

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church



March 19, 2023

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
photo by SJE Parishioner DEAN TORMEY

Laetare Sunday - 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

PARISH INFORMATION

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

5751 Locust Avenue
Carmichael CA 95608-1320
Parish Office: **(916) 483-8454**
Web: www.sjecarmichael.org
Email: office@sjecarmichael.org

--PARISH OFFICE HOURS - 9:30 AM - 4 PM--

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION
SATURDAYS from 3:45 PM to 4:45 PM



SCHEDULE OF MASSES

SUNDAY MASS:

SATURDAY VIGIL: **5 PM**
SUNDAY: **8 AM, 10 AM & 5 PM**

DAILY MASS:

6:30 AM & 8:30 AM (MON-FRI)
8:30 AM (SATURDAY)

HOLY DAYS:

6:30 AM & 8:30 AM; 7:00 PM

HEALING MASS:

1:30 PM - 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

PARISH CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor
Parochial Vicar
Pastor Emeritus
Mercy San Juan Hospital Chaplain
Deacon
Deacon
SJE Business Manager
SJE Parish Secretary
Religious Education Coordinator
Director of Music & Liturgy
SJE Pastoral Council Chairperson
SJE Finance Council Chairperson

Fr. Bernardin Mugabo
Fr. Bit-Shing Abraham Chiu
Fr. Thomas Bland
Fr. Alban Uba
Keith Johnson
Jack Wilson
Linda Gospodnetich
Bernadette Hicks
Joanne Giffard
William Becker
Tom Ennis
Mary Ellen Meier

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL

www.stjohnnev.com

5701 Locust Avenue
Carmichael, CA 95608
Phone: (916) 481-8845
Fax: (916) 481-1319
Email: office@stjohnnev.com
Principal: **Christie Horton**



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (916) 483-2161

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (916) 531-5565

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: _____



SJE Parishioner Joe Romanazzi's 2023 "SNOW TRAIN" Article – God bless, Father Bernardin MUGABO

By: Joe Romanazzi,
SJE Guest Columnist

Chug, Chug, Toot, Toot, Here We Go. . . AGAIN!



In late February, a small group of 15 intrepid Brother Knights and Lady Knights from our Council, along with a few friends once again made the popular, scenic Amtrak train trip to Reno. The trip was expertly facilitated by "Gobbo Family Productions", a venerable institution specializing in great parties, sporting events, and exciting travel for adventurous Council 4970 members. For those of you who may not know, Amtrak's California Zephyr travels between Chicago, IL and Emeryville, CA. At 2,438 miles, it is their longest daily and most scenic route, with travel time between the termini taking approximately 52 hours. We rode the portion often referred to locally as the *Snow Train* to "The Biggest Little City in the World."

All Aboard!! Like prior trips, our High Sierra train odyssey began when *the magic carpet made of steel* pulled out of the cold, windy and rainy Roseville Amtrak Station headed for Reno. As we traveled east on February 26th, we viewed towns and numerous structures covered with lofty mounds of snow and ice, admired pristine lakes and rivers and traversed high mountain passes covered with deep snow. We could feel the wheels rumbling beneath the floor as we rocked to a gentle beat and felt the rhythm of the rails. Along the way, there were both expected and unexpected delays when we had to pull off the main track to allow freight trains with higher priority to zip around us, or to stop to let snow plows get ahead of us to clean fresh falling snow on the tracks. The train sped up, then slowed down as it climbed steep grades and snaked its way around curves. We were plunged into total darkness at a tunnel's entrance and into filtered-gray light at the tunnel's exit. The stunning rock formations and beautiful coniferous trees with limbs thickly covered with snow were incredible to behold. None of us ever imagined that experiencing this beauty from a train window was only the beginning of the story and that thrilling times lay ahead for us over the next few days.

This trip on the snow train was radically different than the other two previous ones I went on because of the harsh weather, particularly the epic snowfall we encountered. Abundant rain and snowfall due to a parade of atmospheric river systems late last year and continuing into 2023 caused snowpack levels in the Sierra Nevada to surge to near-historic highs and made travel in the mountains problematic. We were plagued by heavy snowfall, and high and gusty winds which created dangerous to impossible situations for not only the trains, but for buses, and even airplanes. All were forced to cease or curtail operations due to blizzards and other horrible weather conditions. This meant scheduled trip reservations out of Reno were canceled, then rescheduled, then canceled again. On one such occasion, part of our group was left in the lurch at the Greyhound bus stop for 4 hours until they realized the bus was not coming. So, it was back to the hotel for another night. In addition, the CA and NV Department of Transportations closed the main thoroughfares across the summits due to storm-related problems, leaving numerous automobiles and trucks parked on roadsides. It didn't take long for everyone in our group to realize that we were helplessly marooned in Reno. What started out to be a 3-day adventure turned into one lasting 5 or 6-days, depending upon when each individual was able to leave. One person in our group observed that getting out of Reno was like trying to get out of Hell---Impossible! Our situation was made even worse when some folks in our group ran out of or were close to running out of clean clothes, prescription medications, and money for hotel rooms, meals and to feed the wretched slot machines. As the days went by and we remained stranded in our hotel, some members of our traveling group stopped calling our trip an adventure and began to refer to it as a nightmare. Worries, concerns, and fears raised their ugly heads. Even the tragedy of the Donner Party began to be mentioned in conversations. You may remember they spent the winter of 1846-1847 snow-bound in the High Sierras. Some of the migrants resorted to cannibalism to survive, eating the bodies of those who had succumbed to starvation, sickness, and extreme cold. Praise God that our plight never reached that extreme. Eventually, with lots of prayers, and trust and faith in *His Divine Providence*, things began to improve. The reopening of Interstate 80 and two days of clear weather between storms provided the chance for all 15 of us to depart Reno in airport rental vehicles and a bus and to return safely to our homes and families on March 2nd and 3rd.

My Brothers, besides spectacular views of the snow-covered Sierra Nevada Mountains, our Council trip to Reno afforded golden opportunities to reflect on the Gospel truth that God is our happiness, and underscored the fact that He is in charge of our movements and Coordinator of what happens in our daily lives. His Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, proves over and over that He is the Good Shepherd who is our strength and our salvation. He guides us on our earthly journeys and eventually leads us to everlasting joy and peace. I thank the Lord for granting us what turned out to be a safe and memorable train adventure across the Sierras in the dead of winter. He showcased His Divine Father's wondrous hand in Creation and demonstrated to us that every day on earth is a day worth remembering, especially when you make the journey and share a "Great Adventure" with friends who trust in the Lord and possess a sense of humor. And about the weather. I quote the wisdom of St. Teresa of Avila who said, "There is no such thing as bad weather. All weather is good because it is God's."



WAYS OF BLINDNESS:

Blindness comes in many forms.

I was going out one morning while it was still dark to get a nice warm bagel. As I pulled off the road into the parking lot of the bagel shop, I looked far to the right to see if another car was approaching as the driveway made a sharp right turn just past the sidewalk. I saw nothing, so I started to make the turn and when I looked back forward, a man on a bicycle was right in my headlights!

Thank goodness I started slowly so I did not hit him. He did not have a light and his clothes were dark.

Was I blind to someone approaching me on the sidewalk? Probably so.

Was he blind to the danger of not having a light on his bicycle or of going against the traffic flow? Probably so.

Blindness can be physical, mental and we will look today at spiritual blindness. In a similar way light is physical light; we see the appearance of someone because of the physical light reflecting off of them. We have a mental light; being awake and making good choices. We have spiritual light; believing Jesus is the Light of the World, our spiritual beacon.

Two of these are at play in the First Reading when we hear that man sees the outward appearance of others but God looks inside, at the heart, at the spirit or soul.

This is a favorite theme.

Samuel pushes aside his evaluation of just looking at the candidates to be king and listens to where God speaks to him, in his heart. Yes, David was splendid in his appearance, but Samuel anointed him because Samuel listened to God telling him – there, this is the one.

Jesus looks at the souls of the Pharisees and calls them hypocrites because they outwardly strive to appear holy and righteous while their heart is a dark, selfish and egotistical place as when they pray; I am so glad, Lord, that I am not like *them*.

Saint Paul's Reading today is all about spiritual light. We are called to live as children of the light, a spiritual light of the Lord. As people who lived in darkness before choosing Christ, the light of Christ received at Baptism helps us to reject the fruitless works of darkness knowing that everything we do is visible to God.

Throughout life, it may seem that there is always so much to learn about Jesus and His Church, have I lost my way? We are all individuals and Christ leads us gently at our own individual pace without concern that some can see farther along than others. Take on the mindset of a child, delighting in new things, accepting miracles when Jesus makes something visible to you through His marvelous light.

The man in the Gospel today who was born blind is a good example. He did not get angry or upset that he was blind for so many years, he just did as Jesus requested and was cured. It must have seemed strange to have something smeared on his eyes and then told to go wash himself in a pool of water. The pool where he was sent was used for Jewish ritual cleansing before entering the Temple. Many wash in there every day, why would this be different but it was because he listened to Jesus.

This scene is similar to the Old Testament story where Elisha told the leper to wash in the Jordan.

The result in both stories was a miracle of healing.

The blind man's physical sight is cured and his spiritual sight is awakened to consider something beyond what our rational minds understand as possible and what our eyes perceive.

Contrast this to the reaction of the man's neighbors. At first some think it is an imposter. When told the story, they take him to the Pharisees who will get the truth out of him. After all his sight was returned on the Sabbath where no work was supposed to be performed. Earlier in the Gospel of the reading we heard today, Jesus had already cured someone else on the Sabbath, the cripple.

The Pharisees hear a similar story of a miracle; oh, here we go again, and scoff that such a thing could be true. They are spiritually blind to the possibility of the God in their midst when they do not recognize Him. Their pride blinds them to the possibility that God would send the Messiah to those who need healing and not to them first to validate their position and authority, to dictate what the Messiah will do and when.

Well, let's get his parents in here, they will shed some light on this fabrication. We will get evidence of how Jesus is fooling us. The parents are no help because they are really afraid to say one way or the other. Frustrated they haul the man who is not blind anymore back to question and they hear the same story but this time, the Pharisees are challenged.

He tells them this is what is so amazing. If Jesus was not from God, He would not be able to do anything but He has opened my eyes; Do you want to be His disciples too? They throw him out, blind with anger.

Jesus finds him and through this encounter Jesus is told, Yes, I do believe in the Son of Man. The spiritual sight of the man who was born blind has changed so much.

Jesus was a man, then a prophet, then a teacher with disciples and then God, God to be worshipped and adored. That was quite a journey.

We all have a journey in our faith, in opening our own spiritual eyes aided by the grace of God. Our entire life on this earth is a spiritual journey and I think hindsight is a blessing from God to help us see how He has helped us, has led us closer to our journey's end, Heaven. Think back in your life for something you didn't expect, perhaps you prayed and something happened but not exactly what you had in mind. Perhaps you just didn't see God at work then but what now? What can you say to Jesus?

Take care of your spiritual sight as you would your own eyes. Keep them from the burning glare of pornography and the blinding dazzle of seeking gold above all else. Turn them instead to the beauty of this Church. Look all around and you will see beauty in the stained-glass windows, the decorations on the Altar, the Risen Christ, St. Joseph, Mary, your friends, Parishioners and, above all, Christ in the Eucharist.

LITURGY (INTERCESSORY PRAYERS) FOR MARCH 19, 2023

We come now to God with our prayers for ourselves and others, confident that in God's generous care for us, we will be heard.

For the Church: that we may share the light of the Gospel with all who are struggling to recognize good from evil, truth from lies and selfless love from self-serving activity. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For government officials: that God will anoint their minds and hearts so that they may promote the well-being of all whom they serve, particularly the vulnerable and powerless of society. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For all who live in the darkness of violence, warfare, or human trafficking: that God will comfort all who are in pain, bring light into their lives, and speed the assistance that they need to find new communities. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For married couples who are expecting a child and for those who are struggling to conceive a child: that our Heavenly Father blesses them with His fullness. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For the growth of faith within this community: that God's love for us may enlighten our path as we face our daily challenges and draw us into a deeper relationship with God. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For all whose lives are darkened by alcohol, drugs, mental illness or pornography: that the light of the Gospel may shatter their darkness and open a path to living a new life. 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 that we hold in the silence of our heart. Let us pray to the Lord.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

O God, You look into our hearts and see where we are broken and where we are strong. May our own forms of blindness be healed, and may we welcome all signs of Your generous presence in our world. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SJE WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Weekend of:	Actual (Week):	Budget (Week):	Surplus/ (Deficit):
March 12, 2023	\$11,315	\$10,365	\$950

Many thanks for your ongoing generosity to St. John's Church!!

THIS WEEKEND'S SPECIAL COLLECTION

March 18/19, 2023 - CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES
(SHARED WITH CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE)

PARISHIONER 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:

www.sjecarmichael.org

OR USE OUR EMAIL:

office@sjecarmichael.org

To update your
address, phone
number and
email address.

WEEKLY ADORATION



Fr. Bernardin invites you to spend an hour/
some private time with Jesus on Wednesdays
& Fridays from 9 am to 5 pm.
Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary are
prayed aloud beginning at 4:10 pm.
Benediction at 5:00 pm. God bless.

CHAPEL KEYPAD INSTALLED!!

SJE BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL is accessible Monday through
Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.
Please call SJE Office (916) 483-8454 for code or admittance.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please Note: BAPTISMS ARE SCHEDULED MONTHLY.

For more information and instructions, please visit our
website, www.sjecarmichael.org to download and
complete our **Baptismal Registration Form** or
contact **DEACON JACK** or **DEACON KEITH** through
our "baptisms@sjecarmichael.org" email address
for Baptism and Baptism Class Schedules.



DIOCESE "CHRISM MASS" MARCH 30TH

ANNUAL CHRISM MASS

Thursday, March 30, 2023
@ 6 pm

CATHEDRAL of the BLESSED SACRAMENT, SACRAMENTO



BISHOP JAIME SOTO will preside and the Priests of the Diocese of Sacramento will pray for GOD's continued blessings on the local Church of Sacramento. The Priests will renew their priestly promises.

The **CHRISM MASS** is one of the most important Diocesan celebrations where BISHOP SOTO will bless the Holy Oils that are used in Sacramental blessings in all the Parishes of the Diocese throughout the coming year.

PASSING ON THE FAITH PRESENTATION



PASSING ON THE FAITH:

The Pain and the Promise!

Where has everyone gone? And how do we bring them home? Recent research has identified the challenge of engaging children and young adults in the faith journey. Together we will explore the challenges of passing on faith and propose Catholicism as a comprehensive way of living – a way of encountering Jesus. And we will identify characteristics of an engaged faith community – the kind of domestic church people want and need – and that takes seriously the challenge of passing on the faith.

This will be a hybrid presentation both in person and on ZOOM.
Este taller contará con traducción simultánea al español en persona y en línea.



Dr. Bob McCarty is a pastoral ministry consultant and trainer, and adjunct faculty at the Catholic University of America. Bob is the project coordinator for Saint Mary's Press research, *Going, Going, Gone: The Dynamics of Disaffiliation in Young Catholics*.



Register for '15: www.scd.org/event/passing-faith-pain-and-promise
Thursday, March 30, 2023 Diocese of Sacramento Pastoral Center: 2110 Broadway, Sacramento
10am - 12pm: Priests, Deacons, Religious Sisters, DRES, CREs, Catechetical Leaders, and Lay Personnel
6pm - 8pm: Deacons, Religious Sisters, DRES, CREs, Catechetical Leaders, and Parents
Questions? Alex Barraza - abarraza@scd.org - 916-733-0134. [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/scdoyja) [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/scdoyja) [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/scdoyja)

MONTHLY HEALING MASS

ST. JOHN'S HEALING MASS

Our Monthly "Healing Mass" is celebrated **THIS SUNDAY, March 19th** at **1:30 pm** in our **CHURCH**
Confessions from 12:30 pm to 1:25 pm



IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **LINDA HERNANDEZ**, sister of longtime SJE Parishioner Margaret Zarate, who passed away recently in Stockton, California. Her Funeral services were already held in Stockton on March 13th. May God grant her eternal rest and strengthen and comfort her family. May she rest in peace.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

This weekend, we take up **THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES** collection to **HELP JESUS IN DISGUISE**. This collection helps six Catholic agencies provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection. Learn more at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

ST. JOHN'S GIFT SHOP NEWS



The **SJE CHURCH GIFT SHOP** is **OPEN!!**
• LENTEN Supplies are **IN STOCK** •
Proceeds benefit St. John's School

SJE CHOIR REHEARSAL

PLEASE JOIN US for our Lent and EASTER SEASON

Our next **Choir Rehearsal** is on **Wednesday, March 22nd, at 7pm**

For Choir updates and more information please email



BILL BECKER, SJE Choir Director
at music@sjecarmichael.org

SJE PRAYER LIST

Please Pray for our sick and their caregivers: Andrea Armstrong, Patrick Bagley, Hazel Balthrop, Richard Michael Blalock, Bob Bodem, Nancy Born, Robert Burns, Chuck Carly, John Carroll, Geoff Carter, Joseph Carter, Melanie Casperson, Ollie Claussen, Alicia Cortez, Sue, Heather & Eric Crawford, Corrine Davidson, Bill & Judy Davis, Russ Davis, Melissa Duran, Brenda Elazier, Kate Ellis, Karen Emmons, Madeline Endres, Debbie Erichs, Teri Erickson, Velia Ecalante, James Espinoza, Juanita Estrellas, Ernie Frehe, Anthony Gabriele, Margaret Gallagher, Bob Gibbs, Ann Giebelier, Ella Gomes, Jimi Grant, Alice Guerrero, Steve Guerrero, Donna Harris, Tom Harvey, **Shelley Hjellum**, Margaret Hollatz, Gabe Howser, Jacqueline Huesing, Mary Jeffries, Eduardo Jimenez, Yelena Kanavalchuk, Tom Karras, Hossain Kian, Larry Kraus, **Janice & Jacob Landeros**, Dalice Lee, Ray Lloyd, Cheryl Martin, Arielle McLeskey, Pat Minnard, Manuel Molina, Carla Moore, Marie Murillo, Tony Nolasco, Dylan Ochoa, Gilles Ouellet, Mary Pai, Lynn Parry, Julie Paul, Martha Perez, Mike Peterson, Alex Quiroz, Noreen Rademacher, Jeff Reynolds, Sarah Rizzardo, Ray Rodgers, Aida Saca, Ruth Salazar, Monique Sandoval, Kim Schultz, Christopher Scott, Paul Scurti, Aurora Simental, Lili Simic, Carol Smith, Joan Smith, Dolores Stafford, Hank Thompson, Inge Toner, Bob Walker, Katie Walker, Kay Webb, Theresa West, Jacqueline Whittle, **Frank & Kay Wolniak**, Amanda Young.

March 19, 2023

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

Grades: Kindergarten through Junior High

Phone: 916-531-5565 Email: ccd@sjecarmichael.org

Last week, many of us, including our CCD students, honored St. Patrick, whose amazing influence converted an entire island and a whole nation. The power of St. Patrick's holiness endures forever. Another figure, the patron saint for the Latin Americas, **St. Toribio (aka St. Turibius) de Mogrovejo**, was, likewise, an evangelizer, who was considered to be the "protector of natives" and the greatest organizer of the Church in South America.

Toribio Alfonso de Mogrovejo was born on November 16, 1538, in Habsburg, Spain, to the noble family of Luis Alfonso de Mogrovejo and Ana de Robles i Moran. His sister was Grimanese de Mogrovejo i Robledo. As a child, he was pious, and was strongly devoted to Our Lady, always reciting the Rosary. In her honor, Toribio also fasted once a week. Because he was the child of a noble, Toribio received an excellent education, and, in 1550, he entered a college at Valladolid, studying the humanities. Later, he became a law professor at a college in Salamanca, where his uncle also taught. Toribio then accompanied his uncle to a college in Coimbra, where he continued his studies. Soon Toribio returned to Salamanca. In February 1571, Toribio's brilliant reputation led King Phillip II to appoint him as the Grand Inquisitor on the Inquisition Court at Granada.

His noted work for the Inquisition earned Toribio praise from the king, who then nominated him to head the ecclesiastical court at Granada, even though he was a layman, not a priest. When the position of archbishop in Lima became vacant, King Phillip II also nominated Toribio. Actually, Toribio then was rushed through the minor orders, was ordained and consecrated, and finally both the king and Pope Gregory XIII in 1579 sent out the Very Reverend Archbishop Toribio to assume the position of the Archbishop of Lima.

First of all, Reverend Toribio called together the Third Lima Council in 1582. The main issue on this council's agenda was how to evangelize more effectively. Likewise, this council produced a catechism written in three languages: Spanish, Quechua, and Aymara. In addition, the council emphasized the importance of preaching in the Native American tongue using gentle persuasion. Reverend Toribio dedicated his life to proclaiming the Gospel, and he was passionate about protecting and evangelizing the Native Americans, and organizing the Church in Latin America. Travelling often back and forth to Lima on foot, Reverend Toribio baptized and taught the natives, even though he was exposed to torrents of wind, and tropical storms and heat. Often, he had to deal with wild beasts, threats from native tribes, and contagious fevers. Almost half a million people including St. Rose of Lima, St. Martin de Porres, St. Francis Solana, and St. Juan Masias followed his lead.

Likewise, the Reverend Toribio organized the building of schoolhouses, chapels, hospitals, convents, and seminaries. He mandated that learning the indigenous languages was a prerequisite for the sisters and clergy. Reverend Toribio sought for the reformation of priests, and even endorsed the excommunication of clerics, who engaged in business ventures, which exploited the natives for work and profit. Most clergy considered the Reverend Toribio to be the champion of the rights and liberties of the natives against their Spanish masters and the Peruvian government. Consistently, the Reverend Toribio visited each parish to ensure that all objects of divine worship were in good condition. Similarly, he checked the parish registers to see if each priest was heeding the missal that Pope Pius V had mandated. Before he spoke to any priest on his visits, the Reverend Toribio first met with numerous members of the parish.

Actually, the Most Reverend Toribio predicted the exact date and hour of his death. Suffering from a fever, he dragged himself to receive the Viaticum, and died on March 23, 1606, at 3:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine Convent. His last words were, "Lord, into Thy hands I commend my spirit." Pope Benedict XIII canonized St. Toribio de Mogrovejo on December 10, 1726. He is the patron saint of Peru, Lima, Latin American bishops, native rights, and scouts. St. Toribio's present feast day is celebrated on March 23.

OUR PRAYER: O GOD, YOU SENT ST. TORIBIO ALFONSO DE MOGROVEJO TO PREACH YOUR GLORY TO LATIN AMERICAN PEOPLE. THROUGH YOUR INTERCESSION, GRANT THAT WE WHO HAVE THE HONOR OF BEING CHRISTIAN BELIEVERS ALSO CONSTANTLY PROCLAIM YOUR WONDERFUL DESIGNS FOR ALL OF HUMANITY. LET PEOPLE EVERYWHERE RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION. **AMEN**

Yours in Christ,

MRS. JOANNE GIFFARD, SJE Religious Education Coordinator

ccd@sjecarmichael.org

jkoecjgiffard@aol.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of March 20-25, 2023

Monday: *ST. JOSEPH, Spouse of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY*
6:30 am Intentions of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8:30 am Judy Croce (I)
5:30 pm Oliver Capati †

Tuesday: *Lenten Weekday*
6:30 am James Antonio (I)
8:30 am Mary Barclay (I)
5:30 pm Roy (I) and Kathy (I) Lasich

Wednesday: *Lenten Weekday*
6:30 am Virginia Bispo †
8:30 am David Hartung †
5:30 pm Josie Lewis (I) Birthday (Christine Vu's daughter)

Thursday: *St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop*
6:30 am Violet Underwood (I) and Family
8:30 am Marilee Courtright (I)
5:30 pm Carolyn Fonteyn †

Friday: *Lenten Weekday (ABSTINENCE)*
6:30 am Marina Velarde †
8:30 am Janice (I) and Jacob (I) Landeros
5:30 pm Paul Lehner †

Saturday: *THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD*
8:30 am Susan Bragg †

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 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

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK PROCEDURE

For those who bring the Holy Eucharist to our homebound brothers and sisters after Mass, **please place your open Pyx with the unconsecrated Host inside on the Altar prior to the beginning of Mass.**

If you are unable to place the Pyx on the Altar before Mass, please do not approach the Altar once Mass begins. After Mass, you can approach either the Priest or Deacon to obtain our precious Lord, Who will journey with you to be received by our homebound brothers and sisters as soon as possible.

MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND RECIPIENTS



If you or anyone you know of is homebound and in need of receiving the Holy Eucharist, please contact **GAIL GUDAHL**, SJE Lead Homebound Minister at homeboundministry@sjecarmichael.org or our **SJE PARISH OFFICE** at (916) 483-8454.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

At an ecumenical service at St. Mary's one evening, the Pastor remarked just before the Offertory collection,
 "We welcome **ALL** denominations here.
 But we especially favor **tens, twenties** and **fifties** . . ."

(Mark 8:14-21)

What should we do in order to take up Jesus' cross and follow him as his loyal disciples?



To counter the opposition expressed by Peter and to emphasize the fact that he was not the political messiah, Jesus declared the stringent conditions to be met by his disciples. "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

There are two steps before following Jesus. The first step is "to deny" that is connected with another verb "take up." "Deny" (aparnēsasthō) here means that one has to forget oneself, lose sight of oneself and one's own interests. That is to say, anyone who follows Jesus has to completely entrust his/her life to Jesus and love Jesus until s/he integrates with the love of Jesus. The second step is to "take up" the cross. This verb "take" (aratō) denotes the commitment of life in the church by taking upon and carrying what has been raised, i.e. the testimony to God's love even unto death.

How do we integrate our crosses with that of Jesus? Carrying the cross always means pain and suffering. Our sufferings from witnessing to God become the cross of Jesus with its saving power only when we suffer by serving others with self-giving love. This means that as Jesus' followers we should live our lives and deaths according to what is demonstrated by Jesus, in particular his cross event.

Living our deaths here means we die with the hope of resurrection, especially when we are persecuted for Jesus. Before all these commitments, we ask ourselves three questions: Is Jesus a living experience for me, walking with me, loving me, forgiving me, helping me, and transforming my life? Are there areas where my life is not noticeably different from the lives of those who see Jesus as irrelevant? Is the peace, joy, and love that we find in Jesus reflected in the way we live our lives and also the way we live our deaths?

-Fr. Abraham Chiu



Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference thanks you for your continued support, which allows us to help the poor and needy in our neighborhood.

JASPER is wearing his Hawaiian leis and wants to remind you that SVDeP members are selling tickets (\$10 each) for a chance to win a



HAWAIIAN vacation:

6 days/5 nights at the Sheraton Maui plus airfare, rental car and an AmEx Gift Card; a package totaling \$3,500.

See a representative in the Narthex after weekend Masses.

MAI TAIS ON THE BEACH AT SUNSET SOUNDS WONDERFUL. GOOD LUCK!

The FOOD LOCKER could use a few essentials: mac n' cheese, spaghetti sauce, and top ramen.

We are also short on plastic reusable bags and could use whatever you can donate.

THANK YOU for your support throughout the year, we couldn't do this without YOU.

YOU make a difference! God bless you! Stay safe!

CRS - RICE BOWLS

SHARING SUCCESS



Most people in Turkana, Kenya raise livestock, and a few are farmers. But the hot and dry climate makes this work difficult--and climate change is making it even harder. Rebecca and Lotiang participated in a Catholic Relief Services program that installed a water well and taught them new farming techniques. They can support their family with their crops and are teaching others in their community what they learned.

How can you use your skills and knowledge to help others?

Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

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

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; approx. 6:15 pm
- † LENT Soup (after Stations of the Cross): SVDeP free will donation Approx. 7:00 pm
- † LENT Saturday Morning Mass: 8:30 am

NEARBY LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

LENTEN Penance Services

St. Mel: Thursday, March 23rd, 7:00 pm

St. Philomene: Friday, March 24th, 7:00 pm

Our Lady of the Assumption: Monday, March 27th, 6:15 pm

40 DAYS FOR LIFE - 2023



February 22 to April 2
40 DAYS FOR LIFE

HELP SAVE LIVES IN SACRAMENTO

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

With God's help, here are the proven results in 30 coordinated campaigns:

- Over 20,000 babies saved from abortion
- Over 200 abortion workers converted
- Over 100 abortion centers closed

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

- Vigil location: Public sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood Abortion Business, 201 29th Street, Sacramento
- Vigil hours: Monday through Saturday from 8:00am to 5:00pm
- Local contact: Wynette: 916-955-1577

Get involved! Sign up to come and pray by visiting our website at:

40daysforlife.com/Sacramento

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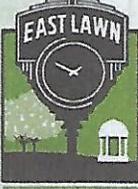
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