WEEKLY BULLETIN

ST. RITA CATHOLIC PARISH

A FAITH COMMUNITY SINCE 1908

JANUARY 22, 2023 | 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GET IN TOUCH

Pastor Rev. Thomas Baker
Deacon Chuck McDaniels

Address: 318 N. Baldwin Ave.
Sierra Madre, CA, 91024-1203
Parish Office: 50 E. Alegria Ave.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Phone: (626) 355-1292
Fax: (626) 355-2290
Website: www.st-rita.org

MASS TIMES

Weekends:
Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (livestreamed), and 12:00 p.m.

Weekdays:
Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday at 8:00 a.m.; Communion Service Wednesday at 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days:
Varies; to be announced

SACRAMENTS

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturdays 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Devotions:
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Saturdays at 7:50 a.m.

Adoration and Holy Hours:
Online, schedule varies; to be announced

LIVESTREAM ST. RITA ON FACEBOOK!

To access the livestreamed Mass on Sundays at 10:00 a.m., and to access the Sunday Mass Worship Aids (hymns and readings included), please visit **www.facebook.com/SaintRitaSM**. From there, go directly to the "video" page.

CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Thomas Baker, *Pastor*
frtombaker@st-rita.org ..... (626) 355-1292
Deacon Chuck & Linda McDaniels
deaconchuck@st-rita.org ..... (626) 355-1292
Fr. Chris Thiel, OFM Cap., *Weekend Supply Priest*

ADMIN. & MINISTRY STAFF

Director of Administration ..... (626) 355-1292 x222
Aida Saldaña — parishadministrator@st-rita.org
Director of Liturgy & Music ..... (626) 355-1292 x231
Paul Puccinelli — mm@st-rita.org
Communications Coordinator ..... (626) 355-1292 x226
Jennifer Bowen — communications@st-rita.org
Database Coordinator ..... (626) 355-1292 x228
Louellen Tschopp — databasecoordinator@st-rita.org
Parish Secretary ..... (626) 355-1292 x235
Deanna Midlick — parishsecretary@st-rita.org
Receptionist ..... (626) 355-1292 x200
Susan Blakeslee — reception@st-rita.org
Accounting Team — arteam@st-rita.org
Bulletin Submissions ..... (626) 355-1292 x226
Jennifer Bowen — bulletin@st-rita.org
Wedding Coordinator ..... (626) 355-1292 x244
Cristina Cullen — weddings@st-rita.org
Funeral Coordinator ..... (626) 355-1292 x245
Vivian Montoya — bereavement@st-rita.org

EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION

St. Rita School Principal ..... (626) 355-6114
Adela Solis — solis@st-ritaschool.org
St. Rita School Secretary ..... (626) 355-6114 x102
Sara Landis — landis@st-ritaschool.org
Director of Faith Formation ..... (626) 355-1292 x223
Theresa Costanzo — dff@st-rita.org
Confirmation & Youth Ministry Coordinator ..... (626) 355-1292 x259
Raquel Hernandez — ymcoordinator@st-rita.org
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) ..... (626) 355-1292
Dcn. Chuck McDaniels — rcia@st-rita.org

PARISH LIFE & MINISTRY

Altar Servers
Kathy Ganino ..... altarservers@st-rita.org
Bereavement Ministry
Vivian Montoya ..... bereavement@st-rita.org
Eucharistic Adoration
Kathy Ganino ..... eucharistic.adoration@st-rita.org
Eucharistic Outreach
Chuck McDaniels ..... eucharistic.outreach@st-rita.org
Finance Council
Bill Sullivan ..... finance@st-rita.org
Grandparents Ministry
Daniel Lopez ..... grandparentsministry@st-rita.org
Holy Housekeepers
Patty Sullivan ..... holy.house@st-rita.org
Immaculate Heart of Mary Prayer Group
Susan Day ..... mary.prayer@st-rita.org
Knights of Columbus, Council 5137
Stan Pinta ..... kofc@st-rita.org
Knit & Crochet Ministry
Ana Ptasinski & Ann Wolf ..... knit.crochet@st-rita.org
Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers
David & Jill Muhs ..... em@st-rita.org
Pastoral Council
Pat Gibson ..... pastoral@st-rita.org
Prayer Shawl & Lap Blanket Ministry
Mary Taillac & Marilyn Delgatto ..... shawl.blanket@st-rita.org
Porters
Justin Smith ..... porters@st-rita.org
Retreat Ministry
Bill Cosso ..... materdolorosa@st-rita.org
Sacristan Coordinator
David Muhs ..... em@st-rita.org
St. Rita Guild
Lenore Crilly ..... guild@st-rita.org
St. Rita Men's Club
Daniel Sosa ..... mens.club@st-rita.org
Ushers & Greeters
Dave Loera ..... ushers@st-rita.org

SACRAMENT INFORMATION

Baptisms
First Sunday of the month after the Noon Mass. Registration and Catechesis are prerequisites. Please contact the Parish Office.

Marriages
Contact the Parish Office upon engagement; at least six months is needed for preparation of this joyous sacrament!

Reconciliation & First Eucharist
Preparation for receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist for the first time usually begins in first grade. Children prepare either in a Catholic school or the parish Faith Formation program. The sacraments are administered through the Parish.

Confirmation
A two-year program for freshman & sophomore-age teens. Please apply through the Youth Ministry Program.

Communion for the Sick & Homebound
St. Rita Eucharistic Ministers provide Communion home visits. Contact the Parish Office.

Anointing of the Sick & Funeral Liturgies
Please notify us for the Anointing of the Sick, the sacrament intended for the seriously ill or dying which brings Our Lord's special presence and companionship in serious time of need. If someone should die without anointing, remember that the desire to receive is sufficient.

If your loved one has passed, we will assist in making arrangements with your chose funeral director; refer you to our Bereavement Ministry and Music Ministry; and offer you helpful guidelines that will aid in the selection of readings for a Mass or Memorial Service. We know this can be a tough time and we want you to know that your parish is here for you. Please understand we only have one resident priest; sometimes arrangements for another priest may be needed.

JESUS CALLS: "COME, LET'S DANCE"

The call of Peter, Andrew, James and John we read in today's gospel is a classic example of how God tends to interrupt the most ordinary lives. These men were fishermen. James and John were with their father, and like their father and probably grandfather, it was a way of life passed down from generation to generation. The world of boats, nets and fish was their comfort zone. It was their place of belonging and it was what they would pass on to their children. They never dreamed of a different lifestyle, nor did they have lofty ambitions for the future.

It's kind of strange, but my call came while I was working at McDonnell Douglas Aircraft in Long Beach, the same place my father had worked for many years. While an employee at Douglas, I become involved with a young adult group which changed the direction of my life. I began thinking about serving God and His people in a more powerful way. Some of my coworkers at Douglas nicknamed me "Rev" because they saw the spirit of the Lord in me.

God enters our lives in ordinary circumstances, evidenced in today's Gospel when Jesus called the apostles while they were at their normal work. He entered the lives of James and John and called them. He did the same with Matthew, Peter, Andrew and the other apostles. The same has happened in the lives of the saints and in the lives of many people we know. Jesus comes, calls and changes lives.

Don't be afraid to accept His interruption and be led in wondrous ways by the Holy Spirit. I have been blessed in so many ways since the decision to follow His call and I invite you into the same marvelous dance of life. My faith journey has been filled with mystery and wonder, heartache and sadness, blessings and grace. In all these years I never regret responding with a "Yes," and I have no doubts about this path of life. It's a wonderful dance of grace and mystery, with the God born among us, given to us, and calling each of us. "Come, let's dance."

—Fr. Tom

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

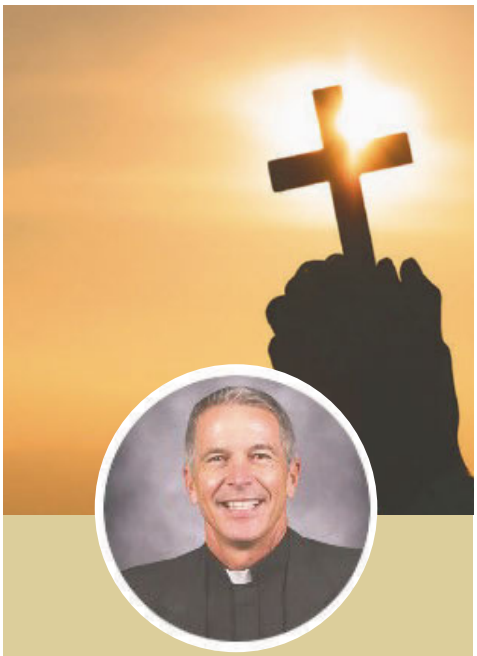
Please remember to pray for more vocations to religious life and the priesthood. This can be our special gift to the Church.

ADULT RETREAT: SAVE THE DATE

We are planning to conduct our second annual Parish Retreat for Adults here at St. Rita. The retreat will take place right here at St. Rita Parish on March 3-5. This is a wonderful way to enrich your Lenten journey, your faith life, and your connections here at St. Rita. The cost will be $45 per person or $80 per couple, with retreat scholarships available. More details will be coming soon but please think about attending this "Forgivable" Adult Retreat.

PARISH PASTORAL PRIORITIES

Our Envisioning Team has finalized our Parish Pastoral Priorities and they have been mailed out this past week. We have been blessed by the Catholic Leadership Institute in assisting in the process. We are now beginning to work with an Implementation Team who will assist in bringing these priorities to life in all areas of parish life. Please join together in praying for this process and implementation. If you did not receive this parish mailing please contact the parish office.



FR. TOM

You have been told what is good, and what the LORD requires of you:

Only to do justice,

and to love goodness,

and to walk humbly with your God.

—Micah 6:8

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

8:00 a.m. Maximina Wylie INT

5:00 p.m. Ligaya Cruz Garrovillas RIP

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

7:30 a.m. For all parishioners

10:00 a.m. Ana Ptasinski INT

12 Noon Ruth Brambila RIP

MONDAY, JANUARY 23

8:00 a.m. Yew P. & Wilton Ong RIP

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24

8:00 a.m. Andy Gallanis RIP

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

8:00 a.m. *(Communion Service)*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

8:00 a.m. *(No Communion Service)*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

8:00 a.m. Chris Gala RIP

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

8:00 a.m. Mary Alice Broderick RIP

5:00 p.m. Richard Dean INT

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

7:30 a.m. For all parishioners

10:00 a.m. Jerry Vasquez INT

12 Noon In Thanksgiving INT

TODAY'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon - O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendor, strength and honor in his holy place. (cf. Psalm 96)

First Reading - The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; (Isaiah 9:1)

Psalm - The Lord is my light and my salvation. (Psalm 27)

Second Reading - I urge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose. (1 Corinthians 1:10)

Gospel - He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled. (Matthew 4:13-14)

Communion Antiphon - Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. (cf. Psalm 34)

WORSHIP AID

Follow along at Mass with our worship aid, which contains all the readings and hymns for this weekend. It can be found on Facebook, or delivered to your email via our weekly e-newsletter, or you may scan this QR code to download a copy on your electronic device right now!

HOLY HOUR: THURSDAYS AT 12:00 P.M.

Spend some time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during our weekly **Hour Hour, Thursdays at 12:00 noon**. *Holy Hour is now open to the public, in addition to being livestreamed on Facebook!* We have a limited number of seats in the chapel, so if you would like to join us, please call the office first to reserve your spot. You should arrive by 11:50 and plan to stay for the entire hour. Masking is optional but highly encouraged, due the enclosed space. Eucharistic Adoration is the perfect way to both receive the grace of God's mercy, and to become merciful so that you can give it to others. Join Deacon Chuck McDaniels and Paul Puccinelli in this uniquely Catholic devotion.

Monday:	St. Vincent; St. Marianne Cope; Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
Tuesday:	St. Frances de Sales
Wednesday:	The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
Thursday:	Sts. Timothy & Titus
Friday:	St. Angela Merici
Saturday:	St. Thomas Aquinas

LITURGY • LIFE • LOVE

TAKING CHURCH OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF THE CHURCH

I know this weekend's scripture pretty well. I'm sure you're probably pretty familiar with it as well. How charismatic Jesus must have been to be able to call someone and have that person leave everything behind to follow on an unknown journey. For the Apostles, this was the beginning of a life following Christ, even though they didn't know where they were going or what they'd be doing... or how Jesus' life would change the world.

When I read it now, though, I have a vision of something else.

Jesus calls us to follow Him – to drop the nets that hold us down and live in the freedom of God's most amazing arms. And then to go forth to fish for those in need – to care for His flock with the mercy and love with which we are so beautifully gifted.

How many times have you felt like you're drowning? Who is it that cast their net and saved you?

Fishers of people... How are you at fishing?

- **Think:** How well do I let go of things that trap me?
- **Pray:** Jesus, help me be free to follow you, and help me share your love. Amen.
- **Go:** This week, try leaving something behind that you usually carry with you. And then try to use that space to pray and to share the love of God with others.

Let's go be the best Gospel anyone has ever read.
Peace and love to you, today and forever.

— Paul Puccinelli

Be sure to check out Paul's daily reflections on the Gospel, posted each morning on the St. Rita Parish Facebook page.

PRAYER LIST

FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Maximina Wylie
Bob Singleton
Barbara LeVeque
Lionel Rowan
Abigail Peterson
Maureen McMahon
George Sheasby
Mark Rivard
Ana Ptasinski
Molly Grow
Myles Avery
Adrian Guerrero
Olivia Guerrero
Rita Levonian
Walter Shedd
Jim Gerstenberg
Sr. Rita McKernan
Roxanne Barker
Noel Wychico
Len Verner
John Taylor
Verna Monteleone
Melinda Anderson
Dick Anderson
Anthony Smith
Joe Hernandez
Beto Acosta
Joe Moody
Michael Joseph Parada
Josephine Gruppie
Gilbert Gonzalez
Mary Kiss
John Sawtelle
Inez Ybarra
Jacquie Marshall
Jim Martin
Maria Blust
Pete Olson
Daisy Olson
Lalo Arriaga
Luz Arriaga
Jim Crilly
Trini Marti
Toni Navarro
Tonyja Blakeslee
Fred Mycroft

FOR THE DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers the family of:

Dennis Marquardt
Patrick Neilan
Sandy Rios
Carol Alcorn

THE CHOSEN

Join us for a weekly watch party and group study of the life of Christ. This is a Gospel immersion experience that will stay with you and make you want more!

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

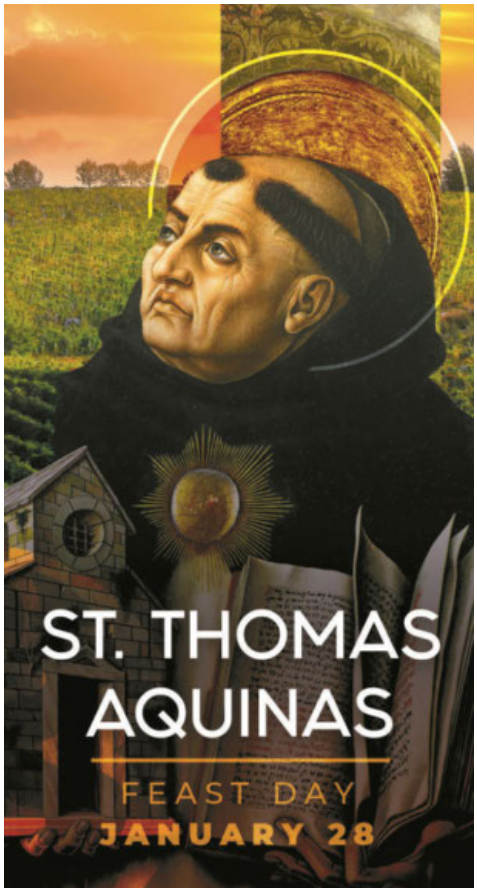
St. Rita Parish Office
(50 East Alegria Ave.)
All adults (18+) are welcome!

SAINT OF THE WEEK: THOMAS AQUINAS

One of the most famous members of the Dominican Order, St. Thomas Aquinas (1225 – 1274) is well-known by many for his theological work, *The Summa Theologiae*. Born in Italy, his mother wanted him to become a Benedictine and had high hopes that he would eventually become abbot of Monte Cassino, where he spent much of his youth. To change his vocation, she had him kidnapped by his brothers on his way to Paris at the age of 19. He spent two years in their captivity. Despite this, nothing could shake him from his vocation to become a Dominican priest and he was eventually released. Once free, he went to Paris and then to Cologne, where he finished his studies with Albert the Great.

His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, encompasses his writings. *The Summa Theologiae*, his last and, unfortunately, uncompleted work, deals with the whole of Catholic theology.

The patron saint of teachers, theologians and students, St. Thomas Aquinas died in 1274. His life and the impact he had on the whole Church, however, remains alive today.



The RCIA team presents weekly sessions on Tuesdays from 7:30—9:00 p.m. in the Parish Office Meeting Room. All adults (18+) are welcome to join us! Upcoming topics include:

- Gospels & New Testament (1/24)
- Journey through the Mass (1/31)
- Confirmation (2/7)
- Election/Scrutinies (2/14)

To inquire more about the Catholic faith, please contact **Deacon Chuck McDaniels** at **rcia@st-rita.org.**

DID YOU KNOW?

The Archdiocese continues helping survivors of sexual abuse and their families

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles affirms our continued commitment to report allegations of sexual misconduct to law enforcement, support victim-survivors in their healing journey, and protect children and the vulnerable. The Archdiocese created a website, **lacatholics.org/protect** that serves as a comprehensive tool containing resources, programs, and services for protecting children and reporting abuse. If you, or someone you know, is a victim of sexual misconduct by someone affiliated with our Church, please contact law enforcement and the **Archdiocese's Victims Assistance Coordinator** at **(213) 637-7650** or visit **lacatholics.org/reporting-child-abuse** for help and support.

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles is committed to ensuring that parishes, schools and ministries are safe places for everyone in our community. For more information about support for victim-survivors and abuse prevention and protection efforts of the Archdiocese, visit: **lacatholics.org/protect**.

PRAYER FOR PASTORAL IMPLEMENTATION

It was planted in good soil beside abundant waters, that it might yield branches and bear fruit and become a splendid vine.

—Ezekiel 17:8

Good and loving God,
We, the people of St. Rita Parish, thank you for the blessings You have graciously poured down upon us. For over 100 years You have guided our parish and for this we thank and honor You. As we work together to implement our priorities for the coming years, bless our deliberations and guide our efforts. As disciples of Jesus, assist us in our parish mission to be a community that lives by faith, is known by love and is a voice of hope. With the intercession of St. Rita, remove anything that may impede our progress and bless all that we do. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SUPPORT ST. RITA BY GIVING ONLINE

"Consider this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

Scan this QR Code with your smartphone to make an online donation. Thank you for your generosity and continued financial support!

LEAVE A LEGACY

Remember St. Rita Catholic Parish in your Will

Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

O Prince of Peace,
Once more we hear the guns of war,
Once more we see the faces
Of frightened children.

We pray for the people of Ukraine,
That they may be granted peace;
We pray for the people of Russia,
That they may demand peace;
We pray for our country,
That we may be a positive part
Of peacemaking in this world.

O Prince of Peace,
Lead us from this dark time
To a deeper understanding
Of the global human family,
So all may break bread together
In the secure embrace of peace.

Amen.

—Jane Deren, Ph.D.

St. Rita Catholic Parish is now on Instagram!

Follow us at **www.instagram.com/SaintRitaSM**

BULLETIN DEADLINE

14 days before desired publication date, during the holiday season.

bulletin@st-rita.org
(626) 355-1292 x226

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE—NEW DATE!

FEBRUARY 5 FROM 8:30 A.M.—2:30 P.M. IN O'MALLEY HALL

One pint of donated blood can save three lives—will you help? The Red Cross is sponsoring a blood drive on **Sunday, February 5**. Please visit **RedCrossBlood,org** and enter sponsor code **StRita** to sign up, or scan this QR code to schedule an appointment. You can also streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment. Give the gift of life!

KNIT & CROCHET MINISTRY

We are meeting again in person on Wednesdays from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the Parish Office meeting room. We knit and crochet items for the World Vision "Knit for Kids" program and other charities. All knitters and crocheters are invited to participate in this ministry, regardless of skill level. For complete novices, our instructor Ann Wolf will be happy to teach you how to knit or crochet. For more information, please contact **knit.crochet@st-rita.org**.

JOIN THE AUDIO-VISUAL MINISTRY

St. Rita is looking for more volunteers to assist in livestreaming the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays. No experience is necessary—training will be provided. This is a fabulous opportunity for high school students who are looking for service hours. We would ask that you would be able to serve at least once a month.

If you have any questions, or would like to join the Audio-Visual Team, please call the **Parish Office** at **(626) 355-1292**, or send an email to **reception@st-rita.org**. Thank you!

1922
2022
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OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR INCOMING TK-8TH!
January 22, 2023 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
322 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 in Gara Hall
Hamburgers & Hot Dogs will be served!
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• Extra Curricular Programs
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SAVE THE DATE
FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2023
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CALENDAR & EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
22 **3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time** Normal Mass Schedule **Preschool & CLOW**	23 **4:15p** Family Faith Formation	24 **7:30p** RCIA	25 **5:30p** EDGE Session **7p** Youth Nite **7p** The Chosen	26 **12p** Livestreamed Holy Hour **7p** Choir Rehearsal	27	28 **3:30p** Confessions
29 **4th Sunday in Ordinary Time** Normal Mass Schedule **Catholic Schools Week Kickoff**	30 **4:15p** Family Faith Formation	31 **7:30p** RCIA	1 **5:30p** EDGE Session **7p** The Chosen	2 **7p** Choir Rehearsal	3 **12p** Livestreamed Holy Hour **First Friday**	4 **3:30p** Confessions **6p** Father-Daughter Dance
5 **5th Sunday in Ordinary Time** Normal Mass Schedule **8:30a** Red Cross Blood Drive **10a** Yr1 Confirmation Session & Mass **Family Faith Sunday** **Hospitality**	6 **4:15p** Family Faith Formation	7 **7:30p** RCIA	8 **5:30p** EDGE Session **7p** Youth Nite **7p** The Chosen	9 **12p** Livestreamed Holy Hour **7p** Choir Rehearsal	10 **9a** St. Rita Guild	11 **3:30p** Confessions

NEWSNOTES: CATHOLIC COMMUNITY & LOCAL EVENTS

VALENTINE'S DINNER AND COUPLES RETREAT: FEBRUARY 11

Join us for "Grow together in Your Marriage", with Fr. Jim Clarke on Saturday, February 11 from 5:00—9:00 p.m. Come and renew your vows, listen and share in the Eucharist, enjoy a candlelight dinner, and refresh with God as a couple. Offer your shared story of the challenges and surprises of your journey together. Bring a picture of your wedding to share.

Fr. Jim Clarke is the Coordinator of Spiritual Formation for the Diaconate Formation Office, LA Archdiocese, Associate Spiritual Director at the House of Prayer for Priests and Senior lecturer at LMU. He is an author and retreat master having given retreats and workshops for over 40 years. Cost Per Couple: $130; Reservations are required. Mary & Joseph Retreat Center, 5300 Crest Road, Rancho Palos Verdes, 90275. For more information, contact **Jose Salas** at (**310) 377-4867 x250**, or visit **www.maryjoseph.org**.

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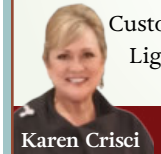

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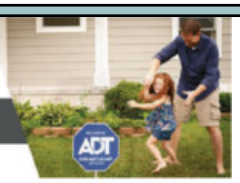

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