

live  the
faith

Pray Gratefully - Serve Responsibly - Give Generously



St. Joseph's Catholic Church
a Stewardship Parish

Volume 5, Issue 1 March & April 2017

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Golden Jubilee!

Fr. Mark's Pastor's Message:

St. Joseph's Church began fifty years ago. When I reflect on this I think back on what the word "church" has meant to me in my life. My earliest memories of "church" are of my parents taking me to Sunday Mass at Presentation Parish in Stockton. I have sweet memories of the dark interior of the church, the baptistery, the beautiful crucifix, the old confessionals, and the altar rail where I would kneel for hours looking at the beautiful statues. One Sunday my mother pointed to an altar boy and asked me if I would like to be an altar boy myself. I looked up and asked "Do you get paid for that?" Eventually I did become a volunteer altar server and I came to know the priests and the musty smell of the sacristy. I always tell people that I became a priest because I loved the smell of the stale Holy Water inside of Presentation Church.



Presentation Church is similar to our St. Joseph's church in that it was originally built as a social hall with the intention of later building a real church. But eventually it was decided to make do and remodel the interior to make it more "churchy". The result was a church which was sufficiently beautiful to inspire my young heart to love the things of God. And I'm sure all of us will agree that St. Joseph's church now has a beauty that has inspired several generations of Modesto Catholics. In 1999 an arsonist set fire to the sanctuary of Presentation Church and then it no longer smelled of Holy Water but only of smoke. So the church was torn down and finally the people of North Stockton built a real church. St. Joseph's Church originally smelled of pizza! For the first two years Mass was celebrated in "Pappy's Pizza Parlor" which was at the corner of Oakdale Rd. and Scenic Ave. It all began for us on October 11, 1967 when it was officially announced to the parishioners

50 Years of Blessings

of Our Lady of Fatima Church that their parish would henceforth be divided so that those who lived East of Sunrise Avenue would be part of the new parish which did not yet have a church building. If you were a part of the origin of St. Josephs Catholic Church please contact us at 209-551-4937.

What is a "church"? A church is more than just a building but is the assembly of God's people who are called out of the world. We form one Body with Jesus Christ as the head (1Cor. 12:27). On Earth the Pope is the head of the universal Catholic Church, the bishop is the head of a local church, and the pastor is the head of the parish. The Catholic Church is 2000 years old and we have many ancient laws which are preserved in the Code of Canon Law. Recently I dusted off my Canon Law book and opened it to see what it says about a "parish". It says "A parish is a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in a particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor..." (Canon 515) It then goes on to describe all of the "pastoral care" which must be provided in a parish. It is list of things that a pastor could easily accomplish back in the days when there was a parish priest in every tiny village:

"A pastor is obliged to make provision so that the word of God is proclaimed in its entirety to those living in the parish; for this reason, he is to take care that the lay members of the Christian faithful are instructed in the truths of the faith, especially by giving a homily on Sundays... He is to have particular care for the Catholic education of children and youth... and those who have ceased the practice of their religion... The pastor is to see to it that the Christian faithful are nourished through the devout celebration of the sacraments and, in a special way, that they frequently approach the sacraments of the Most Holy Eucharist and penance. He is also to endeavor that they are led to practice prayer even as families... A pastor is to strive to know the faithful entrusted to his care. Therefore he is to visit families, sharing especially in the cares, anxieties, and griefs

of the faithful, strengthening them in the Lord... With generous love he is to help the sick, particularly those close to death, by refreshing them solicitously with the sacraments and commending their souls to God; with particular diligence he is to seek out the poor, the afflicted, the lonely, those exiled from their country... He is to work so that spouses and parents are supported..." (Canons 528-529)

We would need ten priests to obey this law of knowing and caring for every lost sheep in the flock! It is easy to see why we need to divide parishes and encourage more vocations to the priesthood! The Code of Canon law does, however, provide a bit of practical advice on how the pastor can accomplish this huge task: "A pastor is to recognize and promote the proper part which the lay members of the Christian faithful have in the mission of the Church..." (Canon 529) This means that lay people are also stewards who are responsible for part of the work! During the fifty years of our history there have been only three pastors: Fr. Anthony McManus (1967-1970), Fr. Cornelius DeGroot (1970-1975), Fr. Joseph O'Hare (1975-2000), Fr. Joseph Illo (2001- and myself, Fr. Mark Wagner (2012-present). These pastors have been assisted by other priests, but the work has been supported by the hard work and sacrificial giving of our lay parishioners.

March 1 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of our time of Lenten prayer and sacrifice. It is a good time to remember the sacrifices of all those who have built up our parish by praying gratefully, serving responsibly and giving generously.

Fr. Mark

Visit Fr. Mark's blog...

www.stjmod.com/fr-marks-blog.html





Pray Gratefully. Serve Responsibly. Give Generously.

INITIATE 2017

"THOSE WHO LOVE ME
I ALSO LOVE, AND THOSE
WHO SEEK ME FIND ME"
PROVERBS 8:17

A RETREAT
FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEENS
INITIATING THEM
INTO THE HEART OF GOD

MAR 17-19



We Are STJYOUTH

**We are in the midst of an epidemic
and the statistics prove it.**

More and more teens are turning to drugs and alcohol to cope with the stresses of every day lives. They search and search for love but all in the wrong places. YET millions of teens around the world are finding purpose, fulfillment, and happiness as they attend Church Youth Groups every week. They make new friends, become better sons and daughters, and most importantly, come close to Jesus Christ. But ask those teens when the defining moment of their faith was and 8 out of 10 of them will respond, "A Retreat".

But why?

Retreats take them away from their everyday lives, social media, school, and relationship drama, and puts them in an environment that allows them to slow down and reflect on the most important things in life: Family, their personal worth, and of course, Jesus Christ. We hope you or your teen can join us at our Initiate Retreat and witness your teen go through a powerful transformation in Christ.

Contact: Mitchell Narvasa
Email: mnarvasa@stjmod.com
Phone: (209) 661-8826

Parish School of Religion

Registration Information

All fees and forms are required at time of registration:

- 1 Student: \$90 (total), 2 Students: \$120 (total), 3 or more Students: \$140 (total)
- If Baptized - Baptism Certificate is required
- If not Baptized - Birth Certificate is required
- If completed Communion Certificate is required
- If transferring schools - Parish Transfer Letter is required

Registrations will all be done
in person at the Hall on the
following dates/times
(first come, first served):

- April 4 9am - 1pm
- April 6 6pm - 8pm
- April 11 9am - 1pm
- April 22 9am - 1pm
- April 25 9am - 1pm

Questions: 209-661-8818
eaguilar@stjmod.com

IMPORTANT

*Registrations will only be done in person and will not be accepted in any other form (e.g., online, mailed, emailed, over the phone, handed in to parish office, etc.) or at any other times (unless announced). Please plan ahead.

Adoration Chapel Renovation



Over 1,200 Adorers! Are you one?

Our beautiful Perpetual Eucharistic Chapel benefited from a January remodeling that included **newly upholstered pews**. Rudy and Glenda Espinoza, left, were the donors for this project, which will provide a peaceful and comfortable place for visitors, hourly adorers and those who sit in the Chapel during Sunday Mass.

“Our Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is a place of total peace. You feel a real love and appreciation for Christ. It improves your prayer life and you have a chance and opportunity to read, meditate and pray over scripture and other materials. You can really get close to God and receive a clear understanding of what scripture means.”

– Rudy and Glenda Espinoza

If you have been thinking about offering an hour of your week, or perhaps serving as a substitute hourly adorer, please call Monica at 527-4920. Please remember that the key pad code is only to be used by those who have signed the Adorer Agreement. If you have the code but have not signed the Agreement in the parish office, the office staff will be happy to help you with this. This holy and peaceful Chapel on our church property should always be used reverently, with no water or food, unless water is needed for medical reasons.



If you would like to help with a special project at our church, please contact the Director of Operations at 209.551.4973, x 207, or simply visit www.stjmod.com and make a direct contribution.



LifeTouch

Are you registered at St. Joseph's?

Be a part of the **LIMITED EDITION**

GOLDEN JUBILEE DIRECTORY

Sign up to reserve your **FREE** family photo shoot!

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

GOLDEN JUBILEE



A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

OUR MISSION:
TO EVANGELIZE GOD'S PEOPLE BEGINNING
WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

St. Joseph's Golden Jubilee has begun! In honor of our jubilee year, we are producing a free, limited edition Golden Jubilee parish directory. Sign up and reserve your photo session time and, you receive two free gifts: an 8"x10" professional photo and the Limited Edition directory. Be a part of the special St. Joseph's book!

Sign up

1. online at www.STJMOD.com
2. on the Plaza March 11&12
3. or call the parish office at 551-4973

Don't miss out on being a part of the St. Joseph's Family History!

St. Joseph's Events Calendar

March Events



K of C Lenten Fish Dinners Fridays, 5-7pm

in Fr. O'Hare Hall

Tickets in the office, on the Plaza,
at the door or www.kofc10644.com

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Concluding with a Soup Dinner
April 7



Bishop's Ministry Appeal

Are you a part of the 1,000
participating families? Help us
reach our goal by giving a gift
to the BMA and selecting
St. Joseph's Modesto.

www.stocktondiocese.org

St. Joseph's Feast Day March 20 5:45 mass

STJ Awards, potluck
on the Plaza after Mass



March Events

Parish Lenten Penance Service



Wednesday, March 22, 7pm

April Events



FREE Parish Movie Night Saturday, April 22 7pm in Fr. O'Hare Hall



Golden Jubilee Directory Photo dates

April 18-22
May 2-6
June 6-10
Sign up today!



Save the date Blessings Breakfast Saturday, May 6

HOLY WEEK APRIL 9-16, EASTER

Chrism Mass, Cathedral, Stockton April 6, Thursday, 6:00pm,
There is no 5:45pm Mass at St. Joseph

Palm Sunday: April 9, Sunday

Sunday Masses regular schedule, 9:00am – Novos Ordo
1:30pm Spanish Mass, procession with the palms

Holy Thursday: April 13, Thursday

8:00am – Tenebrae, 6:00pm Sacred Music Concert
Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00pm – Church, English; 7:30pm - Hall, Spanish

Good Friday: April 14, Friday

8:00am - Walk for Life at East Ridge Community Church, Prayer Service at St. Joseph's
8:00am – Tenebrae
12:00 noon – Live Stations of the Cross
1:30pm – Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
3:00pm – Divine Mercy Novena starts
6:00pm – Our Lady of Sorrows (Spanish)
7:30pm – Stations of the Cross, Church

Holy Saturday: April 15, Saturday

8:00am – Tenebrae, 8:30pm – Easter Vigil: Church – English, Hall-Spanish

Easter Sunday: April 16, Sunday

6:00am (sunrise Mass –front lawn), 7:30am, 9:00am TLF, 10:30am (Church),
10:30am (Hall), 12:00noon, 1:30pm (Spanish), 5:30pm
Office closed on Monday, April 17, but there will be 8:00am and 5:45pm Masses





ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
 1813 Oakdale Road
 Modesto, CA 95355

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



LENTEN MISSION

THE FIRST WORD OF JESUS & THE FOUR GOSPELS

MARCH 5-8

SUNDAY MARCH 5: 7PM
 "THE TIME HAS COME" MARK 1:15

MONDAY MARCH 6: 7PM
 "LET IT BE LIKE THIS FOR NOW" MATTHEW 3:15

TUESDAY MARCH 7: 7PM
 "WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?" JOHN 1:38

WEDNESDAY MARCH 8: 7PM
 "WHY WERE YOU LOOKING FOR ME?" LUKE 2:49



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm Sundays: 7:30am, 9am (Latin), 10:30am, 12noon, 1:30pm (Español), 5:30pm & 7:30pm

DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday 8am & 5:45pm;
 Friday TLF @ 12 Noon; Saturdays 8am

CONFESSION

Monday through Thursday 5-5:30pm
 Fridays 6:30-7:30pm during Holy Hour
 Saturdays 8:30-9:30am & 4-5pm

Homebound please call 551-4973 for a priest to visit you by appointment.

Our Parish Mission:

To Evangelize God's People Beginning with the Gift of the Holy Eucharist.



www.facebook.com/stjmod



Retreat



RETREAT IS FREE - NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY
 FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED BY SHALOM WORLD
 FREE WILL OFFERING

MAR 25 SATURDAY
 04.00 PM - 09.30 PM

FR. O'HARE HALL, ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

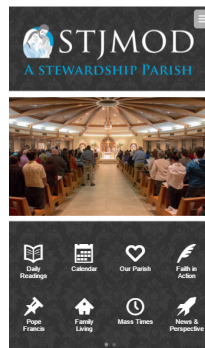




MISIÓN CUARESMAL:
 Reflexionar
 Perdonar
 Orar

23-24, DE MARZO EN ESPAÑOL
7:30PM EN LA IGLESIA

Con el Padre Juan Diaz Vilar
 En la Iglesia St. Joseph's
 1813 Oakdale Road, Modesto

STJMOD is the official app for St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Modesto, CA. It is designed to provide parishioners with a powerful tool for communication, collaboration, and ministry.

www.stjmod.com