St. Patrick Catholic Church

October 8, 2023 27th 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 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 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)

Hispanic Ministry

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

Director of Faith Formation

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

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

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Family,

This past week, as many of you know, we had our priest convocation, a time to reflect on the dynamics of the corporate body of priests, our ministry and the diocese. We have two major gatherings of priests a year, our Autumn retreat for ongoing education and our Spring retreat which is our spiritual retreat. The face of the priesthood in the Diocese of Sacramento is quite different today than at any other time, while we all look different, have different cultures, speak different languages, the communion of our Faith and our sharing in the priesthood of our Lord unites us; new bonds are formed, and old ones strengthened when we gather for these events. The range of ages is heavily tilted toward retirement age-and older! We need to pray for more and more vocations to the priesthood.

During one dinner, I was seated with a retired Irish priest who I don't know very well but over the last few years have gotten to know more. Like many of us, I grew up with Irish priests and so it's very special for me to spend fraternal time with them. At dinner, Father mentioned that as he gets older he finds himself returning more and more to the prayers he was taught as a child and prayed in his home. At the top of the list was the daily family Rosary. Yesterday, (Oct 7th) we celebrated the Feast of the Holy Rosary, a beautiful feast with a wonderful history.

The Rosary is the most powerful of all devotions in the life of the Church. Our Lady made 15 promises to those who pray the Holy Rosary with devotion and frequency. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, speaking of the Rosary said, "In the Rosary, we turn to the Virgin Mary so that she may bring us to a closer union with her Son." In fact, nearly every Pope since Pope St. Pius X has urged us to pray the Rosary and there have been countless documents written on the Rosary by the popes.

In my own family, whenever there is an urgent need, we all pray the rosary, wherever we are at the same time. I could write volumes on the graces, blessings, and indeed miracles received by this prayer. It was this tradition that prompted the daily 7pm Rosary on Facebook during the pandemic. It was something very powerful and comforting for many of us as we prayed together every day. Unfortunately, the theft of our live-streaming equipment has made that hard to revive.

May struggle with the Rosary, at the first level it is because it is a repetition of prayers but really it's because mediation is hard. We have to still the mind and body, which is very difficult in our day. Each mystery of the Rosary gives us an event in the life of our Lord or Lady, the vast majority taken from the Gospels and Sacred Scripture. All of them present a summary of the history of salvation and the meaning of the Christian life. I promise that if anybody preserves in praying the Rosary, it will soon become a favorite prayer. The only poorly prayed Rosary is the Rosary not prayed! There are many ways to start just grab a set of beads and give our Blessed Mother a call-she always loves to hear from her children.

Your Father in Christ,

Father Estrella

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.

ST. PATRICK AND ST. CANICE PARISH PICNIC NEXT SATURDAY

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

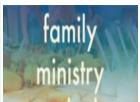
Dessert following Mass

Lunch, drinks, and dessert will be provided.

PLEASE NOTE:

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

Family Ministry



Family Ministry will hold their October meeting at the parish picnic on Saturday October 14.

Come join us under the grey/blue pop-up tent for food and fellow-ship.

If you have any questions, please contact Paula via text at 520-309-5082.

Creation Care Team:



October 4th celebrates the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology, closing the "Season of Creation".

But in every season, it is important for us to remember our duty, as described in the words of Pope Francis in Laudato Si' - to protect all life: the lives of the unborn, of those currently living, and of those in the future.

We <u>can</u> be better stewards of our Earth to do just that!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST



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

Join us this Sunday after all Masses for our usual all-you-caneat menu.

Adults are \$8 and children are \$5. All proceeds go to MSM.

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



Mt. St. Mary's Academy 2nd collection October 8 Thank you for your support!



October 1st — \$8.267

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).

Annual Stewardship Renewal

The Annual Stewardship Renewal is perhaps the most significant event for increasing parish stewardship. It's a deeply spiritual time of prayer for each of us to reflect on our God given gifts and how can we use them for God's purposes and glory, building His kingdom on earth. Also, this annual renewal affords us the opportunity to change our commitments as we grow as Disciples of Christ and our priorities change. Furthermore, The Stewardship Renewal is a time to educate parishioners about the true spirituality of Stewardship, as well as an invitation for each of us to make specific commitments to God, with our Time, Talent, and Treasure on an annual basis to the church. For St Patrick's, we will begin the three week renewal process starting October 21/22 with Kickoff Sunday and our annual Ministry Fair in the Large Hall, donuts and coffee as well.

Very soon, each parishioner will receive in the mail a Stewardship Renewal packet. The Renewal packet includes a Stewardship formation brochure; a ministry catalog; a letter from the pastor, explaining the purpose of the Renewal; and finally a commitment card that allows each of us to select a particular commitment to prayer, ministry, and offertory. We ask each family to prayerfully consider completing a commitment card each year.

Why are we asked to fill out a Commitment Card? If we are all honest, when we write our name down to a particular commitment whether it be to prayer, ministry, or monetary offering, we are more likely to be dedicated to our decision than if we verbally make a promise. When we make only a verbal promise, we are potentially more apt to rationalize our way out of that commitment... Very quickly! Therefore, when we all hand in our forms, we know what we are expected to do, but it also allows us to alter or change our commitments each year.

Finally, new parishioners to our church need to be educated and invited into the Stewardship Way of Life, as well as to be instructed on why we do certain things.

Kickoff Sunday & Ministry Fair/ Donut Sunday is October 21/22 Lay Witness Sunday is October 28/29 Commitment Sunday is November 4/5



More specific details will be provided throughout the month of October, but please take the time mark your calendars. Also, please pray that God will reveal His plan and purposes for your life during the Annual Stewardship Renewal. It begins with an invitation and then prayer that God's will be revealed in your life.

"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."

Stewardship Sunday and Donuts

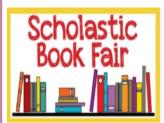


Sunday October 22nd will be a Sunday of joint celebration, Donuts in the small hall and Stewardship booths in the large hall.

Come visit, get a donut, a cup of coffee and peruse the many opportunities you have in our Parish to get involved. Parish groups will be in the large hall ready to share with you the many options you have to participate in Parish life here at St. Patricks and St Canice.

Looking forward to seeing you all!

MT. ST. MARY'S ACADEMY



Please come take a look at our school Scholastic Book Fair on 10/08/2023 in our school library, it will be open to take a look from 9:00 to 1:00. The book fair will also be open 10/09/2023 to 10/13/2023 from 12:00 to 4:00.

Your purchases enable our teachers and librarians to make new purchases for the classrooms and library. Thank you in advance.

BILL'S WHEELS



Would you like to be a part of one of our St. Patrick Ministries that affect so many people in our community? Many years ago, Bill Dobbins, a veteran and survivor of Pearl Harbor, started helping neighbors with their wheelchair repairs. His helpfulness grew into a much larger commitment that eventually became today's effort, where volunteers from the Knights of Columbus spend two mornings a week repairing donated wheelchairs and then gifting them to those in need.

If you have a few hours to give a couple of times a month, to either repair or deliver chairs, we need you. If you want to answer phones or make trips to pick up donations, we need you. We have helped veterans, the injured, sick and disabled. They are so grateful, and they cannot believe how God has blessed them with fulfilling their desperate needs for a way to move about their homes and their community. It is very gratifying to help our disadvantaged neighbors.

Call Greg Peters @ 530-205-7011 to inquire about how you may help.

CULTURE OF LIFE

October is Respect Life Month



Our role in the Defense of Life

"Christ needs you to enlighten the world and to show it the "path to life" (Psalm 16:11). The challenge is to make the Church's "yes" to Life concrete and effective. The struggle will be long and it needs each one of you. Place your intelligence, your talents, your enthusiasm, your compassion and your fortitude at the service of life!"

Saint Pope John Paul II – Homily on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, 1993

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for heeding the words of Saint Pope John Paul II. We are grateful for your support of our Ministry as we work to make our "yes" to LIFE concrete and effective. We thank you for:

Your notes of Hope – so many were heart-felt, some funny, some deeply personal, all wonderful.

Your generous support of Living Well with your coins, bills and checks that filled so many baby bottles.

The many folks who stood up for LIFE last Sunday during the Life Chain along McKnight Way and Freeman Lane.

We pray that through our works and the mercy of God, more people in our community will be inspired to CHOOSE LIFE.

The St. Canice and St. Patrick Culture of Life Ministry

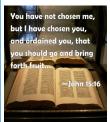
Parish Book Club Gathering



Monday, November 13, 2023

All Parishioners are invited to a meeting of the St. Patrick and St. Canice Book Club on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 1:30 P. M. in St. Patrick's Small Hall. We will be discussing Rescued: The unexpected and extraordinary news of the Gospel, by Fr. John Riccardo. The discussion, which will last about an hour and a half, will be led by Michael Moreland. The book is available at your favorite bookstore or online. In addition to stimulating conversation, coffee, tea, and cookies will be served.

Reflecting on the Gospel



We continue the series of gospel parables this week, with a landowner and his tenants taking center stage. Today's story reads harsh: tenants who are supposed to be caring for the land decide to seize and kill the people whom the landowner sent to obtain his produce, first the servants and then the landowner's very son. The tenants are

ruthless in their rejection and Jesus insists that they will pay for their stance.

As with all parables, the meaning extends beyond the story itself. A first clue of what Jesus may have meant by this parable comes at the very beginning. Jesus addresses the parable to the chief priests and elders of the people. He wants these religious leaders to hear the consequences that come with rejecting the work of the gospel and even more, the person who embodies the gospel. Note that the tenants do not attack the produce. They attack the people who come to collect it, even the landowner's own son.

We can draw parallels between the landowner's son and Jesus, the Son of God. In telling this parable, Jesus reminds the religious leaders that the kingdom of God comes as a person Jesus. Their ministries must always draw people to the truth of Jesus. Those who try to turn Jesus into something he is not will face dire consequences. This is true for all of us. We are called to embrace the fullness of Christ, for it is only through him that we might one day enter the kingdom of God.

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.

SISTERS OF MERCY

Second Saturday of the month

The Sisters of Mercy, Grass Valley Associates are a group of women and men who are called together in the spirit of Mercy to participate in the corporal and spiritual works of Mercy in accordance with the critical concerns of the Sisters of Mercy.

The works of Mercy are many and as varied as the individuals who make up Associate groups around the world. In Grass Valley, we continue in spirit, the works of the Sisters of Mercy who came here over 150 years ago. Come, we invite you to join us and explore the many faces of ministry in Mercy. Our meetings are the second Saturday of each month in St. Patrick's small hall at 11:30 a.m. Our next meeting is **October 14.** For further information, please call Maria Dilts at 273-4290. See you then!

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Saint/Feast	Readings	Gospel	Mass Times	Intention
Mon	10/9	Saint Dennis	Jon 1:1—2:2,11	Lk 10:25;37 (461)	8:30 am	Rene DelChiaro (D)
Tues	10/10	Saint Francis Borgia	Jon 3:1-10	Lk 10:38-42 (462)	8:30 am	Rose of Sharon Reader (D)
Wed	10/11	Pope Saint John XXIII	Jon 4:1-11	Lk 11:1-4 (463)	8:30 am	Merril, Betty and Esther King (D)
Thurs	10/12	Saint Wilfrid	Mal 3:13-20b	Lk 11:5-13 (464)	8:30 am	Jose Chavez (D)
Fri	10/13	Saint Gerald of Aurillac	JI 1:13-15,2:1-2	Lk 11:15-26 (465)	8:30 am	David and Sally Simonettii (SI)
Sat	10/14	Pope Saint Callistus I	Ji 4:12-21	Lk 11:27-28 (466)	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Vocations Herbie Flannery (D)
Sun	10/15	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Is 25:6-10a Phil 4:12-14,19-20	Mt 22:1-14	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am	Frances & Yolanda Reade(D) Atilio Cividino & Santa R(D) For the People



DEACON'S CORNER

Brothers and sisters: Have no anxiety at

all.

but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus

I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will remain. Alleluia, Alleluia

Learning how to bear fruit is a life-long process. As we walk through different stages of our lives bearing fruit is reflected in different ways & it is a slow journey of growth with many little side trips & dead ends along the way, as this story reflects. "A mother ran into the bedroom when she heard her 7-yr-old son scream. She found his 2-yr-old sister pulling his hair. She gently released the little girl's grip & said comfortingly to the boy, "There, there. She didn't mean it. She doesn't know that it hurts." He nodded his acknowledgement, & she left the room. As she started down the hall the little girl screamed. Rushing back in, she asked, "What happened?" The little boy replied, "She knows now." Maybe not the best story about the journey of growth, but it is probably a side trip we have all made.

Before we can bear good fruit for others we need to become Whole. We must somehow integrate within ourselves both the shadow & the sunlight, the dirt & the stars. In some way we must see in our weaknesses the key that unlocks the beauty within us. St. Paul begins to unravel this mystery for us when he shares in Corinthians "For when I am weak, I am strong."; and then today shares "but in everything, by prayer & petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God". The struggle is not avoiding or condemning our weaknesses but in acknowledging them for what they are & that we are powerless to overcome them unless we allow the Grace of God offered through His Son Jesus to embrace them & mute their power over our actions. Our wholeness & holiness is not because we are perfect but because we cry out "Take Lord & receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding & my entire will, all that I have & possess. You have given all to me. To You O Lord, I return it. All is Yours, dispose of it wholly according to Your will. Give me Your love & Your grace, for this is enough for me." by St. Ignatius

This sense of wholeness is shared by Christian author Parker Palmer: "Jack pines ... are not lumber trees & they won't win many beauty contests either. But to me this valiant old tree solitary on its own rocky point, is as beautiful as a living thing can be.... In its silence it speaks of ... wholeness.... an integrity that comes from being what you are'. D. Wood, Fawn Island. 'Thomas Merton claimed that "There is in all visible things a hidden wholeness." But in the human world where we are less self-revealing than jack pines, Merton's words can, at times, sound like wishful thinking. Afraid that our inner light will be extinguished or our inner darkness exposed, we hide our true identities from each other & become separated from our own souls. We end up living divided lives, so far removed from the truth we hold within that we cannot know the "integrity that comes from being what you are." My knowledge of the divided life comes 1st from my experiences: I yearn to be whole, but dividedness often seems the easier choice. A "still, small voice" speaks the truth about me, my work, or the world. I hear it & yet act as if I did not. I withhold a personal gift that might serve a good end or commit myself to a project that I do not really believe in. I keep silent on an issue I should address or actively break faith with one of my own convictions. I deny my inner darkness giving it more power over me, or I project it onto other people, creating "enemies" where none exist....

In the wilderness, I sense the wholeness hidden "in all things." It is in the taste of wild berries, the scent of sunbaked pine, the sight of the Northern Lights, the sound of water lapping on the shore, signs of a bedrock integrity that is eternal & beyond all doubt. When I return to a human world that is transient & riddled with disbelief, I have new eyes for the wholeness hidden in me & my kind & a new heart for loving even our imperfections. The wilderness always reminds me that wholeness is not about perfection. On July 4, 1999, a 20-minute maelstrom of hurricane-force winds took down 20M trees across the Boundary Waters. A month later when I made my annual pilgrimage up north, I was heartbroken by the ruin & wondered whether I wanted to return. Yet on each visit since, I have been astonished to see how nature uses devastation to stimulate new growth, slowly but persistently healing her own wounds. Wholeness does not mean perfection: it means embracing brokenness as an integral part of life. Knowing this gives me hope that human wholeness, mine, yours, ours, need not be a utopian dream, if we can use devastation as a seedbed for new life." And more than anything else, TRUST ourselves to the Mercy & Goodness of Our Lord.



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