

# St. Mary Catholic Church

Walnut Creek, California - 925-891-8900 - [www.stmary-wc.org](http://www.stmary-wc.org)

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BE MADE  
**CLEAN.**

— MARK 1:41 —

©LPi

**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**  
**Sundays 7 am - 8 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](http://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 <a href="mailto:william@stmary-wc.org">william@stmary-wc.org</a>
Fr. Bich Nguyen, Parochial Vicar	925-891-8900 <a href="mailto:bnguyen@stmary-wc.org">bnguyen@stmary-wc.org</a>
Ana Lau, Office Manager	925-891-8908, <a href="mailto:alau@stmary-wc.org">alau@stmary-wc.org</a>
Aileen Baker, Bookkeeper	925-891-8911, <a href="mailto:abaker@stmary-wc.org">abaker@stmary-wc.org</a>
Pawel Walerowski, Music Director	925-891-8942, <a href="mailto:pawel@stmary-wc.org">pawel@stmary-wc.org</a>

## Faith Formation

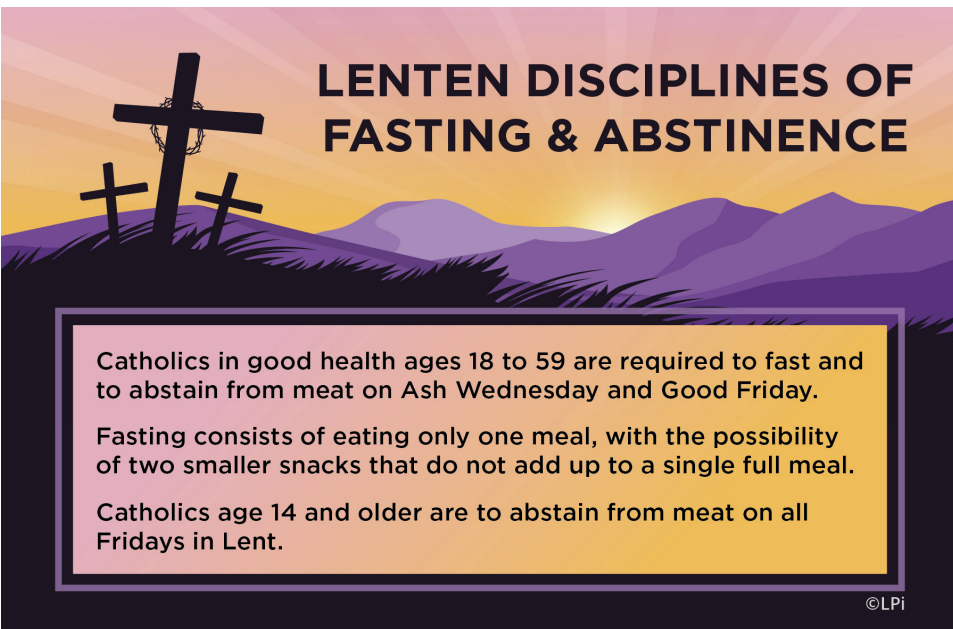
Administration	925-891-8939
Margaret Riley, K-Grade 5	925-891-8920, <a href="mailto:mriley@stmary-wc.org">mriley@stmary-wc.org</a>
Tim Mannix, RCIA & Liturgy Coord.	925-891-8921, <a href="mailto:tmannix@stmary-wc.org">tmannix@stmary-wc.org</a>

## School

Office	925-935-5054, <a href="mailto:stmary@st-mary.net">stmary@st-mary.net</a>
Mary Caren Heffner, Principal	925-935-5054

## ORGANIZATIONS

Cursillo Saturday Group, Bob Conlon	925-968-1929
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



## LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

©LPI

## TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

Dear sisters and brothers,

Happy Valentine's Day!

Love is measured in the Bible not primarily by what you want to receive and gain, but rather by how much you are willing to give of yourself to someone else for their wellness. Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13). Total, self-giving, sacrificial commitment; this is one of the most powerful expressions of love we could ever experience.

This is why the covenant of marriage is intended to serve as such a powerful display of love. In marriage one person says to the other, "I love you enough to close off all my options; I love you enough to give myself exclusively and permanently to you. I love you enough to bind myself to you, from this day, for your good, for all time."

When individuals just choose to live together in intimate relationship without getting married, are they doing so because of a hesitation to commit wholeheartedly and exclusively to the one they claim to love? Or is it that this hesitation is based on "what works for me, and I don't want to make it permanent in case things change?" Referring to the love Christ had for us, St. John would say, "Having loved his own, Jesus loved them to the end" (John 13:1).

I'm glad to share with you that many a couple has been coming forward to have their



civil marriage blessed and their union sanctified by the church's minister. I have had the joy of assisting them. Invariably, they ask for a simple wedding ceremony without any paraphernalia. What is important is that they seek God's blessing on their married life and invite him into their relationship. A good number of them are convinced that the best gift that they can give their children is their happy marriage.

True love runs deep. Marriage is about covenant love, a love that commits to the other, not on the basis of feelings, although feelings are obviously present and important, but in marriage one declares, irrespective of what one feels in the future, that he or she commits to faithfully serve their partner in love "... for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and cherish, till death do us part, according to God's holy law, and this is my solemn vow."

So, to those of you who are married: May you, with the grace of God as your foundation and hope, resolve to be the husbands and wives that God calls you to be, and may you make the glory of God, the honor of Christ and the display of the Gospel and the good of your spouse, the foundation and central goal of your marriages; for it is more blessed to give than to receive. (Acts 20:35)

Valentine's Day Wishes to all of you!

With prayerful wishes and blessings,

*Fr. William Rosario*



# TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

## MASS INTENTIONS

DATE	TIME	INTENTION
02/10	4:30 pm	Cardinal Raymond Burke (L)
02/11	7:00 am	Leah Morucci Howley (L) B'D'
	9:00 am	Louis Muzio
	11:00 am	James McDaniel Family (L)
	1:00 pm	The People of St. Mary
02/12	6:30 am	Albino Reyes
	12:05 pm	Purificacion
02/13	6:30 am	Catherine Vaccaro (L)
	12:05 pm	Marilyn Kushner
02/14	6:30 am	The People of St. Mary
School Mass	8:15 am	The People of St. Mary
	12:05 pm	The People of St. Mary
	7:00 pm	The People of St. Mary
02/15	6:30 am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
	12:05 pm	Patricia Cantrell
02/16	6:30 am	Bonnie Armstrong (L) B'D'
	12:05 pm	Cesar Bolaños
02/17	8:30 am	Phing Chin

## Readings for the Week

Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

## 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

4:30 PM Friday, Feb. 16  
TO  
4:30 PM Saturday, Feb. 17



"24 Hours for the Lord" is a Lenten initiative of prayer and reconciliation introduced by Pope Francis. All the faithful of the Oakland Diocese are invited to this 24-hour opportunity to spend time with Our Lord in Adoration and Confession. The motto chosen by the Holy Father for this year is "Walking in a new life" (Romans 6:4).

St. Mary Parish will be participating in this event starting at 4:30 pm on Friday, February 16, and ending at 4:30 pm on Saturday, February 17. Adoration will take place for those 24 consecutive hours in the Adoration Chapel. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is being offered in the church on Saturday, Feb. 17, from 2:30 to 4:00 pm.

## REPENT & BELIEVE

*Ash Wednesday*  
February 14

**MASSES:**  
6:30 AM  
8:15 AM (School Mass)  
12:05 PM  
7:00 PM (Bilingual)

©LPI

BAPTISMS in English take place on the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 am. Baptisms in Spanish take place on the third Sunday of the month during the 1:00 pm Spanish mass. Private baptisms are discouraged. To arrange a baptism, please call the parish office.



# TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

If you witnessed a miracle, wouldn't you want to tell everyone? If you saw the sun dance in the sky, a crippled man walk, or the Virgin Mary appear in front of you, wouldn't you just want to shout about it from a rooftop so all could hear? Maybe you would be afraid others would not believe you. You might choose instead to keep it to yourself to avoid criticism and ridicule. At least, if you saw a miracle, you would have a choice: to tell or not to tell.

Yet, at every Mass we witness a miracle. We witness bread and wine as it becomes the true presence of Jesus Christ. It isn't a saint or Mary appearing before us; it is actually Jesus! When was the last time you told anybody about that miracle?

It might not be easy for us to always talk about our faith, but we can show them. When we receive the Eucharist into our bodies, we become one with Christ. We go forth from the Mass as a living testimony of the miracle that occurred at Mass. People will not be able to simply look at us and see the evidence. We need to demonstrate to them the reality of this miracle by our good deeds and profound acts of charity. That is stewardship. That is bearing witness to the truth of our God being truly present to us. It is something we should want to share with everyone.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Recently I had a skin rash, and it was awful. (Please don't tell anyone.) I am embarrassed to admit that I didn't handle it well. Complaining, whining, begging for sympathy, and crying were my responses to the merciless itching and burning. In the aftermath, a silver lining emerged. I feel a new heart-felt sympathy for all those vexed with chronic skin problems. If you've ever had a seemingly unending skin problem, you know how that sympathy flows up from deep inside.



This gut-level compassion is something like what the Gospel describes in Jesus when the sore-covered leper says, "If you will it, you can make me clean." At this, just before the healing, Jesus was "moved with compassion." The Greek word used here is strong and earthy, closer to "his bowels and guts trembled with the deepest emotions of sadness, pity, and love." In Jesus, God heals our infirmities not from a divine distance but by learning what it feels like to be us. He acquires first-hand experience of what it costs us to be afflicted and still be faithful to God. He sympathizes with the burning, itching, and blistering of human existence in the deepest, first-hand way. To discover that is to touch Jesus' heart.

What in your life, right now, is breaking out like diseased skin? What is getting worse the more you try to soothe it? Perhaps only you feel it. Or maybe it's exposed to all. A bad habit, broken relationship, loneliness, fear of failure, self-hatred? Name it, and then find a way to bring it confidently to Jesus who will feel what we are feeling, and thereby heal us.

— Father John Muir. ©LPI

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

AT ST. MARY PARISH

Fridays in Lent - 6 pm English - 7 pm Spanish

FEBRUARY 16 | FEBRUARY 23  
MARCH 1 | MARCH 8  
MARCH 15 | MARCH 22

Let us walk with Christ to Calvary



JOIN US FOR SUPPER AT 6:30 PM IN THE SCHOOL GYM

©LPI

## SENIOR SOCIAL

St. John Vianney Parish extends an invitation to St. Mary parishioners to join them for their next Senior Social on Thursday, February 15, from 11:30 to 1:30. Bring a friend or make a new one and enjoy lunch with a fun-loving group. Reservations are highly encouraged by Tuesday, February 13. Please contact the Parish Office at 925-939-7911 x0, or email [staff@sjvianney.org](mailto:staff@sjvianney.org)




# TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

Join us for  
**Holy Mass**  
 with  
**Bishop Michael Barber**  
 followed by a  
**Rosary Procession**  
 to  
**Planned Parenthood.**

This is  
**My Body**  
 which is given  
**For You.**

*Pray for the end of abortion.*

**Saint Mary's Church**  
 2039 Mt Diablo Blvd,  
 Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
 Feb. 23, 2024 at 12:05pm




February 14-March 24  
**40 DAYS FOR LIFE**

**HELP SAVE LIVES!**

**OUR LENT CAMPAIGN STARTS  
 NEXT WEEK. JOIN US!**

**VIGIL LOCATION:**  
 Outside Planned Parenthood  
 1357 Oakland Blvd., Walnut Creek

**VIGIL HOURS:**  
 7 AM to 7 PM daily, except Sundays

Learn more, get involved and sign up for prayer  
 times by visiting our campaign at:  
[40daysforlife.com/walnutcreek](http://40daysforlife.com/walnutcreek)  
[friendsforlifetrivalley@gmail.com](mailto:friendsforlifetrivalley@gmail.com)  
 (925) 322-0544



A reminder that the new Policies and Liturgical Guidelines communicated by Bishop Barber are to be considered normative throughout our Diocese as of Ash Wednesday, February 14. This includes kneeling after the *Agnus Dei* (*Lamb of God*).

Volunteers are needed to help with various tasks related to our Lenten dinners on the Fridays of Lent:

- Ticket sales after mass
- Set up for dinner
- Serving
- Cleanup

If you can help, please call the Parish Office



## HEAVENLY FATHER, WE PRAY FOR ...

Billy Silva  
 Marissa Magno  
 Ed Regan  
 Pat O'Rourke  
 David Holmes  
 Camille Giglio  
 Marina Rodriguez  
 Carol Lorenzana

Jamie Crowley  
 Darlene Fisher  
 Eric Wilberg  
 Sophia Gibson  
 Richard Olmstead  
 Melanie Ezekiel  
 Jeremy Kemper  
 Greg Tomlin

Richard Lau  
 Teresa Garcia  
 Henry Escano  
 Timothy Beel  
 Angelina Carcueva  
 Eddie Brady  
 Vic Muzio  
 John Erickson

Anne Kavanagh  
 Esther Gamberutti  
 Lois Belmessieri  
 Mary Walsh  
 Arthur Gaoiran, Sr.  
 Jennifer Mary Field  
 Brianna Tappe  
 Kerri Moore

John Olson  
 Jennifer Zotti  
 Philomena Tao  
 Evelina Martins  
 Wilfredo Laredo  
 Leah Morucci  
 Becky Klemm  
 Brad Klemm

# TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

St. Mary Church  
of the Immaculate Conception



## Lenten Dinners Enjoy fellowship this Lent!

Our parish tradition of Lenten dinners returns! Each Friday, a parish ministry prepares a meal to serve immediately following the 6pm Stations of the Cross.

**Volunteers needed**

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP.](#)

**Dinner Tickets are available after Mass  
or in the office**

Adult - \$14; Season ticket \$70 (buy 5 - get 6 meals)

Child (12 & under) - \$8; Season ticket \$40  
(buy 5 - get 6 meals)

Family (2 adults & 2 children) - \$40; Season ticket \$220

VOLUNTEER



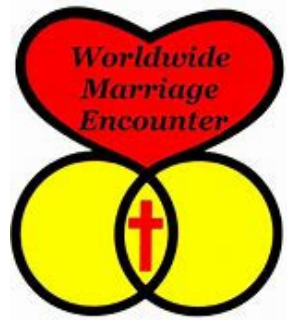
♦ Love is in the air! No matter how long you have been married, you can still have romance in your marriage.

♦ The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience gives you the tools to keep your marriage alive and vibrant.

♦ Sign up for an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on March 1-3, 2024, in Danville or on May 3-5 in San Juan Bautista or go to

<https://wwme.org/apply/> to find the date that works for you!

♦ Early registration is highly recommended. For more information, visit our website at: <https://wwme.org/apply/> to find the date that works for you!



## Do you like singing?

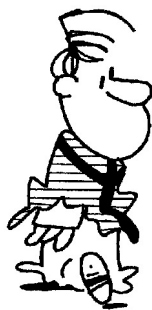
Would you like to join the choir?

Come up after any mass to speak with Pawel, or email him at:



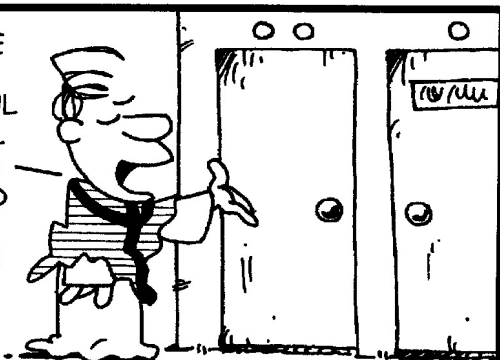
[pawelw@stmary-wc.org](mailto:pawelw@stmary-wc.org)

WHEN YOU FEEL  
UNCLEAN  
BECAUSE OF  
SIN IN YOUR  
LIFE...



isomer WEBB!  
©2003 LP; NWJD

THERE ARE  
THESE  
WONDERFUL  
SPIRITUAL  
SHOWERS  
INSTALLED  
IN EVERY  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH!



## WE ARE HIRING

OPEN POSITIONS

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS  
SUBSTITUTE INSTRUCTIONAL  
ASSISTANTS

APPLY NOW

SEND YOUR RESUME TO  
[mcheffner@csdo.org](mailto:mcheffner@csdo.org)



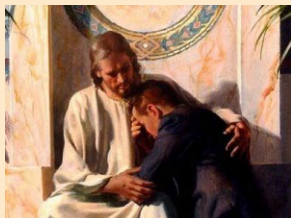


# TO KNOW AND LOVE CHRIST, AND MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

## ¿Perdona Dios el aborto?

¿Pueden ser perdonados la madre, el padre, el médico por un aborto?

Para la gente de fe, toda conversación sobre la pecaminosidad humana debe guiarnos siempre a reflexionar sobre la misericordia de Dios. Esta misericordia es mas grande que cualquier pecado, y por eso la Iglesia declara que las personas involucradas en el pecado del aborto pueden reconciliarse con Dios y la Iglesia. Para ayudar a hacer esta gracia más disponible a través del Sacramento de la Reconciliación, en el año 2016 el Papa Francisco extendió el permiso para absolver a alguien del pecado del aborto a todos los sacerdotes.



Aun con la gracia y las bendiciones del Sacramento de la Reconciliación, la tragedia del aborto y las secuelas del aborto afectan a todos los involucrados. Los ministerios de ayuda y apoyo, como el Proyecto Rachel, ofrecen consejería pastoral, grupos de apoyo, retiros y otras formas de asistencia. Como cristianos, también estamos llamados a ayudar a promover esta sanación y reconciliación en todas sus formas. Para obtener más información, visite [www.hopeafterabortion.com](http://www.hopeafterabortion.com).

©LPi

## Lecturas de la Semana

**Lunes:** Sant 1, 1-11/Sal 118, 67. 68. 71. 72. 75. 76/Mc 8, 11-13

**Martes:** Sant 1, 12-18/Sal 93, 12-13. 14-15. 18-19/Mc 8, 14-21

**Miércoles:** Jl 2, 12-18/2 Cor 5, 20—6, 2/Sal 50, 3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 14 y 17/Mt 6, 1-6. 16-18

**Jueves:** Dt 30, 15-20/Sal 1, 1-2. 3. 4 y 6/Lc 9, 22-25

**Viernes:** Is 58, 1-9/Sal 50, 3-4. 5-6. 18-19/Mt 9, 14-15

**Sábado:** Is 58, 9-14/Sal 85, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/Lc 5, 27-32

**Domingo:** Gn 9, 8-15/Sal 24, 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 (ver 10)/1 Pe 3, 18-22/Mc 1, 12-15

## Sexto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

En la actualidad, a pesar del avance de la medicina, existen enfermedades incurables. ¿Cuáles son las enfermedades incurables ahora? ¿De qué padece-mos? ¿Quiénes son los leprosos actuales? ¿Qué personas son las expulsadas de la ciudad y de la sociedad? En tiempos de Jesús, era la lepra; los enfermos, al adquirir está enfermedad, eran expulsados de la ciudad y no podían acercarse a las personas sanas. Hoy, Jesús sigue haciendo milagros de todo tipo, sigue curando, tocando y aliviando a los necesitados. Acercarse al pobre significa luchar y comprometerse con su persona para que salga de su pobreza y enfermedad. ¿Cómo tocamos y ayudamos a los que sufren en la sociedad actual?



La curación del leproso del Evangelio nos dice que Jesús toco al leproso sin temor a contagiarse. Su compasión se muestra en el diálogo entre ambos: «Se le acercó un leproso, que se arrodilló ante él y le suplicó: “Si quieres, puedes limpiarme”. Sintiendo compasión, Jesús extendió la mano y lo tocó diciendo: “Quiero, queda limpio”» (Marcos 1, 40-41). Jesús viola las reglas al tocar al leproso; lo importante en este caso era la empatía, la compasión. Lo que hizo Jesús le traerá consecuencias fatales, pues violar la ley no era aceptable. El acercamiento con respeto a los enfermos significa una muestra de amor grande para ellos. Salgamos de nuestra burbuja, busquemos a los que sufren, que, con seguridad, están en nuestras familias y entre nuestros amigos. ¡No seamos indiferentes a su sufrimiento! ©LPi



## ¿Quieres salvar tu matrimonio?

Con Retrouvaille hay esperanza de sanar, perdonar y restaurar su relación. Dense la oportunidad de vivir un fin de semana en pareja y descubrirán que todavía vale la pena luchar por su matrimonio. Nuestro próximo fin de semana tendrá lugar los días 1, 2 y 3 de marzo en Milpitas, California. Para más información, comuníquense con nosotros al 510-395-5077 o 510-626-7698, o escribiendo a [retrouvaillesfspanol@yahoo.com](mailto:retrouvaillesfspanol@yahoo.com)  
**¡ANIMENSE! SE MERECE UNA NUEVA OPORTUNIDAD**