



# St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

## 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

March 13, 2022

### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

St. John the Evangelist Parish is a welcoming and responsive faith community, nourished by the Word of God and the Eucharistic Table. We are open and trusting in the love of Jesus Christ to advance the power of the Holy Spirit, within the Parish and beyond, by living the Gospel.

<p><b>PARISH INFORMATION</b>  <b>ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH</b>          5751 Locust Avenue          Carmichael CA 95608-1320          Parish Office: (916) 483-8454          Web: <a href="http://www.sjecarmichael.org">www.sjecarmichael.org</a>          Email: <a href="mailto:office@sjecarmichael.org">office@sjecarmichael.org</a></p> <p>--PARISH OFFICE HOURS - 9:30 AM-4 PM--</p> <p><b>CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION</b>          SATURDAYS from 3:45 PM to 4:45 PM</p>	<p><b>SCHEDULE OF MASSES</b></p> <p><u>SUNDAY MASS:</u>          SATURDAY VIGIL: 5 PM          SUNDAY: 8 AM, 10 AM &amp; 5 PM</p> <p><u>DAILY MASS:</u>          6:30 AM, 8:30 AM &amp; 5:30 PM LENT (MON-FRI)          8:30 AM (SATURDAY)</p> <p><u>HOLY DAYS:</u>          6:30 AM &amp; 8:30 AM; 7:00 PM</p> <p><u>HEALING MASS:</u>          1:30 PM - 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH</p>
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**SUNDAY MASS LIVE-STREAMED THROUGH FACEBOOK @ 10 AM**



**PARISH CLERGY AND STAFF**

Pastor	Fr. Bernardin Mugabo
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Bit-Shing Abraham Chiu
Pastor Emeritus	Fr. Thomas Bland
Mercy San Juan Hospital Chaplain	Fr. Alban Uba
Deacon	Keith Johnson
Deacon	Jack Wilson
Deacon Emeritus	Larry Niekamp
SJE Business Manager	Linda Gospodnetich
SJE Parish Secretary	Bernadette Hicks
Religious Education Coordinator	Joanne Giffard
Director of Music & Liturgy	William Becker
SJE Pastoral Council Chairperson	Tom Ennis
SJE Finance Council Chairperson	Mary Ellen Meier

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST SCHOOL**

[WWW.STJOHNEV.COM](http://WWW.STJOHNEV.COM)

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 Carmichael, CA 95608  
 Phone: (916) 481-8845  
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 Principal: Christie Horton

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (916) 483-2161      RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (916) 483-4628**

**Registration/Change of Address:** Allow at least 3 months to receive envelopes or for any changes.

I want to register in the parish.  I have changed my address; my envelope # is \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## GUEST COLUMNIST'S (PASTOR'S) PAGE



--Thank you, **THANK YOU**, Joe ROMANAZZI for your wonderful, refreshing articles. This one he specifically wrote for the Lenten season and is also in this month's K of C PALADIN.

God bless, Father Bernardin MUGABO

By: Joe Romanazzi,  
SJE Guest Columnist

### THE SEVEN PENITENTIAL PSALMS



The Book of Psalms in the Bible is a collection of 150 religious poems, hymns and songs. An ancient tradition of the Catholic Church involves the meditation on seven Psalms, called the “Penitential Psalms” because of their spiritual themes of penance and conversion. It is believed that the designation of these Psalms as “penitential” began way back in the 7th century and has persisted ever since. About half of the psalms are attributed to King David who cries out to the Lord for forgiveness and cleansing because he knows that God has a gracious and forgiving nature and wants him to be sinless. As a result of his intense joy of the psalms and his incorporation of them into his ministry and prayer life, St. Augustine of Hippo is attributed to categorizing four of the seven psalms as the **PENITENTIAL PSALMS**.

The **PENITENTIAL PSALMS** make fitting prayers for the repentant sinner. Prayerfully reciting these psalms, especially during Lent, will help us to recognize our sinfulness, express our sorrow and ask for God’s forgiveness. The Seven **PENITENTIAL PSALMS** are Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130 and 143. In each, the author acknowledges or confesses his trespass before the Lord and recognizes his need for God’s favor and forgiveness. The Penitential Psalms all contain a cry for help, a statement explaining the problem and a renewed request for help throughout the psalm.

**Psalm 6** is a prayer in time of distress. It reveals an individual in deep affliction, weary in body and spirit, and desperately appealing to God for mercy and relief from punishment. *Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger or punish me not in your rage.*

**Psalm 32** expresses a sinner's joy at being forgiven. *Happy the man whose offense is forgiven, whose sin is remitted.*

**Psalm 38** is the prayer of an individual suffering from an illness that he views as a punishment inflicted by God. *O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger; do not punish me, Lord in your rage.*

**Psalm 51** is the most familiar penitential psalm and has been called the “**Sinner’s Guide**”. *Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.*

**Psalm 102** is a prayer in time of distress. It expresses personal concerns and includes a hymn of praise to God. *O Lord, listen to my prayer and let my cry for help reach you.*

**Psalm 130** is a prayer for pardon and mercy. It expresses awareness of sinfulness and the need for God’s grace. *Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice!*

**Psalm 143** is a prayer of a penitent undergoing trials and praying for deliverance from enemies. It contains a universal acknowledgment of guilt. *Lord, listen to my prayer; turn your ear to my appeal.*

My Brothers and Sisters, forgiveness is a joyful thing, but is only obtained through honest and humble acknowledgment of personal sin, and trust in a loving and merciful God. The repentance of one’s sins before a holy God is one of the major themes of Scripture, and the Penitential Psalms are perfect examples of the value of repentance and a firm reliance on the God of all grace and comfort. In the words of St. Augustine, “God loves saving, not condemning, and therefore He is patient with bad people, in order to make good people out of bad people.

## FR. BERNARDIN'S HOMILY (MARCH 13, 2022)

### **HAVE FAITH IN GOD: 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT (CYCLE "C"):**

God came to this world so that we may have faith in Him. Having faith, we would do His will and be saved. All the readings of this 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent remind us to have faith and to grow in our relationship with God.

1. **Abraham had faith in God:** Abraham was a wandering Aramaean who had no country nor children. He left his own country following God's call and God's promise to give him a nation and descendants. On our faith journey, we doubt and so did Abraham. "How can this happen? I don't have a child." God showed him the stars in the sky and told him that is how many your children would be. That is a lot of children. God doesn't lie. The three-major religions claim Abraham as their father in faith: Christianity, Judaism and Muslim. All of them combined, they are like the stars in the sky. God promised Abraham to give him a land or a country, whatever you may call it. To this Abraham doubted; but God assured him. God made a covenant with him by passing through splitting carcasses. This is the fate God is willing to take if the promise doesn't get realized. They did enter the Promised Land of Canaan.

Lenten time is a time to trust God and to grow in our love for Him. We have Jesus, His own begotten Son who came to us, lived with us and operated miracles so that we may have faith. The kingdom He promised to those who have faith in Him is beyond this world. No faith, no salvation.

2. **Saint Paul converted to Christianity by the Risen Lord, who appeared to him:** St. Paul is telling the Philippians and all of us followers of Jesus Christ to imitate Him and to observe those who conduct themselves according to the model of faith. He acknowledges that there are people who conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ. For these, Paul shed tears because they do not know what lies ahead. We Catholics have saints as our models, Saint Paul is one of them. We have heroes in our faith we can learn from and imitate. They lived hard times like ours but they persevered. As you know, some of them were martyrs among them Paul and Peter, the two greatest Apostles. What about our time? The statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary have been crying over our sinful behavior. She cried in Akita, Japan where she appeared to a nun called Sister Agnes SASAGAWA. She cried in Rwanda over the approaching genocide that took so many lives and led a country into a deep and horrible darkness; in Medjugorje, she cried and prophesied about the chastisements cause by our lack of faith in God. Now, with the war in Ukraine, we can feel the air of hatred, killing, injustices, destruction. The 3<sup>rd</sup> world war is at the door, and we will all suffer from it. The devil is behind these calamities. He uses people who have no faith in God or whose faith is lukewarm. The Blessed Virgin Mary has been leading us to her Son, the King of Peace, but we have failed to be peacemakers. No wonder Saint Paul said for those who conduct themselves as enemies of Christ, their end is destruction, their God is their stomach, their glory is their shame, their minds are occupied with earthly things. Do not be like them. We are all here temporarily; our citizenship is in Heaven. There we will be with Jesus, our Savior and God, for all eternity. Saint Paul advises us to stand firm on our faith. **This is the time.**

3. **Today's Gospel about Jesus' transfiguration gives us a powerful image of a future hope of life in Christ.** Jesus predicted His death and resurrection, but the Apostles didn't know what resurrection meant. This is like a glimpse into the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus' face changed in appearance and His clothing became dazzling white. In Heaven, everything is beautiful. Those who were blessed to see Heaven; they always look forward to being there. Peter said wants to stay there and forget anything else. The presence of Moses and Elijah, those holy men who died long ago, reminds us about the continuation of life in Heaven after death. The voice of God, the Father, saying: "This is My beloved Son; listen to Him." To be saved from these calamities and eternal condemnation, we all need to listen to Jesus. As Lent leads to the passion and resurrection of Jesus, the transfiguration is to strengthen the life of the Apostles and all of us, too. There is life after death. There is resurrection for all those who do God's will.

### FR. BERNARDIN'S JOKE OF THE WEEK

Lost on a rainy Friday night during Lent, a Priest stumbles into a Monastery and requests shelter there. Fortunately, he's just in time for dinner and was treated to the best fish and chips he's ever had.

After dinner, he goes into the kitchen to thank the chefs. He is met by two brothers.

"Hello, I'm Brother Michael and this is Brother Francis."

"I'm very pleased to meet you. I just wanted to thank you for a wonderful dinner. The fish and chips were the best I have ever tasted. Out of curiosity, who cooked what?"

Brother Michael replied, "Well, I'm the fish Friar."

Father turns to the other brother and says, "Then you must be..."

"Yes, I'm afraid I'm the chip Monk..."

# LITURGY (INTERCESSORY PRAYERS) FOR MARCH 13, 2022

Let us now stand on this earth as we lift up our prayers to the Kingdom of God.

For the Church: that we may listen with both our minds and hearts to God's beloved Son and be transformed by His words. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For refugees from Ukraine: that God will guide them to places of safety, help them to find welcome and new homes, and open the hearts of many to provide the resources that they need. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For members of Congress: that God will give them insight and courage to explore new ways to work together to effectively address the needs of all people. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For a deepening of hope in this community: that even though negative and doubting messages abound in our society, we may be confident that God will never abandon us. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For much needed precipitation: that through God's merciful love may we receive snow to cover our mountains and rain to fill our lakes. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For all who are sick: that God's healing love will restore those recovering from Covid, cancer, or surgery, give good sleep to those who are anxious, and strength to those who are experiencing the weaknesses of advancing age. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For all our deceased Parishioners, relatives, and friends, that our merciful God may give them eternal rest. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

For these intentions, the intentions shared by this community during the week that we bring to the Altar, and for the intentions of all those whom we promised to pray. Let us pray to the Lord.

**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER**

Loving God, hear the pleas of your people on Earth and prepare for us a place of love and kindness in heaven for all eternity. Hear our prayers and answer our needs through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## SJE WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Weekend of:	Actual (Week):	Budget (Week):	Surplus/ (Deficit):
March 6, 2022	\$16,737	\$10,365	\$6,372
Ash Wednesday	\$3,169	* Per Diocese -- collection is for the Church in central and eastern Europe & Ukraine	

## PARISHONER UPDATE INFORMATION

We  love  
having you as part of our flock



Keep in touch  
with us via  
email & text

- Choose to get updates from groups you're interested in
- Unsubscribe anytime, no spam we promise

PLEASE VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE

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

OR USE OUR EMAIL

[office@  
sjecarmichael.org](mailto:office@sjecarmichael.org)

To update your  
address, phone  
number and  
email address

## WEEKLY ADORATION

Adoration  
of the  
Blessed Sacrament



Fr. Bernardin invites you to spend an hour/  
some time with Jesus on Wednesdays  
& Fridays from 9 am to 5 pm.

Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary are  
prayed beginning at 4:10 pm.

Benediction at 5:00 pm. God bless.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

**Please Note:** **BAPTISMS** ARE SCHEDULED  
**MONTHLY.**

For more information and instructions, please visit  
our website, [www.sjecarmichael.org](http://www.sjecarmichael.org) to download and  
complete our **Baptismal Registration Form** or contact  
Deacon Jack or Deacon Keith through our

"[baptisms@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:baptisms@sjecarmichael.org)" email address  
for Baptism and Baptism Class Schedules.



## PARISH NEWS

### SJE CHOIR REHEARSAL

Calling all SJE Choir Members, past, present, and potential, to attend our next rehearsal on:

**Wednesday, March 16, at 7pm**

**Lent and Easter Masses**

For choir up-dates, please email  
**Bill Becker** at  
[music@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:music@sjecarmichael.org)



*Let's sing!!!*

### ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thank you for helping our neighbors  
in need through the  
**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**



Gifts that have already been made to the **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL** will make a difference in the lives of those who suffer physical, material and spiritual poverty.

If you have not yet made a donation, it's not too late!!

Donate online at [www.scd.org/acagive](http://www.scd.org/acagive).

Envelopes are also available in the Church or Parish Office.

**25%** is returned to our Parish for our own ministry to people in our community

**Your gift matters.**

### CRS - RICE BOWLS

#### LENTEN ALMS CHANGE LIVES

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all.

How can practicing the Lenten pillars transform your life and the lives of our brothers and sisters around the world? Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to learn more.

We have **Rice-Bowls** available on the wooden table in the Narthex; please take one.



### DAILY MASS INTENTIONS PROCEDURE

In order to avoid "Mass" confusion, here are our procedures to schedule a daily Mass Intention(s):

- **Stop by** the **SJE PARISH OFFICE** between 9:30 am-4:00 pm Monday-Friday to request the Mass time and date (per availability). The recommended Diocese Mass Stipend is \$10 per Mass. Obtain a payment receipt and living or deceased Mass Intention Card(s).
- **Mail in** a Mass Intention request note with your phone number, address and check payment to: **SJE PARISH OFFICE, 5751 LOCUST AVE., CARMICHAEL, CA 95608**. We will advise if the dates requested are available and mail back the appropriate card(s) to you. **NO PHONE IN REQUESTS ALLOWED.**

### ST. JOHN'S GIFT SHOP NEWS...



#### **SJE CHURCH GIFT SHOP IS OPEN**

**AFTER 5PM VIGIL, 8AM AND 10AM MASSES**

**ST. PATRICK'S & CONFIRMATION ITEMS**  
**NOW AVAILABLE**

### CHAPEL KEYPAD **INSTALLED!!**

Our **SJE Blessed Sacrament Chapel** is **NOW** accessible only through the door's Keypad Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.

Please call the SJE Office at (916) 483-8454 or stop by to obtain the Keypad code or for admittance.

The Chapel door will automatically lock after 3 seconds for your safety. Thank you again to all our Parishioners who generously donated to this Church/Chapel project. God bless!!

### SJE PRAYER LIST

**Please Pray for our sick and their caregivers:** Andrea Armstrong, Bob Bodem, Nancy Born, Robert Burns, Chuck Carly, Geoff Carter, Andrea Casperson, Melanie Casperson, Ollie Claussen, Alicia Cortez, Corrine Davidson, Russ Davis, John DePiazza, Rick DiRegolo, Christine Dudley, Melissa Duran, Brenda Elazier, Kate Ellis, Karen Emmons, Madeline Endres, Debbie Erichs, Teri Erickson, Velia Escalante, James Espinoza, Juanita Estrellas, Anthony Gabriele, Frank Gianattasio, Ella Gomes, Jimi Grant, Steve Guerrero, Donna Harris, Tom Harvey, Margaret Hollatz, Gabe Howser, Mary Jeffries, Eduardo Jimenez, Yelena Kanavalchuk, Tom Karras, Reggie Keyawa, Larry Kraus, Dalice Lee, Ray Lloyd, Pat Lobrovich, Karen Lydon, Mary Mandara, Angelica & Cheryl Martin, Jennifer Martin, Arielle McLeskey, Pat Minnard, Manuel Molina, Marie Murillo, Tony Nolasco, Baby Dylan Ochoa, Gilles Ouellet, Mary Pai, Lynn Parry, Julie Paul, Mike Peterson, Alex Quiroz, Max Rankin, Jeff Reynolds, Sarah Rizzardo, Peter Robledo, Aida Saca, Ruth Salazar, Matt Sanders, Monique Sandoval, Rena Scherman, Robert Scholtes, Kim Schultz, Christopher Scott, Paul Scurti, Aurora Simental, Lili Simic, Carol Smith, Joan Smith, Ty Soohoo, Hank Thompson, Kim Van Blaricom, Deanna Vest, Bob Walker, Katie Walker, Theresa West, Jacqueline Whittle, Amanda Young and all those with COVID-19.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

March 13, 2022

### ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/CCD/CFE

Grades: Kindergarten through Junior High  
Phone: 916-483-4628 Email: [ccd@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:ccd@sjecarmichael.org)

On Sunday, March 13, we encouraged our CCD children to commit to quietly spending time outside soaking up the wonders of creation because God speaks to us through nature, the stars, the sky, mountaintops, and even the clouds (Genesis 15:5 and Luke 9:28b-36). We also shared St. Patrick's Day goodies on that morning with the children, who truly appreciated their delicious sweets. Thank you, Grandma Louise.

Our special Saint of the Week obviously is **St. Patrick of Ireland**, who due to his humility, piety, gentleness, and total devotion to God should be a shining example to all of us. Patrick was born in 389, not in Ireland but in Roman Britain, which probably is now considered to be Scotland or Wales. He was the son of Conchessa and Calpurnius, who was not only a Senator and tax collector, but also a deacon. At the age of sixteen, Patrick was abducted from his father's farm by Irish raiders or pirates, who sold him into slavery to a pagan chief in Ireland.

As a slave and herdsman, Patrick tended sheep in the mountains of Ireland. Despite the harshness of his life there, Patrick prayed constantly. Patrick wrote about this experience in his memoir "The Confession". In this, Patrick said that his love of God and faith grew and his soul rose. Actually one day, Patrick recorded that he said one hundred prayers during the day-time and also as many during the night. Continually, Patrick prayed in the woods and in the mountains even before dawn, and he never suffered from the snow, ice, or rain. Despite the harshness of his life in captivity, Patrick held on to his Faith, and he feared nothing—not even death.

After six years as a slave, in a dream from God, Patrick was directed to return home. God told him to travel to the coast and leave Ireland by ship. Consequently, Patrick fled from his master to a port two-hundred miles away, and then he convinced the captain of this ship to take him aboard. The ship landed in Britain after three days, and then Patrick and the crew became faint from hunger after walking in the wilderness for twenty-eight days. Encountering many adventures during this period, Patrick finally returned home to his family.

Later in another vision, Patrick saw a man by the name of Victoricus, who gave Patrick one of the many letters that he was carrying. The heading on this letter was "The Voice of the Irish". Immediately, Patrick heard the voices of many people calling in unison as in one voice saying, "We appeal to you, holy servant boy, to come long and walk among us."

This vision inspired Patrick to continue his studies in Christianity, so that he could return to Ireland as a Christian missionary and enter the priesthood. Thus, Patrick was later ordained by St. Germanus, the bishop of Auxerre in 417. After laboring for the Church in England for some time, Patrick begged the Pope to send him to Ireland. Thereafter, the Pope acceded to his wishes, made Patrick a bishop, and sent him to Ireland as a missionary.

In 433 on March 25, Patrick returned to Slane, Ireland. Although a chieftan of one of the Druid tribes attempted to kill him, Patrick converted this leader and many other leaders as well. When one of the pagan kings arrested Patrick after seeing some of the miracles that he performed, he said, "Tell us about your God. He has given you great power." Patrick then used the **shamrock**, a three-leaved plant, to explain to him, the doctrine of the Holy Trinity of the three persons in one God.

Although Patrick was not the first Christian missionary in Ireland, he was the most effective missionary because he had an insider's view of the Irish people that opened his heart and deepened his humanity and humility. Patrick offered forgiveness, compassion, and love to all. He preached the Gospel to pagan nobility as well as to those living in slavery, abject poverty, and those who were enduring great suffering. Pope Leo the Great in 442 commissioned Patrick to organize the Catholic Church of Ireland. Through the Christian leadership of Patrick, thousands of pagans were baptized, and numerous men, even the sons of kings, were ordained as priests to lead in the new Catholic communities. Wealthy and poor women also converted, and many of them became nuns.

After living a completely apostolic life of prayer and tireless labor, St. Patrick died in 464 on March 17, his Feast Day, in a monastery of Saul.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of March 14-19, 2022

**Monday: LENTEN WEEKDAY**  
**6:30 am** Joseph Angel Lopez †  
**8:30 am** John Sayre †  
**5:30 pm** John Lubecki †  
**Tuesday: LENTEN WEEKDAY**  
**6:30 am** Will Cooney †  
**8:30 am** Mary Demonti  
**5:30 pm** John Lubecki †  
**Wednesday: LENTEN WEEKDAY**  
**6:30 am** Beverly Loyd (I)  
**8:30 am** Therese French †  
**5:30 pm** Mark Rudnicki (I) (100th Birthday)  
**Thursday: St. Patrick, Bishop**  
**6:30 am** Frankie McDermott (I)  
**8:30 am** Ferrel Family (I)  
**5:30 pm** John Lubecki †  
**Friday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (ABSTINENCE)**  
**6:30 am** Lubecki Family Intentions  
**8:30 am** Brendan Ferge †  
**5:30 pm** John Lubecki †  
**Saturday: LENTEN WEEKDAY**  
**8:30 am** Lubecki Family Intentions

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38  
**Tuesday:** Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12  
**Wednesday:** Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28  
**Thursday:** Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31  
**Friday:** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46  
**Saturday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a  
**Sunday:** Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 11; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9. Alternate readings (Year A): Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

## SPOTLIGHT ON - EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY



**St. Padre Pio said, "You don't have to be worthy; you only have to be willing..."**

**Are you willing? Are you willing to allow Jesus Christ further into your heart by giving His precious Body of Christ to the faithful?**

**As our Church attendance increases, we are in need of EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS to assist in the distribution of the precious Body of Christ at each "Sunday" Mass.**

**You must be a practicing Catholic in good standing and over 18 to qualify. You can specify your preferred Mass time.**

**Please contact **BERNADETTE HICKS**, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion leader at the SJE Office (916) 483-8454 or email her at [eucharisticministers@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:eucharisticministers@sjecarmichael.org)**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PRAYER (CON'T)

**OUR PRAYER:** O GOD, YOU SENT ST. PATRICK TO PREACH YOUR GLORY TO THE IRISH PEOPLE. THROUGH HIS MERITS AND INTERCESSION GRANT THAT WE WHO HAVE THE HONOR OF BEARING THE NAME OF CHRISTIANS MAY CONSTANTLY PROCLAIM YOUR WONDERFUL DESIGNS TO MEN. AMEN  
Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Joanne Giffard, Religious Education Coordinator

[ccd@sjecarmichael.org](mailto:ccd@sjecarmichael.org)

[jkoeckgiffard@aol.com](mailto:jkoeckgiffard@aol.com)

## A GLIMPSE OF SPIRITUALITY BY FR. ABRAHAM

See God as God, see human as human; and see you as you. This is the real human life.

When people see God as nothing, see others as air, and see themselves as gods, the world is in chaos. All cases of great chaos come from human self-centeredness.

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before people in order to be seen by them; for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven."

First of all, Jesus asked believers to "beware" (prosechete). This verb means taking heed lest one do a thing. What Jesus insists is being pretend.

The "piety" practiced by Christians here is the Greek term "justice" (dikaiosynēn). It bears the meaning of integrity, virtue, purity of life, uprightness and correctness in thinking, feeling, and acting. Therefore, if the gift of God is packaged with self-centeredness, it is stealing the glory of God. That is what Jesus means by the verb "pretend."

In order to be seen by others while doing piety, it is to show off one's own so-called holiness. Since there is no God in his/her heart, God cannot give any "reward."

The "reward" (misthon) is not a material prize but the grace of God, in other words, the kingdom of heaven.

All who take the advantage of God as to glorify them, Jesus called these people hypocrites (hypokritai). To put it bluntly, they are acting. Doing good deeds is simply a drama for them. They are actually eating sugar-coated poison. At the beginning, it is always a little sweet and seductive; but in the end, they will die in hell forever. This drama is the biggest tragedy.

Seeing life through the will of God is not worth sacrificing eternal life for temporary glory.

Fr. Abraham Chiu



## LENT MASS/STATIONS OF THE CROSS SCHEDULE

†Lent Weekday Masses (Mon-Fri): 6:30 am, 8:30 am, 5:30 pm

†Lent Stations of the Cross (Fridays): After 5:30 Mass; "SOUP" IS BACK ON 3/18/22 approx. 6:15 pm

†Lent Saturday Morning Mass: 8:30 am

**FYI: CONFIRMATION Friday, March 25th - NO 5:30 pm Mass and NO Stations of the Cross**

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



*Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference thanks you for your continued support, which allows us to help the poor and needy in our neighborhood. It is appreciated more than you know.*

**It's that time of the year for the DIOCESE ANNUAL APPEAL. Please be generous, 25% of what you donate comes back to St. John's and supports programs like St. Vincent de Paul.**

SVdeP's food closet is open on **Wednesdays** from **8 am to 10 am** if you find yourself in need of food.

Everyone is welcome and meat, fresh veggies, and fruits are in abundance!

*Thank you for your support throughout the year, we couldn't do this without you.*

**YOU make a difference! God bless you! Wear a Mask! Stay safe!**

## RCIA "THE ELECT" PHOTOS



From left to right: Maureen Schuldies - RCIA teacher and sponsor, Bishop Soto, Peggy Ledbetter - Elect, and Sandy Butler - RCIA teacher



Outside the Cathedral. From left to right: Kellie Willey - RCIA teacher, Peggy Ledbetter - Elect, Deacon Jack, Sandy Butler - RCIA teacher

## RCIA STUDENTS BECOME "THE ELECT"

Adults who wish to become members of the Catholic Church go through a formation process named the **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS**. In the first few months, the students receive instruction on the foundation of the Church: Jesus Christ, the Trinity and faith. At the **Rite of Acceptance** that was held on January 9th at the 10 am Mass, Father Bernardin asked the students if they wanted to continue pursuing the path to becoming a Catholic Christian and all replied "yes". With this acceptance, the students who were Baptized were called "candidates" and the students who had never received a Christian baptism were called "catechumens". Their studies in this period focused on the Sacraments, the Church and Christian Moral Living.

Last Saturday at the 5 pm Mass, the candidates and catechumens took another step in re-affirming their desire to become part of our community through the **Rite of Sending**. Father Bernardin asked their sponsors if they had taken their formation in the Gospel and Christian way of living seriously so that they were ready to be "sent" to Bishop Soto. All of the sponsors affirmed their approval.

The **Rite of Election** at the Cathedral was held Sunday night. At that Rite, the name of each student is called out in the Cathedral because it is Jesus that calls each and every one of us by name to follow Him. Bishop Soto addressed the candidates and catechumens to encourage them to live in deeper conformity to the life of Christ. After inquiring on the desire to continue to follow the path to full communion in the Church, the Bishop declared the Church elects to allow the candidates and catechumens to continue toward the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and first Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil. All students are now to be called "**the Elect**".

To support all those seeking to come into full communion with the Church, the entire community should surround the elect with prayer, so that the entire Church will accompany and lead them to encounter Christ. --Deacon Jack Wilson

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