

# St. Patrick Catholic Church

November 5, 2023

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Office Hours  
Mon - Fri : 9:00 - 2:00 PM  
**CLOSED HOLY DAYS  
OF OBLIGATION**



[stpatrickgrassvalley.org](http://stpatrickgrassvalley.org)

[info@stpatrickgrassvalley.org](mailto:info@stpatrickgrassvalley.org)

[facebook.com/stpatrickgv/](https://facebook.com/stpatrickgv/)

## 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
First Saturdays	7:40 AM
Communion of Reparation	

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

## Adoration with Rosary

Tuesday	5:30-6:30 PM
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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**

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**[Faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org](mailto:Faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org)**  
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**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

**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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[faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org](mailto:faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org)

## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Family,

As we enter the month of November our thoughts naturally turn to Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, and the variety of activities that lead up to Christmas and the New Year. But in the liturgical year we have an equal number of things to look forward to. I always find these things to be a counterbalance to the distractions of the hustle and bustle, and some to be complimentary. Spiritual life, like any part of daily life, requires planning and foresight.

November 1<sup>st</sup> is the beautiful feast of All Saints, the day on which we celebrate the throngs of Heaven. This special Mass gives us a glimpse of the heavenly liturgy in a unique way. It is a celebration of all the Saints, the part of the Church we call the "Church Triumphant." It serves as a reminder of our goal and our unity with the saints.

The next day is the feast of All Souls, a day spent in prayer for the poor souls in purgatory who are eagerly awaiting to enter into the glory of Heaven. The first week of November offers us a special opportunity to pray for the Poor Souls, by visiting a cemetery, praying for their souls and the intentions of the Holy Father, receiving Holy Communion, and making a Sacramental Confession (8 days before or after) we can gain a plenary indulgence for a poor soul. We can offer it for any deceased person we know; if they don't need it, it will benefit a poor soul who does. We will proceed to the seminary after the evening Mass of All Souls.

It is a spiritual work of mercy to pray for the living and the dead, it is so important that the Church prays for all the faithful departed in every single Mass! Many of us remember being taught to "offer it up" especially for the poor souls. The following was a common prayer but is increasingly becoming unknown.

V. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,

R. and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace

There are many saints' days in November as well, a few of my favorites are St. Cecilia, Pope St. Leo the Great and St. Martin of Tours. St. Martin of Tours was a soldier and so there is a beautiful connection as his feast day is the civic observance of Veterans' Day. The Feast of Christ the King is always close to Thanksgiving Day, another beautiful stroke of Divine Providence. The feast of Christ the King gives us an opportunity to remember that Christ is King of our hearts, of our lives, of society and all creation.

After reading all of these opportunities it can seem a bit overwhelming. If we make the spiritual opportunities the liturgical year offers us a priority, I believe we will find great solace, energy and encouragement as we carry out our daily lives. In this busy world we must strive to be more like Mary who sat at the feet of the Lord, knowing that in coming to Him, He will fulfill His promise to give us rest.

Your Father in Christ,  
Father Estrella

## NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

**November 5-11, 2023**



National Vocation Awareness Week will be celebrated in the Catholic community throughout the United States Nov. 5-11. This is a time for the Catholic Faithful to ask Our Lord for more dedicated holy priests, deacons and consecrated men and women. May they be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community, and respond generously to God's gift of vocation.

Many parishes in the diocese will be hosting activities this week, including holy hours for vocations, a rosary for vocations, and priests and religious sharing their vocation stories. For more information, visit the diocese's Office of Vocations at /vocations

The Diocese of Sacramento reaches out to the faithful, encouraging a lasting commitment to vocations. There remains a clear responsibility of the faithful to support those who may pursue priestly vocations, or religious life. A diocesan statute defines this important role in sustaining the priesthood and religious life:

"The Christian faithful have an obligation to foster vocations to the priesthood and the religious life by living faithfully the call to holiness, by holding vocations to the priesthood and the religious life in esteem, and by encouraging young men and women to consider the possibility of a call from God to the ordained or consecrated states. Diocesan and parish programs are to assist in fostering vocations."

Please pray for all the Seminarians and please pray for Edgar and Victor, the Seminarians that were with us at St. Patricks and St. Canice Church.

Meet Our Seminarians

<https://www.scd.org/vocations/meet-our-seminarians>

### OFFICE OF VOCATIONS



Meet Fr. Memo

Please find the following dates Vocations Director Fr. Memo Hernández will be visiting different locations throughout our diocese. He will be speaking regarding vocations and will be available for any questions regarding vocational discernment or general questions related to vocation.

<https://www.scd.org/vocations/meet-fr-memo>

### CORNERSTONE MEN'S RETREAT NOVEMBER 10 TH and 11TH



Monday, November 6 is the deadline to registering for the Cornerstone retreat and there is still room for 4 or 5 more men. Don't miss this opportunity. Come join us as we strive to grow as Catholic Men. You can still register at <https://spcornerstone.org> or at the parish website. For more information contact Deacon Rick Soria @ 310-626-5673 or Mike Maples at 805-478-2264.

## CULTURE OF LIFE

### Reflections on the upcoming Feast of The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary - November 21st.



The Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple has been celebrated in the Eastern Church since the 6th century with a church built in Jerusalem in honor of the mystery. Also known as the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, it became a feast of the universal Church in the 16th century. According to [fransiscanmedia.org](http://fransiscanmedia.org) on the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the unhistorical account, the Protoevangelium of James tells us that Anna and Joachim offered Mary to God



in the Temple when she was 3 years old. This was to carry out a promise made to God when Anna was still childless." The important theological purpose of celebrating this feast is that it is a continuation of the feasts of the Immaculate Conception and the Nativity of Mary." Together they stress an important truth about Mary: "From the beginning of her life, she was dedicated to God. She herself became a greater temple than any made by hands. God came to dwell in her in a marvelous manner and sanctified her for her unique role in God's saving work."

The title Theotokos (the God-Bearer) was sanctioned in 431. The Church declared that both Divine and human natures were united in the person of Jesus, the son of Mary. She indeed bore in her womb and gave birth to the second person of the Trinity. Isn't that incredible? A mystery beyond mysteries. It seems that God could have chosen a thousand different ways to come into the world but He chose to be conceived, developed and be nurtured in the womb of a human woman. This is perhaps the greatest proof of the dignity of women and motherhood. Sadly, today motherhood is often seen as a burden and an inconvenient happenstance of nature. For some conceiving a child and giving birth is no longer anticipated with joy but perceived as a deterrent to a fulfilling and successful life. Motherhood should be viewed as a beautiful gift given to women not as a curse to be disrupted by chemicals, barriers, surgery or ended by abortion, an act defined by the Catholic Church as an intrinsic evil. Yet perhaps even more insidious than contraception, and abortion is the destruction of young girls, potential mothers, through mastectomies, hysterectomies and hormone treatments in the name of gender-affirming care. Mary is the role model of womanhood and motherhood. We should pray that the dignity of both can be restored throughout the world.

The Immaculate Conception, pray for us. Blessed Virgin Mary, pray for us. Theotokos, pray for us.

Our Blessed Mother, pray for us. Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us. Refuge of Sinners, pray for us.

### DONUT SUNDAY

Mark your calendars for Sunday November 19th it's going to be Donut Sunday after all the masses. Come join us, share a cup of coffee or juice and a donut with fellow parishioners.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

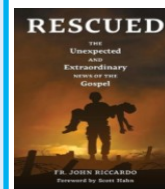


### HERE TO HELP

Marriage, family, and individual therapy is now available to interested parishioners that are in need of these services. Counseling sessions will be held at St. Patrick's and a good-will offering in the amount of your choosing should be made to St. Patrick. All information is strictly confidential and all proceeds will benefit St. Patrick's. For more information or to make an appt. contact Sue Schwarz, licensed marriage & family therapist, @ 530-559-5462.



### 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.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Sunday, November 12  
after 7:30am, 9:00am  
and 11:00am masses.

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

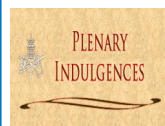
**Adults are \$10 and children  
are \$8. All proceeds go to  
MSM.**

## Culture of Life Ministry on Monday, November 6th at 6:00pm in the Small Hall

Would you like to help build up the  
Culture of Life in our parish and  
community? We can use more  
help. Please join the Culture of Life  
Ministry on Monday, November 6th  
at 6:00pm in the Small Hall.

**Please Join US**

## PLENARY INDULGENCE FOR SOULS IN PURGATORY



This year, a plenary indulgence  
can be gained between  
November 1 and November 8.

To obtain a plenary indulgence:

- Visit a cemetery and pray for the departed
- Pray for the intentions of our Holy Father
- Worthily receive Holy Communion
- Go to Confession
- Be in the state of grace

An indulgence can be gained daily.

## Creation Care Team:



Reduce the amount of plastics you use. Items that can help include  
reusable grocery bags, nylon produce bags, metal or silicone straws,  
beeswax wraps or cloth food covers, and metal water containers.  
Instead of plastic bottles of shampoo or laundry soap, try shampoo bars  
and laundry sheets (items can be found at [www.eartheasy.com](http://www.eartheasy.com)). "Let us  
realize, then, that even though this does not immediately produce a  
notable effect from the quantitative standpoint, we are helping to bring  
about large processes of transformation rising from deep within society." (Pope Francis in  
"Laudate Deum", paragraph 71)

## ELECTRONIC GIVING

Can't find your checkbook or envelope Sunday  
morning? Join the parishioners who are using  
*Faith Direct* for automated giving to St. Patrick  
Parish. It is secure and convenient. There is no  
cost to you, and the program provides a great  
benefit to our parish. Sign up by visiting **faith.  
Direct/CA1104**.

## Mt. St. Mary's Academy



Mt. St. Mary's Academy Annual See's fundraiser is  
now open for purchases for Thanksgiving and  
Christmas treats. Below is the link for the online  
store that will be open until 12/01/2023 (more  
selections available online).

<https://www.yumraising.com/secure/>

mtsma\_mt\_st\_mary\_academy\_\_winter\_sees\_candies28/Lau\_Lim4619/candy

Paper order forms need to be turned into the school office by:

November 6th (Thanksgiving treats)

December 1st (Christmas Treats)

Any questions please email Wendy Hylinski at: [wendyroo81@gmail.com](mailto:wendyroo81@gmail.com)

Thank you in advance,

Mt. St. Mary's Academy

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](http://faithdirect.net)  
(Code: CA1104).

**October 29th — \$ 6,344**



## Upcoming 2nd Collections

**Nov 5 No 2nd Collection**

**Nov 12 Mt. St. Mary's Academy**

**Nov 19 No 2nd Collection**



## Reflecting on the Gospel



The old saying spoke truth then and it speaks truth now: "Practice what you preach." The scribes and Pharisees devoted themselves to the law yet they did not live it out. Throughout the gospels, we see Jesus grow increasingly frustrated with the religious leaders of the day who wield their authority in

ways he deems hypocritical. These religious leaders know the law and the law matters. Jesus came "not to abolish [the law,] but to fulfill [it]" (Matt 5:17). Religions need well formed people who can carry the tradition and sacred texts into the present day. Yet, any teacher or parent will tell you that true learning rarely happens by simply being told what to do. Knowing the law intellectually is only the first step. Jesus calls his disciples to embody the law with their whole being mind, body, and spirit.

Before we point fingers too quickly and likely fall into the same hypocritical camp Jesus tells us to avoid! Let us consider how Jesus approaches the scribes and Pharisees. Note that Jesus first recognizes the truth in their teachings: "[D]o and observe all things whatsoever they tell you." Then Jesus speaks honestly and directly to the issues he sees, naming specific examples of ways their actions fall short of the law's intent. Jesus once again models how we should approach others who we believe are in the wrong.

Surely, we can all think of someone who acts a little too righteous while trying to show off their faith and presents a hypocritical message in the process. Rather than bad mouthing them or writing them off completely, what if we were to follow Jesus's way

## WE PRAY FOR:



**Conchetta Greco, Mike Blake, Karen Colwell, Geri Lampman, Richard Tumilty, Juan Gutierrez, Kathy Smith, Michaels family, Diana Boyarsky, Vida Santos, Bonnie Burke, Diane Damron, Marilyn & Tom Falls, Cathie Fideli, Gary & Linda Grube, Jack Harris, Jeff Hill, 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.

## What is Catholic Stewardship?

Stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian Disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts, shares his gifts and love of God and neighbor.



### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

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Consultants: [www.CatholicSteward.com](http://www.CatholicSteward.com)

## COMING UP THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Saint/Feast	Readings	Gospel	Mass Times	Intention
Mon	11/06	Saint Leonard	Rom 11:29-36	Lk 14:12-14 (485)	8:30 am	Cheryl Riopel (D)
Tues	11/07	Saint Herculanus of Perugia	Rom 12:5-16b	Lk 14:15-24 (486)	8:30 am	Ginger Murray (D)
Wed	11/08	Saint Michael the Archangel	Rom 13:8-10	Lk 14:25-33 (487)	8:30 am	The Reader Family(SI)
Thurs	11/09	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	Ez 47:1-2	Jn 2:13-22 (671)	8:30 am	CLRS Living & Deceased
Fri	11/10	Saint Leo the Great	Rom 15:14-21	Lk 16:1-8 (489)	8:30 am	The Cilione Family (D)
Sat	11/11	Saint Martin of Tours	Rom 16:3-9	Lk 16:9-15 (490)	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Poor Souls in Purgatori Josephine Andersen(D)
Sun	11/12	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Wis 6:12-16	Mt 25:1-13 (154)	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am	Deceased K of C (D) Giusseppe & Asunta (D) For the People

## DEACON'S CORNER

*Have we not all the one father? Has not the one God created us? Why then do we break faith with one another, violating the covenant of our fathers?*

***In you, Lord, I have found my peace.***

*The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted."*

### *Leadership*

is about making others better as a result of your presence and making sure that impact lasts in your absence.

This week has been a week of many holidays: All Souls Day, All Saints Day, & America's favorite, Halloween. It was fun when I went to a local restaurant for lunch & all the waitresses were dressed in costumes from cats, to pirates & witches. It was a joy to see my youngest grandchild dressed as Spiderman & his older brother creatively dressed as a candy rap(per). You had to see his costume to get that one, it gave me the biggest laugh of the evening. Not so joyful was the man with a top hat & a cane who bumped into me as he walked straight through the group of children trick or treating; the eyes in his solemn face looking only straight ahead. He never slowed down, never veering his course. I watched him as he walked away. It saddened me to see him miss all the joy around him.

I wonder if that type of sadness filled Jesus' heart as he looked at the scribes & Pharisees who had tried to challenge & trick Him multiple times as we have heard over the last 4 weeks. He has finished speaking to them & now turns to speak to the crowd & His disciples, especially to His disciples. As a deacon I feel especially challenged by this Gospel because like the scribes & Pharisees, I sit with Father during mass in the "seat of Moses", I

wear fine robes & my stole has tassels on them. I wonder how often I am afflicted by the same 4 things (Hypocrisy, Legalism, Vainglory & Pride) that Jesus challenges them about & points out to His Disciples, & to us as unacceptable.

When Jesus speaks of Hypocrisy He means more than just not doing what you say. That is just being a sinner. What he is talking about, what His frustration is about, is when they would talk about how others were to live out their faith, without any intention of acting in the same manner or rationalizing that their actions were acceptable. For example, I will counsel anyone who comes to me, about the destructiveness of verbal abuse or of trying to control the lives of others. Unfortunately at times,, when I am under stress or have been hurt, anger or my need to control will erupt to "protect me" before I actually think about it. That is being a sinner, needing God's mercy & grace. If I intentionally act with anger or in a controlling way to get what I want or to get even, that is the hypocrisy that Jesus is speaking out against.

The legalism Jesus condemns when He said of the Pharisees ``They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, & lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger." came from their often strict & very narrow interpretation of not only the main 613 Judaic rules but the 1000's of rules & regs of enforcement for them. For the Pharisees the rules were often more important than how the rules impacted a person's life, or they could be lived in the context of the person's life. That is why in his book "Joy of the Gospel" Pope Francis reminds us "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Rather than condemn others for what they are too weak to do on their own, do we try to gently lift them toward goodness?.

Pride & Vainglory go hand in hand. In catholic thought pride flows from our refusal to accept or acknowledge our rightful relationship with God, while vainglory is our desire for recognition & adulation from others. Rabbi means more than teacher; it also means great one. They sit on the "seat of Moses" so they have the authority to teach God's law but they must always remember they are not the source of that law, so their teachings must not be for their own benefit, but to draw people closer to God. When Jesus said "call no man your father for you have only one Father..." He was not addressing fatherhood but the patriarchy that these men lived by, that often gave the patriarch of the family the illusion that they were the source of life & final authority in all matters. Only God is. We address our priests as fathers in the same way St. Paul addressed himself to the Corinthians as their father because he baptized them & is their spiritual model. Like St. Paul though, aren't we all, whether we are men or women, called to be a "spiritual father"? Aren't we all called to model Christ's love not only for His Father but also His love for all His Father's children? When I was ordained, Cardinal Mahoney handed me the Book of the Gospel & said: "Receive the Gospel of Christ whose herald you have become. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach." By our birth & baptism though, isn't that the mission statement for all of us?



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