St. Patrick Catholic Church

November 26, 2023

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

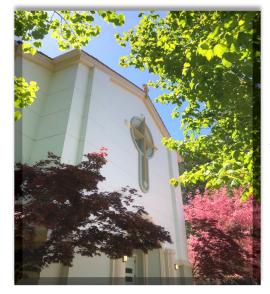
235 Chapel Street Grass Valley CA 95945 Phone: (530) 273-2347

Office Hours

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

CLOSED HOLY DAYS

OF OBLIGATION



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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

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

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

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PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Family,

Two weeks ago I pondered the importance of keeping the liturgical calendar at the forefront of how we reckon the passing of time and the seasons. Today, we celebrate the feast of Christ the King and we transition from one liturgical year to the next. Next Sunday the church will be in stark contrast to what it looks like today. The flowers that decorate our altar will be gone, the sanctuary will be subdued, the only decoration will be the Advent wreath that marks our waiting and longing for the coming of the light of the world, Our Lord Jesus Christ. We will cease signing the Gloria except for two major feasts of our Lady.

I'd like to propose some ways that we can keep Advent in our homes. The first is the Advent wreath, in the rectory we keep ours on the dining room table because we meet for lunch daily. Perhaps that is a place for yours as well. I know families who have a small altar or shrine in their home and they will place the wreath there or add a purple cloth to remind the family that we are in the season of Advent. The lower grades of MSM use a beautiful program, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, and they learn early on the meaning of our liturgical colors. At this age they are taught the color violet means "preparation" which is an important aspect of penance and the penitential seasons. Fasting from Christmas carols and foods is another good way. During Advent I will often have a light supper of soup and I don't eat meat on Wednesday and Friday. Perhaps there is a small sacrifice each of us can make for Advent, especially by doing the Works of Mercy and other charitable deeds.

Beginning Dec 17th we turn our attention to the birth of our Lord especially with the beautiful "O Antiphons" These are the basis of the beautiful hymn "O Come O Come Emmanuel." Around this time I will decorate for Christmas-I also leave my decorations up for a good long time. Another important thing we have to plan is when we will make our Christmas Confession and how to fulfill the double obligation of the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Day. The 4th Sunday of Advent is Dec 24th and there's no double dipping when it comes to Holy Mass!

We have to go to Mass twice, once for the 4th Sunday and then for Christmas. The Vigil Mass of Christmas only counts for one obligation. Skipping one or the other obligations is a serious sin which requires Confession before receiving Holy Communion. While it is a sacrifice, what better gift can we give our Lord than receiving Him worthily in Holy Communion? Here's a preview of the Christmas Schedule

Confessions:

St Patrick: Tuesday / December, 19 4-5:15 P.M.

Wednesday / December, 20 6:30-8 PM

Thursday / December, 21 3:30-5 PM

Friday / December, 22 5-6 PM

Saturday / December, 23 9:30-11. There will be no Saturday afternoon confessions in either parish this day.

St. Canice: Wednesday / December, 20 4-5 PM

Friday / December, 22 8-9 AM and 5-6 PM

Saturday / December, 23 9:30-10:30. There will be no Saturday afternoon confessions in either parish this day.

Masses:

Saturday / Dec 23 4th Sunday of Advent

St. Patrick 5:00 English 6:30 PM Spanish

St Canice 5:30 PM

Sunday Dec 24th 4th Sunday of Advent

St. Patrick's 7:30,9, and 11 AM. No 1 PM Spanish Mass

St Canice 9:00 AM

Vigil Masses for Christmas Sunday Dec 24th

St Patrick 5:00 PM English 9:00 PM Spanish

St Canice 5:30 PM

Midnight Mass at St. Patrick's.

Masses of Christmas Day Monday Dec 25th St. Patrick 8:30 and 10:30 AM. St Canice 9:00

Your Father in Christ.

Father Estrella



Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

FRIDAY / DECEMBER 8 / 2023

Masses for today's holy day of obligation for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be at:

St. Patrick

Dec 7 Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Spanish

Dec 8 8:30 am, 12:15 pm and 6:30 pm English

"No sin would touch her, so that she would be a fitting and worthy vessel of the Son of God. The Immaculate Conception does not refer to the virginal conception and the birth of Christ, but rather to Mary's being conceived without inheriting Original Sin." (United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, 142-143)

St. Canice

Dec 8 7:30 am and 5:30 pm



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

As we come to the end of the liturgical year, celebrating the magnificent feast of the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Our readings provide contrasting images of this King of ours — He has authority over all, and yet, He is humble and tender in His care for us, especially the most vulnerable.

How can we properly honor and love such a King? By offering Him our very lives through the stewardship way of life.

The Gospel passage from Matthew shows us how. The passage begins with Christ's own description of His Second Coming, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him." Then the moment of judgment will come.

This judgment will be based not on how influential, successful, or wealthy a person becomes, but rather, on how we treat the least of those around us, whom Jesus calls His brothers. The Hungry, The Thirsty, The Stranger, and The Lost. As Disciples of Christ we know that our Brothers in poverty have no hope of ever repaying us back.

The more deeply we embrace the stewardship way of life, the more closely our priorities will align with His.



 $\hbox{$\Bbb O$Catholic Stewardship Consultants: www.CatholicSteward.com}\\$

Creation Care Team:



Reduce waste by composting, recycling, using what you already have before buying more, eating leftovers before they go bad. Bring your own container with you to restaurants for leftovers, instead

of accepting their containers, many of which still are made of Styrofoam. There are dozens of ways that we can reduce! "Efforts by households to reduce pollution and waste and to consume with prudence, are creating a new culture". (Laudate Deum, 71).



FIRST FRIDAY VOTIVE MASS of the Sacred Heart Friday, Dec. 1st, 6:30 p.m. In the Hall On First Friday

On First Fridays, our Lord gives us an opportunity to console His Sacred Heart in a

special way by worthily receiving communion in reparation for sin. Please join us in offering this gift to our Lord and Savior.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Assisting people in need THANKSGIVING REPORT TO PARISHIONERS

This Thanksgiving, as we reflect with gratitude for the many blessings God has given us, Catholics throughout our Diocese are invited to visit scd.org to view the 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal "Report of Gratitude." See how, together as

Catholics, parishioners have made a real difference to those in need. This year, more than 460,000 individuals and families were helped by 18 Northern California charities that received funds from the Appeal.

The 2023 Appeal is approaching \$4.2 million in commitments so far. Our parish, receives 25% of any gift made by parishioners here. If you have not yet participated, prayerfully consider a donation. No contribution, no act of charity is ever too small or insignificant.

Donate online at scd.org.



Adoration

Sunday, December 3rd from 2:00 –7:00 PM

Church

CULTURE OF LIFE



O Mary, bright dawn of the new world,

Mother of the living.

To you, we entrust the cause of life.

Look down, O Mother, upon the vast numbers of babies not allow to be born.

Of the poor whose lives are made difficult,

Of men and women [and children] who are victims of brutal violence,

Of the elderly and sick killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy,

Grant that all who believe in your Son, may proclaim the Gospel of Life

With honesty and love to the people of our time.

Obtain for them the grace to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new,

The joy of celebrating it with gratitude throughout their lives,

And the courage to bear witness to it, resolutely,

In order to build, together with all people of good will,

The civilization of truth and love.

To the praise and the glory of God,

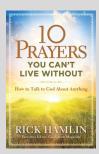
The Creator and lover of life.

Amen.

St. Pope John Paul II, Evangelium Vitae

Parish Book Club Gathering

Monday, January 22, 2024



All Parishioners are invited to a meeting of the St. Patrick and St. Canice Book Club on Monday, January 22, 2024 at 1:30 P. M. in St. Patrick's Small Hall. We will be discussing 10 Prayers You Can't Live Without: How to Talk to God About Everything by Rick Hamlin. The book is not about learning new prayers, but about how to pray. 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.

ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR THANK YOU FROM CLRS



CLRS would like to thank all of our parishioners and vendors who attended our annual craft fair with a special thank-you to Emil of YOU Weiss Bros nursery for allowing us to display our banner.

THANKS! It is one of our largest fundraisers for the year and it was very successful. Thank you!

Sponsor A Family for the Holidays!

A holiday dinner for one family costs **\$25**



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As the Holidays near, IFM is holding their annual Sponsor A Family for the Holidays fundraiser. IFM serves 10,000-13,000 individual clients annually. Our goal is to provide each client's family with a memorable holiday

meal. We can only achieve this through the generosity of the community. What is included in a holiday meal? Turkey or ham, potatoes, vegetable, soup, and cranberry sauce. A holiday dinner for one family cost \$25. Donate to IFM and provide a family or families with a delicious meal this holiday season! Happy Holidays!.

Can easily donate on the website: interfaithfoodministry.ora

Linda Grube 530-913-5098 lindaluwhogrube@gmail.com

Circle of Friends Bodega Bay, CA



If you find yourself alone and don't care to go solo to dine, see movies, travel, etc. then you are welcome to join the "Circle of Friends". We are meeting this month at the Bodega Bay Beach on Wednesday, November 29.

We would love to have you join us and if you have any questions, please feel free to call Ginny at 530-432-1175 or Dolores at 530-263-6537

and escott place@sbcglobal.net.

Mt. St. Mary's Academy



MAKE THE HOLIDAYS SWEETER Mt. St. Mary's Academy Annual See's fundraiser is now open for purchases for 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/

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

December 1st (Christmas Treats)

Any questions please email Wendy Hylinski at:

wendyroo81@gmail.com

Thank you in advance,

Mt. St. Mary's Academy

Reflecting on the Gospel



We have come to the end of another liturgical year.

Before we jump too far into the freshness of
Advent, let us pause and take stock of this past
year of Christian living. Where did we encounter
Christ? When did we act as Christ for another? In
what ways did we succeed-and fall short in
answering the Christian call? Today's gospel

reminds us of our core Christian practices: feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, caring for the sick, and visiting the imprisoned. Each of these actions makes the love of Christ known in the world. As we reflect back on the past year, may God draw our awareness to the people and places that benefited from our Christian practices and the areas in which we can grow in the year ahead.

Today's gospel paints a vivid picture of the end times. Over the past few weeks, we have heard Jesus preach about the ways we are to live as we await the coming of God's kingdom. Matthew leaves little to the imagination in this final scene. When the Son of Man comes in glory, we will be judged by how we treat the poor and the marginalized Christ in our midst.

Caring for our neighbors in need is challenging work. How easy it is to walk by the person asking for grocery money or to keep at arm's length the immigrant family new to town. Yet easy is not the Christian way. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we can do the hard work of loving our neighbors.

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).

November 19th — \$ 6,173



Upcoming 2nd Collections

Dec 3 No 2nd Collection





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...and their families.

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

COMING UP THIS WEEK

| Day | Date | Saint/Feast | Readings | Gospel | Mass Times | Intention |
|-------|-------|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Mon | 11/27 | Saint Catherine of Alexandria | Dn 1:1-6 | Lk 21:1-4 (503) | 8:30 am | Cilione Family (D) |
| Tues | 11/28 | Saint Catherine Laboure | Dn 2:31-45 | Lk 21:5-11(504) | 8:30 am | Urene Kumiyama (D) |
| Wed | 11/29 | Saint Saturnin | Dn 5:1-6 | Lk 21:12-19 (505) | 8:30 am | Ron Edelen(D) |
| Thurs | 11/30 | Saint Andrew, Apostle | Rom 10:9-18 | Mt 4:18-22 (684) | 8:30 am | Roland Bresler (D) |
| Fri | 12/01 | Saint Nicholas | Dn 7:2-14 | Lk 21:29-33 (507) | 8:30 am | Sharon Rita Henry(D) |
| Sat | 12/02 | Saint Bibiana | Dn 7:15-27 | Lk 21:34-36(508) | 8:30 am 5:00 pm | Glenn Shipton(D) |
| Sun | 12/03 | First Sunday of Advent | ls 63:16b-17 | Mk 13:33-37(2) | 7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am | Attilio Cividino & Santa R (D) For the People |

7

DEACON'S CORNER

Then the righteous will answer him and say, "Lord, when did we see you…." And the king will say to them in reply, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me."



Happy Thanksgiving! As we celebrate the end of our liturgical year with the feast of Christ the King. I hope you enjoy this reflection from author Debie Thomas which I have paraphrased excerpts from.



In early 2013, Canadian sculptor Timothy Schmalz unveiled "Homeless Jesus," a bronze sculpture depicting Jesus as a homeless person, sleeping on a park bench. Schmalz installed the original at Regis College, University of Toronto, & since then, casts have been installed worldwide. The sculpture is designed in such a way that Jesus is huddled beneath a blanket, his face & hands obscured. Only the crucifixion wounds on his feet reveal his identity. Schmalz describes the sculpture as a "visual translation" of today's Gospel reading, in which Jesus identifies himself with the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, & the prisoner, & then tells his followers: "Whatever you did to one of the least brothers of mine, you did it for me." Not surprisingly,

reactions to the statue vary. Some people find it offensive. Others adore it. Pope Francis has blessed it. People sit & pray beside it.... This week we celebrate the Reign of Christ, the hinge between the end of "Ordinary Time," & the beginning of Advent. We pause to reflect on the meaning of Christ's reign over the Church, the world, & our lives. What kind of king is Jesus? What does His rule look & feel like? What does it mean to live & thrive under His kingship?

Given the power & pageantry we typically see with kings, we might expect the lectionary to give us readings that sound, well, kingly. Something gorgeous from Revelation, perhaps, about Jesus decked out in splendid robes & a jeweled crown. Or something majestic from Isaiah: "A son will be given to us, & upon his shoulders, dominion shall rest." Or at least a shiny moment from the Gospels: Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop. Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. Jesus emerged from the waters of baptism, heaven thundering in his ears. But no. The royalty of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel is of another order, entirely. It is homeless Jesus, Sick Jesus, Hungry Jesus, Imprisoned Jesus, Naked Jesus. It is in the words of Episcopal theologian Fleming Russell "the royalty that stoops.

I fear that instead of embracing the countercultural possibility of a humble, wounded king, we have given ourselves over to a version of kingship that is all about domination, supremacy, triumphalism, & greatness. We have fallen in love with the loud, the muscular, & the aggressive, & forgotten that the only power Jesus wielded on earth was the power to give himself away. He's the king who entered humanity red-faced & crying, a king whose greatest displays of power included riding on a donkey, washing dirty feet, hanging on a cross, & frying fish on a beach for his agnostic friends. How did we go from this God of Kenosis — the God who empties himself of all privilege, the God who perpetually pours himself out & surrenders his own life for his loved ones — to God as Iron Man?.... So what is it in us that turns away when Jesus offers us his whole self in such provocative, unbearable simplicity? This is a real question — one I wrestle with all the time. What am I afraid of? My inadequacy? My vulnerability? My reputation? Jesuit theologian James Keenan defines mercy as "the willingness to enter into the chaos of others." Is that what we're afraid of? Other people's chaos?

It is okay to be afraid. It is okay to have questions. It's okay to see the huddled prone figure on the bench & not know exactly what to do. But at some point, our fears must come face to face with the reality: "Whatever you did to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." There is simply no way around it. Not if we take Jesus' Kingship seriously. Think about that.... Mathew's Gospel depicts a scene from the heavenly throne room. It is a scene describing the end of history, when ALL the nations will gather before Christ, & He will separate His people as a shepherd separates sheep from goats. Notice the criteria He'll use for the separation. Surprised? I am. "Yes this is our king, & yes, we are meant to be provoked & bewildered by His priorities. Fleming Russell puts it:

The Son who sits upon His glorious throne with all the nations gathered before Him is the same one who, at the apex of His power reveals that the universe turns upon a cup of water given to the littlest one in His name."

If we're not at least a little bit unnerved, then we're not paying enough attention. Soon, we will enter into Advent, a season of waiting, longing, & listening. Soon we will walk into the expectant darkness, waiting for the light to dawn, for the first cries of a vulnerable baby to redefine kingship, authority, & power forever. But on this Sunday, here & now, we are asked to see Jesus in places we'd rather not look. We are asked to remember that every encounter we have with "the least of these" is an actual encounter with Jesus. It is not a metaphor. It is not wordplay. It is not optional. The person huddled beneath the blanket is OUR KING. Let us see Him.

Good things are happening in RCIA over the next few months, and we are happy to invite any parishioner to come learn and share with our group of inquirers as we learn about the following topics:

Nov. 30th- Advent, and Liturgical Calendar-presented by Eric Olson

Dec. 7 Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Immaculate Conception, presented by Deacon Rick

December 14th- Jesse Tree and Christmas- presented by Traci Jagger

All are welcome in the RCIA room located in St. Cecelia's. The sessions run from 6:30-8:30pm





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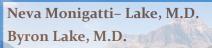


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