jesus modeled for us gives us life. It allows us to live a life reflected in these verses from a poem by the Eastern Orthodox mystic Symeon the New Theologian: We awaken in Christ's Body, as Christ awakens our bodies...... For if we genuinely love Him, we wake up inside Christ's Body, where all our body, all over, every most hidden part of it, is realized in joy as Him, & He makes us utterly real, everything that is hurt, everything that seemed to us dark, harsh, shameful, maimed, ugly, irreparably damaged, is in Him transformed & recognized as whole, as lovely & radiant in His Light, we awaken as the Beloved in every last part of our body.



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