



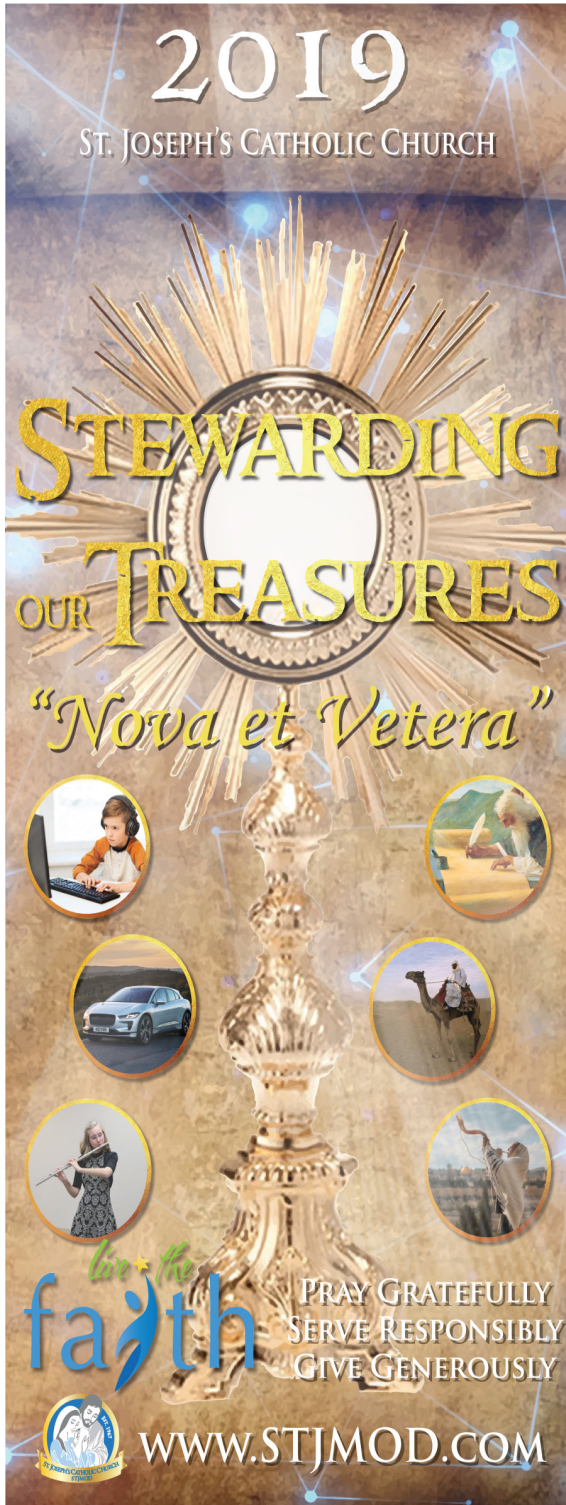
live  the  
faith

Pray Gratefully - Serve Responsibly - Give Generously

St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
*a Stewardship Parish*

Volume 7, Issue 3, May, & June, July 2019

## Treasures New And Old



The Catholic Church has many beautiful treasures, new and old, which she freely gives to her children. There is beautiful artwork for us to see, ancient documents for us to read, wonderful stories for us to hear, and nourishing sacraments for us to receive.

In a few short days, I experienced treasures both new and old. Recently, I went to a beautiful Mass at my favorite church, Cathedral in Stockton, which is my home parish and where my parents live. It has beautiful, colored stained-

glass windows with glorious images of Mary; it was built to replace the aging "St. Mary's" downtown, to be the "New St. Mary's." Eventually the bishop decided not to tear down the "Old St. Mary's," and the new church was renamed "Annunciation Cathedral," while the downtown church got stuck with the name "Old St. Mary's." Every year on the Thursday before Holy Week there is a special Mass called the "Chrism Mass" when the bishop blesses the holy oils which are used for the sacraments throughout the year. All of the priests of the diocese concelebrate and make their annual renewal of the priestly promises which they made on the day of their ordination (obedience to the bishop and his successors, celibacy and daily prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours). For this Mass, the Cathedral is always packed with enthusiastic Catholics who sing loudly! It seems like the building is filled with the Holy Spirit because all of us were anointed with those sacred oils when we were baptized, confirmed and ordained to the priesthood.

A few days later, on Palm Sunday, I made an announcement at the end of Mass that seemed like bad news. I said: "Today a couple from our parish lost their son." I broke the uncomfortable silence by saying: "Today their son entered a monastery to become a monk!" It was a beautiful but sad day for his parents, Richard and Maria Braun, when their son Nicolas entered the Monks of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel in Wyoming.



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Please e-mail us with your comments: [livethefaith@stjmod.com](mailto:livethefaith@stjmod.com)

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**On the Cover: 2018 Corpus Christi Procession**

## "Nova et Vetera"

They will only be allowed to visit him once a year. Besides praying, these are "cowboy monks" who wear ten gallon hats and rustle cattle! They also roast "Mystic Monk" gourmet coffee beans which they sell online. In addition, they are using modern building techniques to build a huge Gothic Church and monastery in the middle of nowhere. In the Middle Ages it took centuries to carve similar buildings out of stone, but three dozen monks have completed this



amazing project using laser beams to cut and carve huge blocks of stone.

The following day the world was shocked to see the ancient Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris go up in flames. The roof burned, the spire fell, and many medieval treasures were charred. But life goes on. New churches rise up in the wilderness. The Catholic Church will rise up from her ashes. In truth, the Church is not made of ancient stonework and stained glass. The Church is more than antique statues and ancient artifacts. The Church is made up of living stones, washed and anointed so that we become God's temple: "You were washed, you were sanctified... Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you... So glorify God in your body (1Cor. 6:11,19; 1Peter 2:5).

The work of the Church goes on. We must become saints. Next month is the month of May, the month of "Notre Dame" ("Our Lady"). She gives us the graces of her son. On June 9 we will celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, the celebration of our belief that the Holy Spirit fills us and inflames us with a fire that can recreate society.

One modern woman from North America is well on the way to becoming a saint: Concepcion "Conchita" Cabrera de Armida (1862- 1937) will be beatified on May 4 at a special Mass in Mexico City. I will be in attendance with a large group of parishioners. Conchita seemed to be an ordinary wife and mother,



but she was transformed by many extraordinary mystical experiences. After her husband died she became the foundress of the order of nuns who have a convent here in Modesto. She saw the vision of the special Cross which we have erected in front of our parish buildings on Lancey Drive.

The Spirit has also been at work in the life of another young man from our parish who will be ordained a priest on June 9 at the Cathedral in San Francisco. Michael Rocha received his sacraments and his inspiration from our St. Joseph's Parish, where his mother is still a parishioner. Deacon Michael (soon to be Fr. Michael!) has participated in many of our liturgies over the years and we are proud that St. Joseph's has produced another vocation for the Church. The photo below shows Michael receiving a chalice from parishioner Marya Pimental. Deacon Michael will be serving in the Diocese of San Francisco. We will still look forward to those days when he is visiting his mom in Modesto so that he can also visit his home parish at St. Joseph's.



Let us pray for Michael and for Nico who have discovered the treasures of our Catholic faith and have chosen to give up everything to obtain it. May all of us learn to "live the faith" and become new saints for the Church!

*Fr. Mark*

Visit Fr. Mark's blog...

[www.stjmod.com/fr-marks-blog.html](http://www.stjmod.com/fr-marks-blog.html)





Article coauthored by Fr. Mark and Virginia Coffman

**What is an annulment?** Many people are unclear about what is meant by this Catholic word. It is a very Catholic concept which does not exist in any other religion. Some people think that it is simply the Catholic word for divorce, but this is not true. Once you understand it, you will see that it is actually a precious treasure that is provided to us by our Catholic Church law. Annulment allows people to experience hope and healing after the tragic wound of divorce.

**The entire law of the Church- called “the Code of Canon Law”** is a great treasure that comes to us from the ancient wisdom of the Church. Our country has codes of law, some of which are over two hundred years old. Our Code of Canon Law is two thousand years old! It is constantly being revised and expanded, but the important laws have never changed. We should be as grateful for the gift of our Catholic laws, just as the Jews were grateful to God for their laws: “This great nation is truly a wise and understanding people...”



## Just the Facts:

For what great nation has statutes and ordinances that are as just as this whole law which I am setting before you today?” (Deuteronomy 4:6-8)

### Annulment is a gift of love.

It acknowledges that our efforts at love are sometimes weak and uninformed. We all think we know love, but perhaps we were too young to truly understand love as God wants us to participate in it. We all make mistakes. Annulments are a process provided by Holy Mother Church so that we can continue to live in a state of grace and continue to receive the gift of the Holy Eucharist every Sunday.

### Annulment isn’t Catholic divorce.

It is a declaration that the marriage was never a true marriage. There was a marriage, of course. We do not deny that it was a marriage. We call it a “civil marriage” or a “common-law marriage” or an “attempted marriage.” We do not use derogatory words about the children born of the marriage. The Church teaches that annulment does not affect the children at all. Annulment is simply a process of discovering and proving that the marriage was not a sacramentally binding marriage. It is a detailed study of the marriage which attempts to discover reasons why the person is not required to return to the former spouse; this must be proven.

### In the civil law of our country, a person is innocent until proven guilty.

According to Canon Law, a marriage is valid until proven otherwise. The Catholic attitude is that a person who has been married by a priest should always assume that the marriage is valid. Sometimes a spouse is abandoned or abused and a separation is necessary. Sometimes a restraining order is necessary to ensure the health and safety of the offended spouse. Sometimes a legal separation or a legal divorce is necessary to force the spouse to fulfill their financial obligations. Nevertheless, a spouse should pray for the conversion of the other spouse. They made a promise of love forever. Sometimes the Catholic attitude is to remain single and leave a lamp burning by the window in hope that the spouse would change and return home.

# Annulments

Many people think that once a divorce happens, they can no longer receive Holy Communion.

This is not true. It is only when the person tries to remarry or to live together with a third person that there is question of not being able to receive Communion. When the person is insisting on committing adultery, as Jesus said: "But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery." (Matthew 5:32- the word "unchastity" here referred to an illicit marriage due to incest, etc.)



If you need to petition for an annulment here at St. Joseph's Parish, the process is simple.

We try to make it easy to understand by explaining it twice. First, you call the parish office and make an appointment with Fr. Mark or with any priest so that the priest can explain the process and give you a packet of questions which you will have to answer in writing. There are six pages of questions which you must answer about your marriage. Next, you make an appointment to meet with a tribunal aide, who is a layperson from our parish who will explain the process to you again and help you along the way. There are two people who will help you understand how to fill out the questionnaires properly. Once the questionnaires have been properly filled out, they are submitted to the Marriage Tribunal of the Diocese of Stockton. There are fees which help offset the expenses of running the Tribunal office, but consideration is given if you cannot afford it or need to make delayed payments. The process takes time (usually a year or more), but it is worth the effort because of the hope of receiving declaration of nullity which would allow a future marriage.

It is sometimes possible for the person to remarry if they obtain an annulment.

A divorced Catholic has the right according to Canon Law to ask the Church to do an investigation into the marriage to find out whether the marriage was sacramentally invalid from the beginning. The proper term for this is "declaration of nullity" because the Church cannot "annul" a marriage, but only studies it to discover if it was always null and invalid from the beginning. Sometimes a negative decision is rendered if it cannot be proven that the marriage was contracted invalidly (because of immaturity, deception, lack of due discretion, etc.)

In the next issue of Live the Faith we will look in more detail about the process of meeting with our parish tribunal aide and then submitting paperwork to the Marriage Tribunal of the Diocese of Stockton.



## St. Joseph's Award Recipients

Congratulations to

**James & Susann Coleman**

for receiving the 2019 St. Joseph's Award.

Thank you for supporting the mission of the parish and Living the Faith as stewards of the Catholic Church.

### Catholic Young Adults Local Event



Save the Date  
**Saturday  
July 13**

**Location:  
St. Stanislaus School**

1416 Maze Blvd, Modesto, CA 95351

Sanctus Cup is a one-day young Adult fellowship events. We will be participating in some fun competitive games, have Mass, and meet our fellow Catholics in the area.

## Young Adults

Calling all young adults ages 18 to 35ish. The Second annual Sanctus Cup is taking place on Saturday, July 13! Sanctus Cup is an annual event for all Catholic young adults in Modesto, and surrounding cities. We will have Mass, food, fun, fellowship, and competitive games. Register online at [sanctuscup.com](http://sanctuscup.com) or for more information visit Sanctus Cup on Facebook or Instagram. We look forward to seeing you there!

[facebook.com/sanctuscup](https://facebook.com/sanctuscup)

[instagram.com/sanctuscup](https://instagram.com/sanctuscup)

[www.sanctuscup.com](http://www.sanctuscup.com)

Also check out the St. Joseph's young adults at:

[facebook.com/stjmodya](https://facebook.com/stjmodya)

## *The Psalms: From the Temple to the Mass*

Tuesdays: April 30 - May 21, 6:30pm in JP II Room 11

This class will take a look at the Psalter, from the big picture of its organization, and how it was finally put together, to the details of the most important psalms to know.

## “Digging for Treasure” 2019 Vacation Bible Retreat

Note: The Vesey Family led our Vacation Bible Retreat for many years and many, many St. Joseph's children enjoyed their week with them. Later, many served as teen helpers.

Please meet Hanna Mafnas, our new Vacation Bible Retreat leader!



### Why did you agree to become the 2019 VBR Ministry Leader?

*“My church asked me to help and I said “yes.” Not only because I wanted to fill a need, but also because I really do love children. I feel we can teach children to find the joy in our faith by making learning fun. That’s where VBR comes in.”*

### What other ways do you say “yes” to serving in your church?

*“I’ve been a catechist (2nd and 3rd grades) for several years; serve in Children’s Liturgy of the Word, and I am on the Many Hands, Many Hearts, One Mission Gala Committee. Outside of St. Joseph’s, I also serve as the newsletter coordinator for the Catholic Social Services Guild.”*

### When you’re not serving in your parish or greater Catholic community, what are you doing?

*“I am a full-time mother to my son, Jayden, and a store manager for Federal Express.”*

### What are you doing for fun?

*“I love day hikes, road trips, going to basketball games with my son, and unwinding with good books. I like to learn to play musical instruments; I am currently learning the harp, ukelele and piano. Fun is also being able to sit by myself and read. For me, learning new things is fun! “*

### What kinds of surprises do you have for this year’s VBR?

*“If I tell you, it’s not a surprise! Seriously, scavenger hunts and dance activities are a few, but I can’t tell you all of them. THERE IS A STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT A PIRATE WILL SHOW UP.”*



### HOW CAN OUR PARISH HELP YOU SUCCEED?

By helping! We need kitchen snack helpers, check in volunteers and lots of other activities. Even if you can't be there during the week, you can help prep materials or even set up. I know my fellow parishioners will help, because we all want to say “yes” whenever we can. Please call the Lay Apostolate Office and let them know you want to help. **I will contact you. Call 209-551-4973 x 202**

# St. Joseph's Events Calendar

## May Events

### Blessings Breakfast

May 4 (See page 5)

Responding to God's Blessings Free Breakfast, Children's Art and Children's Cherubim Concert Enjoy a delicious, free breakfast cooked by our Knights of Columbus and be greeted by our parish leadership.

### Coronation of Our Lady

May 4, 5:30pm Mass

All children of all ages invited to partake in the procession.



Children ages 7-14 invited to be part of the Coronation ensemble. 6 children will be selected via lottery to carry the crown, ribbons and carry out the crowning. Those desiring to be in the ensemble must be present at a 4pm practice May 4. All families are encouraged to participate.

### Parish Scholarship Awards



May 5,

5:30pm Mass

### First Holy Communion

May 11: 10am, 1pm

### Mothers Day!

May 12: Mothers get a special prayer card.

### Spanish First Holy Communion

May 19: 12 Noon

### KofC Omelet Breakfast

May 19: 7am-12noon

### Monday May 30th Memorial Day office closed

## June Events

### St. Joseph's Indian Prayer Group Retreat

June 7-9 - Open to all!

A retreat that will *shine the light of Christ* into your heart and lead you to forgiveness, freedom and healing!

# Shalom Retreat

MODESTO

*I Came that they may* **HAVE** *and have it* **ABUNDANTLY**  
John 10:10

Speakers: Fr. George Anthony, Sr. Ramis Mathew, Luigi Vessio, Alex Anthony, Maritina Da Silva

Music

**JUN 07 08 09**  
2019 05PM-09PM 10AM-06PM 10AM-06PM

**FR. OHARE HALL, ST JOSEPHS CHURCH**  
1813 Oakdale Rd, Modesto, CA 95355 1813 Oakdale Rd, Modesto, CA 95355

### Fathers Day!

June 16: Fathers get a special prayer card.



## June Events

### Confirmation Mass

June 19, 6pm Mass

### Summer Music Camp

June 20-22 (9am-12noon)

### Sacred Heart Novena

June 20-28. After 8am&5:45 Mass

### Corpus Christi Procession

June 22 ( See back page)

### Vacation Bible Retreat

June 24-28, 8:30am-12Noon

### Confirmation Mass

June 25, 6pm Mass

### Knights of Columbus Firework Sale

June 28 - July 4

## July Events

### July 4th

Parish office is closed

## Save the Date

### "We Love St. Joseph's Parish Clean Up Day"

BBO lunch included

August 3



## STJMOD Development Committee Event Annual "Responding to God's Blessings" Celebration

Each May we reflect on the many ways God has blessed us, our families and how we individually and as a parish have blessed others.

(Prepared by our Knights of Columbus & Ministry Leaders)



## May 4, 8am - 11am Free Breakfast Pancakes, Eggs, Sausages!

Thank you for supporting God's work by Praying Gratefully,  
Serving Responsibly and Giving Generously.

ST. JOSEPH'S PRESENTS

# VACATION BIBLE RETREAT



PARABLES

REVEALED

JUNE 24 THRU

JUNE 28, 2019

8:30AM - 12PM

FR. O'HARE HALL

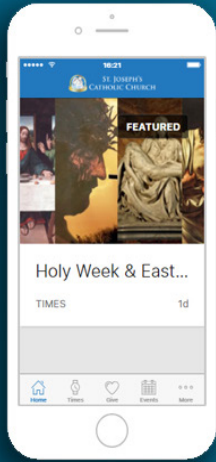
Children in grades TK thru 6th are invited to join us as we share Bible stories, games, crafts, snacks, and other activities that will help us dig deeper to reveal the treasures in Jesus's parables. The cost is \$20 per child, or \$60 per family of 3 or more. All participants will receive a t-shirt. Register at St. Joseph's Parish Office



**Volunteers Needed**

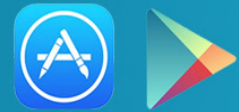
Apply at the Parish Office

Contact (209) 551-4973 with questions  
[www.STJMOD.com](http://www.STJMOD.com)



## NEW STJMOD APP UPGRADES

- DYNAMIC HOME SCREEN
- EVENT INFORMATION
- WATCH VIDEOS
- MASS/CONFESSION TIMES
- BULLETIN AND MORE



**I**  **ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**BLESSING'S**



## ANNUAL PARISH CLEAN-UP DAY

Show your **love** for St. Joseph's as we come together to clean, fix, update and repair, our parish, our home.

### SATURDAY AUGUST 3

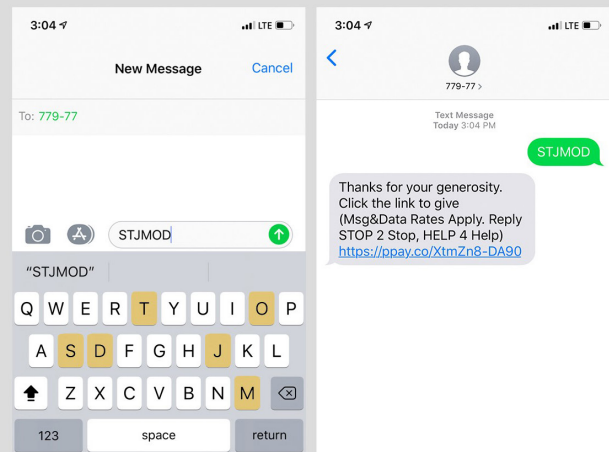
BEGINS WITH 8AM MASS  
8:30AM BREAKFAST

**Project time:** 9am-12:00pm  
**BBQ Lunch:** 12:00-1:00pm  
**Clean up:** 1:00-1:30pm

Sign up on the Plaza that morning or call 551-4973 x202  
[www.STJMOD.com](http://www.STJMOD.com)



### Mobile Giving Steps



#### STEP 1

TEXT 'STJMOD' to 77977

#### STEP 2

CLICK ON TEXT LINK

#### STEP 3

ENTER YOUR GIVING AMOUNT

#### STEP 4

ENTER YOUR INFORMATION

#### STEP 5

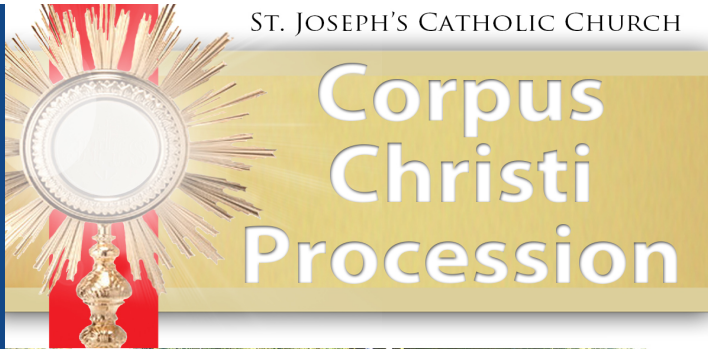
INPUT YOUR CARD INFORMATION

#### STEP 6

PRESS SUBMIT FOR CONFIRMATION



St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
1813 Oakdale Road  
Modesto, CA 95355



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

# Corpus Christi Procession



## June 22

### Our Greatest Treasure



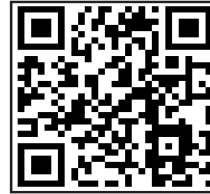
St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
Procession begins  
immediately following  
the 5:30pm Saturday Mass.

We will process through our  
neighborhood with our  
Eucharistic Lord  
accompanied by hymns,  
scripture readings, prayers  
and benediction upon return  
to the church.

## ¡Viva Cristo Rey!

St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
1813 Oakdale Road Modesto  
209-551-4973 [www.stjmod.com](http://www.stjmod.com)

Water, sunscreen and hats/umbrellas recommended



WELCOME TO OUR  
FAMILY OF FAMILIES

Scan this image with your smart phone and  
go directly to St. Joseph's web page to view  
upcoming events and the latest blogs.

Visit: [www.getscanlife.com](http://www.getscanlife.com) for a free QR Scanner



[www.facebook.com/stjmod](http://www.facebook.com/stjmod)

### 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

*Children's Liturgy of the Word, 10:30am Sunday Mass*

#### DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday 8am & 5:45pm; 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.stjmod.com](http://www.stjmod.com)  
(209)551-4973