

St. Mary Catholic Church

Walnut Creek, California - 925-891-8900 - www.stmary-wc.org

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

25th Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

Priesthood SUNDAY

TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

MASS TIMES

Monday through Friday
6:30 am & 12:05 pm

Saturday
8:30 am

Saturday Vigil Mass
4:30 pm

Sundays
7:00 am * 9:00 am
11:00 am
1:00 pm (Spanish)

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
Saturdays 3:00-4:00 pm
In the church

DEVOTIONS

(All take place in the chapel)

Eucharistic Adoration
Mon-Fri 7 am - 8 pm
Saturdays 9 am to 4 pm

Hispanic Holy Hour
Saturdays 9 to 10 am

First Saturday Devotion
First Sat. of each month
9 to 10 am

Catholic Man Night
First Wed., 7 pm

PARISH OFFICE
2051 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Walnut Creek,
CA 94596
www.stmary-wc.org

OFFICE HOURS
8:30 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
Monday through Friday

2051 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Staff and Administration

Parish Office	925-891-8900
Fr. William Rosario, Pastor	925-891-8900 william@stmary-wc.org
Fr. Bich Nguyen, Parochial Vicar	925-891-8900 bnguyen@stmary-wc.org
Ana Lau, Office Manager	925-891-8908, alau@stmary-wc.org
Aileen Baker, Bookkeeper	925-891-8911, abaker@stmary-wc.org

Faith Formation

Administration	925-891-8939
Margaret Riley, K-Grade 5	925-891-8920, mriley@stmary-wc.org
Kiona Medina, Grades 6-12	925-891-8944, kmedina@stmary-wc.org
Heather Abraham, Confirmation	925-891-8934, habraham@stmary-wc.org
Tim Mannix, RCIA & Liturgy Coord.	925-891-8921, tmannix@stmary-wc.org

School

Office	925-935-5054, stmary@st-mary.net
Mary Caren Heffner, Principal	925-935-5054

ORGANIZATIONS

Eucharistic Adoration, Ana Lau	925-891-8908
Filipino-American Ministry, Elena Gaoiran	925-525-7089
Finance Council, Brian Mulligan	925-360-0114
Hispanic Ministry, Angeles Ron	925-856-8780
Hospital Ministry, Angeles Ron	925-856-8780
Knights of Columbus, John Cuddihy, Grand Knight	925-286-4515
Men of St. Joseph, Mike Gallagher	925-464-8118
Rosary Makers, Ana Lau	925-891-8908
St. Vincent de Paul, Barb Erickson	925-360-1679
Walking with Purpose, Mary Kerfs	925-708-6989



ST MARY SCHOOL

This week, Fifth Grade worked on their "calm down sandwich" in religion. We brainstormed ideas of things they do or can do when they need to relax, reset, and ultimately calm down. Just like a sandwich, these activities nourish our souls. Many of our fifth-graders put prayer or having private conversations with God at the top of their lists. Additionally, students completed fun puzzles with faith formation clues about how Catholics come together each week.

TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

Dear sisters and brothers,

Together with our faith formation children and their parents, we celebrated with much enthusiasm the Kickoff of the new catechetical year.

We appreciate that many parents brought their children and were present for the various events as the new faith formation year commenced. I would like to address an important issue in the faith journey of our children.

The first and most influential teachers of a child are its parents. Their words and actions have a profound impact on their children's spiritual development. They can shape and mold a child's character, values, and worldview.

As parents we have the unique opportunity to be the spiritual leaders for our children. We are the ones who can teach them about God, His love for us, and His plan for us, and that His word is the authority in our lives.

The words of Moses as he instructed the Israelites come to my mind: "These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall speak of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up." (Deut. 6:6-7) For us in the New Covenant age, this rule still applies. This includes talking to them about God and His word when we are at home, at the grocery store, doing homework, and even when we are going to bed or getting up in the morning for school or work. We are to be intentional in our instruction and make sure that our children know about the Lord and His ways. This is modeled



by example as well as instructed from the word of God.

As parents, we understand the incredible responsibility and opportunity we have to shape our children's lives spiritually. We know that providing spiritual leadership for young hearts sets a trajectory for their souls that continues on through adulthood.

As trained faith formation personnel, we realize that this may not come easily to all parents. It is here we come in as clergy and faith formation staff to guide you. We are here to walk with you this journey of faith and to assist you along the way. We are not here to replace you or to substitute you.

As this new year of faith formation begins, we commit ourselves as a parish community of clergy, staff and parents to be with your children on days of faith formation and in the weekends as they gather with you in our parish church for the Eucharist.

The best way of showing the way is walking the way with them. We pray that this journey we begin anew will last a lifetime for all of us.

With prayerful wishes and blessings,

Fr. William Rosaria



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MASS INTENTIONS

DATE	TIME	INTENTION
09/23	4:30 pm	August Kurahone
09/24	7:00 am	Gertrud Fehrer
	9:00 am	Mike Miller
	11:00 am	Geetha Burleson (L) B'D'
	1:00 pm	The People of St. Mary
09/25	6:30 am	Karin Lisboa & Lucy Lichota
	12:05 pm	Victor D'Souza
09/26	6:30 am	Cheryl La'Marre
	12:05 pm	Oscar Orpiano
09/27	6:30 am	Ted Todd
	12:05 pm	COMMUNION SERVICE
09/28	6:30 am	Richard Morris
	12:05 pm	J. J. Casas (L)
09/29	6:30 am	Len Adkerson
	12:05 pm	Oscar Orpiano
09/30	8:30 am	Arthur & Elena Gaoiran (wed ann)

FAITH FORMATION

The Faith Formation Kick Off was a huge success!
Thank you to all the families
that helped to make it so!
We are still welcoming registrations for all ministries.
Go online to www.stmary.org.
We are also welcoming anyone interested in helping
out with Children's Liturgy of the Word.
Please Contact Margaret Riley for more info:
mriley@stmary-wc.org



You are invited
to join our
Altar Server
Ministry
At St. Mary's



Come share your gifts
with our parish community!

Open to all students,
4th-graders and above.

Training sessions coming soon!

Contact Kiona Medina at the Faith For-
mation Office (925-891-8944) or
Shannon Crvarich (949-973-8046)

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

You can bring your offering to Mass, drop it off in our
parish office mailbox, or give online at
stmary-wc.org/online-giving.

If you have a QR reader app on your phone, you can
also access our donation page by scanning this code.

October 1	Parish Maintenance
October 8	The Catholic Voice
October 22	Mission Sunday
October 29	St. Vincent de Paul



TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Once I gave my three-year-old niece a certain toy for Christmas. When she opened it, she was happy. Shortly thereafter, her five-year old sister opened another present from me: the same toy, along with some play jewelry. The three-year-old cried out: "That's not fair! Why'd she get the jewelry, too?!"

Let's face it: there's something about God's grace in our religion which bugs us. We love to look at others' blessings and cry out: "That's not fair!" Catholicism is not fair in the sense that it is a religion founded on God's grace which is unmerited favor. God pours his mercy, love, and divine life upon us not because we're good but because He is infinitely good.

If you think the "not fair" quality of grace is easy to accept, consider how typically angry we get when we hear the parable of the workers who get paid way more than they deserve. The hyper-generous landowner says to the indignant hard workers, "Are you envious because I am generous?" Well, yes, they are, and so are we! Therefore, we have to reckon with this painful truth in order to move into the divine sphere of gifts, which is the world of Christ and his Church. Then we are able to move beyond a tit-for-tat world and into one where gifts are poured forth on those who don't deserve it — namely, upon us.

— Father John Muir. ©LPi



St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.
Be our protection against the wickedness
and snares of the devil;
may God rebuke him,
we humbly pray;
and do thou,
O Prince of the Heavenly Host,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan
and all the evil spirits
who prowl through the world
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS September 8-9, 15-16, 2023



I am profoundly grateful and so happy that I lived to see the day of the Eucharistic Revival Congress at our Cathedral of Christ the Light this past week.

Everything was joyfully focused on the Lord Jesus and His Real Presence among us. The speakers spoke of His greatest Gift to us and urged us to consider our response to it. The Holy Mass, Benediction and solemn procession of the Blessed Sacrament as the Lord was exalted and lifted up by and for His people on the sidewalks of Oakland was light and beauty graced by glorious music.

The most poignant experience for me came at the conclusion of the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral plaza. Bishop Barber placed the monstrance facing Lake Merritt and the city and proceeded to consecrate in the most solemn manner possible, not only the city but also the land, all the people and their belongings within the territory of his Diocese to the Lord! He invoked this ancient remedy for all of us in this our special time of need. This entire event was powerfully moving and most memorable.

Brigitte Desimone

TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN



Prayer for Priests

Lord God, most holy,
we approach you in gratitude for your holy
ordained priesthood.
You have called these men to be set apart
and to shepherd your people,
as you shepherd your entire church.
We pray for them in their daily work.
Grant to them an increase in spiritual gifts
and grace, so they may be prepared
for the tasks at hand.
Lead them not into temptation and protect
them from the grasp of the evil one.
It is through the sacraments they confer
that we encounter the divine
in a real and profound way.
May your Church never lose sight of these,
your special sons, and may we, the Body of
Christ, never fail to cherish the gift of their
lives, which they have freely given to you
and your holy church.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son.
Amen.



Celebrate our Priests!

*Thank you,
Fr. William and Fr. Bich!*



HEAVENLY FATHER, WE PRAY FOR ...

Loretta Holmes	Ed Regan	Eric Wilberg	Richard Lau	Vic Muzio
Nancie Campi	Pat O'Rourke	Sophia Gibson	Teresa Garcia	James Dufloth
Carol Erikson	David Holmes	Richard Olmstead	Henry Escano	Stephanie Wilson
Beth Wainwright	Camille Giglio	Lou Montoya	Timothy Beel	John Erickson
Danyel Sheets	Marina Rodriguez	Melanie Ezekiel	Ana Graciela Isea	Marilyn Kushner
Robin Wood	Carol Lorenzana	Ashley Mrozek	Angelina Carcueva	Anne Kavanagh
Billy Silva	Jamie Crowley	Jeremy Kemper	Eddie Brady	Esther Gamberutti
Marissa Magno	Darlene Fisher	Greg Tomlin	Barbara Ryan	Lois Belmessieri

TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul is much more than a patron saint of thrift shops! Young Vincent became a priest hoping to advance and rise above his modest upbringing. His early ambition amounted to little when he was assigned to a poor rural parish. Here he experienced a new joy in his vocation. Hearing the profound deathbed confession of a dying servant, Vincent became more convinced of the special attention that must be given to the poor. In 1625, Vincent founded the Congregation of the Mission for the purpose of caring for the poor. Originally priests only, the mission expanded to include groups of laity who provided for spiritual and material needs of the poor in each parish. Nearly 400 hundred years later, his legacy lives on! © LPi



Feast Day: Sept. 27

St. Anne's Parish 2023 Fall/Winter Coffee Chat Speaker Series

Our guest speakers for the 2023 series of talks come from various religious orders in the church who wish to share with us the particular spirituality of their respective communities. It is their desire that these talks aid you in your own spiritual journey. Come join us for this spiritual adventure and fellowship.

Oct. 9: Fr. John Ettensohn, OMI

Nov. 13: Sr. Fay Pele, FSP

Dec. 11: Fr. Michael Castori, S.J.

All lectures begin at 11:00 am in the Parish Hall

A goodwill donation of \$5.00 per person is suggested, or a Safeway gift card is always welcome.

All proceeds benefit St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank.

St. Anne's - 1600 Rossmoor Pkwy, Walnut Creek
925-932-2324 - www.stanneswc.org

Magnificat Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, September 30, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
St Raymond Church Hall, 11555 Shannon Av, Dublin

Join us to hear the personal testimony of our guest speaker, Fr. Jimmy Macalinao, Pastor of St. Perpetua Church in Lafayette.

Call Jennifer Rogers to register (503-709-8449) or email magnificatsotirsvp@gmail.com, or register online: <https://magnificat-ministry.net/chapters/chapter.states-a-c/ea-walnutcreek>



The Society of St Vincent de Paul is "a network of friends, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness

and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need."

Our main mission at **St. Mary St. Vincent de Paul** is our food pantry, but we also help neighbors in need with rent, utilities, car repair and registration, and medical bills.

Email stmary.stvdp@gmail.com or call 925-937-2817 to volunteer or for more information.

All are welcomed!

Men, there is a spiritual battle going on. Let's fight together!

Wednesday, Oct 4, 7pm
at the chapel, join other men for adoration and rosary. Fellowship after. Extra rosaries and cheat sheets available. Invite a brother!

Questions? Contact:
michaelgallagher1025@outlook.com



It's A Small World After All! Come and learn how we can advocate for Third-World countries

Norma Valdez, with Catholic Relief Services, will speak at Christ the King Parish, 199 Brandon Rd., Pleasant Hill, on **Saturday, September 23, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.** Meet in the Msgr. Wade room in the Ministry Center

Questions? Please call Carolyn Peters, 925-926-1035

TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN



25° Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

OCIOSOS. A quienes tenemos un fuerte sentido comercial, el Evangelio de hoy probablemente nos deja rascándonos la cabeza confundidos. ¿Cómo se le ocurre a cualquier jefe pagar el mismo jornal a la persona que trabajó unos pocos minutos que a la que trabajó todo el día? Esta parábola nos llama a considerar más profundamente la realidad que el relato señala. Consideremos las acciones del propietario. Sale en busca de trabajadores unas cinco veces durante el curso del día: al amanecer, a las nueve, a las doce, a las tres y a las cinco. En esta parábola Jesús nos insta a comparar las acciones del dueño con las que nuestro Dios realiza. En nuestras vidas tenemos momentos de ocio, como la gente en la parábola de hoy. Dios está siempre buscándonos, invitándonos a su viña. La perseverancia de Dios es incommensurable. Sea que respondamos en la mañana de la vida o a las “cinco de la tarde” de nuestra existencia, el amor y la misericordia de Dios, igual se derramarán sobre nosotros.

¿HAS SIDO SALVADO? Cuando estaba en la escuela secundaria, mi mejor amigo “nació de nuevo”. Cargaba una tarjetita azul en su billetera y en la tarjetita estaba escrita la fecha exacta en que él había “sido salvado”. Sabiendo que yo me había criado en la Iglesia católica romana, me preguntó: “¿En qué día fuiste salvado?” Le contesté que había sido salvado el día en que fui bautizado y que realmente esperaba continuar siendo salvado muchas otras veces durante el resto de mi vida. Un director espiritual una vez me dijo que debía esperar nacer de nuevo una y otra vez. El evangelio de hoy nos recuerda que, aun cuando nos desviamos o cuando nos volvemos indiferentes ante las grandes obras de Dios en nuestra vida, Dios sigue llamándonos a una relación de amor. Quizás es en esos momentos en que estamos ociosos que Dios nos busca aún más, llamándonos a venir a la viña de la vida nueva, con nuevas posibilidades y con una esperanza renovada. © 2007, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

Lecturas de la semana

Lunes: Esd 1, 1-6/Sal 125, 1-2. 2-3. 4-5. 6/Lc 8, 16-18
 Martes: Esd 6, 7-8. 12. 14-20/Sal 121, 1-2. 3-4. 4-5/Lc 8, 19-21
 Miércoles: Esd 9, 5-9/Tob 13, 2. 3-4. 4. 7-8/Lc 9, 1-6
 Jueves: Ag 1, 1-8/Sal 149, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6 y 9/Lc 9, 7-9
 Viernes: Dn 7, 9-10. 13-14 o Ap 12, 7-12/Sal 137, 1-2. 2-3. 4-5/Jn 1, 47-51
 Sábado: Zac 2, 5-9. 14-15/Jr 31, 10. 11-12. 13/Lc 9, 43-45
 Domingo: Ez 18, 25-28/Sal 24, 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. (6)/Flp 2, 1-11 o 2, 1-5/Mt 21, 28-32

