

# Pray Gratefully - Serve Responsibly - Give Generously

tot. 68 sq.ft.



**cabinet: (top)**  
aluminum construction (r/o for copy)  
paint MP 56334 Bronze metallic

**i.d. copy:**  
1/2" deep clear acrylic "push-thru" copy  
with white vinyl letter overlay.

**EMC:**  
1mm full color Led electronic  
message board (per unit specifications).

**rears.:**  
aluminum construction  
paint MP 41144 Yellow Gold Pearl

**base structure:**  
aluminum construction  
paint MP 56334 Bronze metallic

**logo: (typ. p/c)**  
white acrylic face with digital scotchcal  
logo. 3" deep black return with black 3/4"  
return. ul approved white Led illumination.

**\*Note:**  
white "halo" Led illumination  
@ bottom of sign bkgd (all four sides)

**base masonry:**  
typ. faux stone work  
(alum. structure framing behind).

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

Volume 6, Issue 3 September-November 2018

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

YEAR OF RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS

PRAY GRATEFULLY  
SERVE RESPONSIBLY  
GIVE GENEROUSLY

WWW.STJMOD.COM



## New Electronic Message Board

### Purpose:

The EMB will be used to support the mission of St. Joseph's Church, and when appropriate, inform area residents of important or general information communications.

### Goal:

To achieve memorable, effective and tasteful communications which reflect the teachings of the Catholic faith, while inviting Catholics, fallen away Catholics, existing parishioners and non-Catholics to explore, reflect and revisit their faith and specifically, St. Joseph's Church.

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

**St. Joseph's Catholic Church**  
1813 Oakdale Road, Modesto, CA 95355  
Tel: (209) 551-4973 Fax: (209) 551-3213  
**On the Cover:** Title: EMB

## “Opening your heart to Jesus”



stories of three saintly individuals who needed help from the Immaculate Virgin Mary in order to discover their vocations.

**Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich** (1901-1927) grew up in New Jersey and had great difficulty trying to figure out her vocation. As a teenager she wanted to become a nun, but she had to remain at home to take care of her mother who was sick. Before her mother died, she urged Miriam to go to college, since she was a brilliant student. After college she tried to enter a Carmelite Convent in the Bronx, but she was rejected because of poor eyesight. She tried working as a teacher. Then she was encouraged to enter the Sisters of Charity, the congregation founded by St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. The sisters told her to pray a novena in honor of Our Lady, since the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, was approaching. After this, she surprised the sisters by announcing that she wanted to be a Sister of Charity. She said she no longer had any doubts: “I felt that should the earth quake and the stars of heaven should fall around me, nothing could disturb my calm. I was certain that I was his spouse.” She entered the convent in early 1925 and died on May 8, 1927. During her short life as a sister she enjoyed extraordinary mystical experiences and wrote about the spiritual life.

The Blessed Virgin Mary also helped **St. Gianna Molla** to discern her vocation, but in a surprising way. St. Gianna was born on October 4, 1922, and grew up in a family which produced several priests, religious sisters, doctors and missionaries. Gianna became a medical doctor and wanted to join her brother as missionary in Brazil, but her poor health made this impossible. In 1954, she made on a pilgrimage to Lourdes where she asked Our Lady to help

This year our parish is trying to help young people know how to hear the call of Jesus. The best way is stay close to Jesus by receiving the sacraments often and adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Another way is to stay close to Mary, His Immaculate Mother. I would like to tell the

her discern her vocation. When she returned home, she realized that she was called to be married, because she met her future husband, Pietro, on December 8, 1954, which was the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the 100th anniversary of the day on which Pope Pius IX solemnly defined the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. She wrote to a friend, “I have been to Lourdes to ask our Lady what I shall do: to go to the missions or to marry. I reached home...and Pietro came in!” Gianna became a saint because of her virtues as a doctor, wife and mother, and also because of her heroic sacrifice which saved the life of her fourth child. She chose to die rather than to have an abortion which would have saved her life. Her daughter Gianna Emanuela is still alive and was present at her mother’s canonization in 2004.

**St. Anthony Claret** (1807-1870) was another saint who needed a gentle push from the Blessed Virgin Mary to recognize his vocation. When he was only five years old he wanted to be a priest in order to “preach and exhort people to save themselves from falling into hell.” But he began to work in his father’s textile shop and became a very successful weaver. He had a great aptitude for business and soon forgot his desire for priesthood. He became somewhat of a workaholic and lost his love for spirituality. His overexertion caught up with him during the extremely hot summer of 1826. He was refreshing himself by wading in the ocean when suddenly a huge wave struck him and carried him out to sea. He couldn’t swim but miraculously he stayed afloat, and He began to call out to the Blessed Virgin Mary for help, and suddenly he found himself safely back at shore! He began to shake with emotion and gratitude and he resolved to forsake his worldly ways. He was ordained a priest and became a famous writer and preacher of devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. He established the Claretian Order, and became the Archbishop of Cuba where he suffered fifteen assassination attempts! Immaculate Virgin Mary Help our Young People to hear your Son’s call!

*Fr. Mark*

Visit Fr. Mark’s blog...  
[www.stjmod.com/fr-marks-blog.html](http://www.stjmod.com/fr-marks-blog.html)



## Come and See

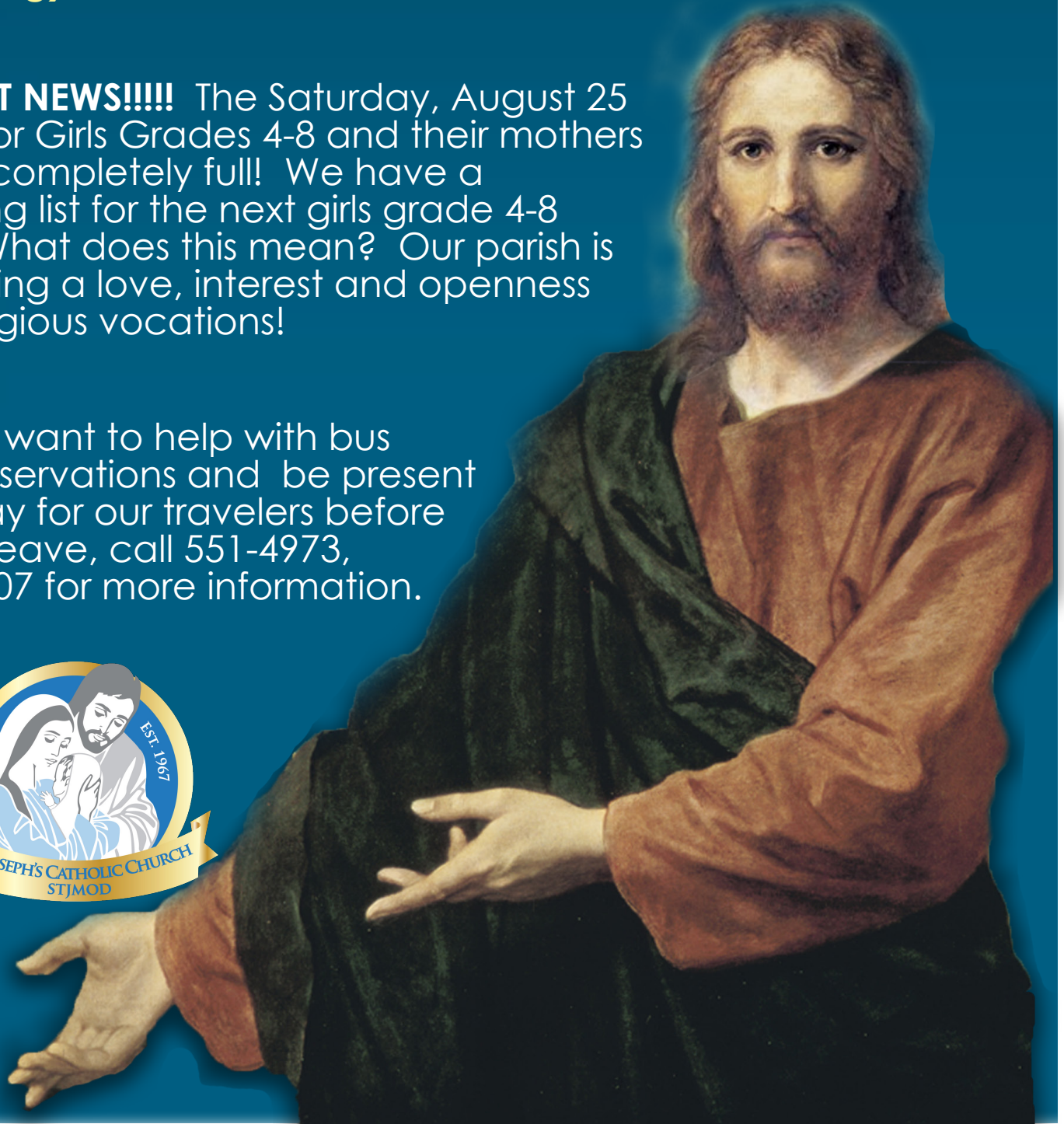
**Saturday, September 15:** High School and Young Adult Girls

**Saturday, September 29:** High School and Young Adult Boys

**(Boys grades 4-8 and Girls grades 4-8 (second trip) dates pending)**

**GREAT NEWS!!!!** The Saturday, August 25 Trip for Girls Grades 4-8 and their mothers was completely full! We have a waiting list for the next girls grade 4-8 trip! What does this mean? Our parish is fostering a love, interest and openness to religious vocations!

If you want to help with bus trip reservations and be present to pray for our travelers before they leave, call 551-4973, ext. 207 for more information.



## Fr. Sekar - My Vocation Story



I was born and raised in Udavilai, in the state of Tamilnadu of South India. It is an amazing place geographically where the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea, and the Indian Ocean confluence. Tamil was my first language, and it is a classical language. Tamil is an official language of two countries, Sri Lanka and Singapore. It has official status in my state, the state of Tamil Nadu and the Indian Union Territory of Puducherry (French colony). I had my junior and senior schooling in my hometown. We have a Catholic church and our the patron saint is

St. Francis Xavier, one of the founders of Society of Jesus (Jesuits). Our district is blessed with this saint because he walked in our streets and baptized our ancestors and built many churches. He is also the patron saint of our district (Kanyakumari), and December 3rd, the feast day of St. Francis Xavier is an official holiday for our district. This saint has been a great inspiration all along in my life. I was an altar server in my home church. After my senior school, I went to a vocation camp and got selected to pursue my priestly formation. I had my two years of initiation studies in my diocesan minor seminary, "St Aloysius' Minor Seminary", and I went to college and graduated. Then I was sent to two parishes for practical training in relating to people. That period was called regency. After my regency, I went to the major seminary to study Theology, a four-year course. At that time, I discerned my vocation and at the end of my theological course, I was ordained as a deacon. My diaconate ordination was the most memorable day in my life on April 2nd, 2005. After my ordination, I was a pastor in two parishes back in my home diocese, "Diocese of Kuzhithurai." I came to New York in 2015 for a summer ministry and got invited by the diocese of Stockton to continue my priestly ministry in the United States. I enjoy my priestly life. It has been fourteen years since I became a priest. I really love my priesthood. I am very excited to work and serve at St. Joseph's church here in Modesto. I love all the staff and parishioners.

I play keyboard, tabla, thappu and guitar. I play basketball and work out at Planet Fitness. I love to sing and listen to Catholic music. I do snow camping, biking, kayaking, and river rafting with Fr. Mark. He is an amazing pastor. My simple prayer every day is "Thank You Jesus For This Wonderful Day."





**Pray Gratefully. Serve Responsibly. Give Generously.**

## Annual Stewardship Renewal



*Pray Gratefully*

**September 22-23**

You **KEEP** your personal prayer plan card!

### *Pray Gratefully*

The most important leg of our Stewardship stool is prayer. We must make practical plans to ensure we pray gratefully. Prayer should play an important part in our daily routine. We need to allow God into our daily lives.



*Serve Responsibly*

**October 6-7**

You decide how you will serve responsibly

### *Serve Responsibly*

Next is putting our personal talents and abilities into action by serving responsibly. God's love is alive on this earth through the gifts we put to work in His name.



*Give Generously*

**October 20-21**

You give, Sacrificially, as you are able

### *Give Generously*

Finally, it is the generous giving of money and material goods for the work of the Church and the support of those in need. When we plan to give generously, we are able to manage our budgets and lives in a way that makes giving joyful. Be generous. Feel the joy of God's glory in the work that will be done with what you have given!



Learn how to **Manage** your  
busy **Catholic life**

**Saturday, September 22**

**Free Seminar**

8:45-12Noon

Fr. O'Hare Hall

(8:15am doors open,  
8:30-8:45am continental breakfast)

**RSVP Online:**

[stjmod.com/ManagingLifeSeminar](http://stjmod.com/ManagingLifeSeminar)

or call parish office



**Presenter**  
**Kristi Marsella**

Kristi is the former Chair of St. Joseph's Stewardship Committee and has presented this program at International Stewardship Conferences and for the Arch Diocese of San Francisco.

Kristi is an executive with G3 Enterprises, Inc., a Gallo family owned company. She has a broad background in creating and executing human resources strategy, customized leadership and development consulting services and is an award-winning creator of leadership and management programs, which are used internationally. She serves in a leadership capacity in community organizations and with non-profit boards.



**Julie Hendee**

*"This course has taught me that doing the things that really matter, and living out my Catholic Faith, helps put things in my life into place.*

*I highly recommend this course to everyone in our parish.*

*It will change the way you think. "*



**Ed Ibarra**

*"I would like to recommend that everyone come. It allowed me to put many thing into perspective about my stewardship journey. "*

# St. Joseph's Events Calendar

## September Events

**Sunday, September 16**

Youth Group Kick-Off

5:30pm Mass in the church/7pm in Fr. O'Hare Hall

**September 17**

Parish School of Religion begins this week  
(class times vary throughout the week)

**September 29**

Health Ministry Health Fair

8:30am to 12:30pm in JP2 Room 11

Flu shots, health screening and testing, free telephones for hearing impaired, nutrition and more. Men, women and children are invited

## October Events

**Wednesday, October 4**

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi/

Blessing of the animals after 5:45 Mass



**Sunday, October 7**

Our Lady of the Rosary

International Rosary after 5:45pm

Mass with the "Ave Maria" Prelude by our cantors

**Saturday, October 13**

"A Life for a Life"

Free Parish Movie Night

7pm Fr. O'Hare Hall



**Saturday, October 6**

Cena Baile Dinner Dance

Dinner: 4-6pm

Cance 6-10pm



**Saturday, October 20**

Married Love Seminar  
Free! For young adults, engaged couples or married couples.

## November Events

**Thursday, November 1**

All Saints Day-Holy Day of Obligation

**Saturday, November 3**

10th MHMHOM Gala

"Honoring our Priests and Deacon"

See page 11, for event information



## Save the Date



Thanksgiving weekend: SVDP  
Great Canned Ham Race for  
Christmas Basket Giveaway



## Religious Education



**Walking in The Light** - Bible Study  
Mondays Sept. 18 - Oct. 9  
6:30pm-8pm JP11 Room 11



**Rooted** - Teen Theology Class  
Mondays September 17  
7:00pm-8:30pm at Youth Room



**STJ Daughters of the King**  
Women's Faith Study  
Thursdays 6:30-8pm, Room 11



**Men's Workshop**  
Men's Faith Study on Wednesdays  
6-7:30am-Hall, or 7-8:30pm Room 11



**Lunch Time Bible Study**  
Thursdays at noon  
JP11 Room 5



**Learn Latin**  
Wednesdays, Sep 19 - Dec. 19  
7pm JP11 Room 5

Contact the RE Department at

## 2018 FESTIVAL ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME/GROUP/ACTIVITY
<p>Friday, September 7 Festival Hours: 5-10PM</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5:00PM Opening Prayer</li> <li>• 5-6:30PM Wil Frey Christian Rock</li> <li>• 6PM Wild West Corn Shucking Contest by the food booths. See how many ears you can shuck in 1 minute and win \$30 in free festival food and game tickets. Will Fr. Mark beat you?</li> <li>• 6:30-7:00PM Skyler Bazal Break Dancing Demo and Teen/young adult dance contest</li> <li>• 7:30-9:30PM Country Crush Band</li> </ul> 
<p>Saturday, September 8 Festival Hours: 4-10PM</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4-4:30 PM STJ's Life Night Band</li> <li>• 5:-6:30 PM Me and You Duo Band</li> <li>• 7:10 PM Priest Band</li> <li>• 7:30-9:30+/- PM V02 Band with breaks for Latin Dance Contest demo and judging by Skyler Bazal</li> </ul> 
<p>Sunday, September 9 Festival Hours: 2-8PM</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-2:30 PM The Sound Company play list</li> <li>• 2:30-3:30 PM Bible Faith Remnant Gospel Group</li> <li>• 3:30-4:45 PM Soft Rock Square Dancing Demo and instruction for all ages with Terry and Janet Passerino &amp; Friends</li> <li>• 4:45-6:00 PM Soul artist Alex Lucero</li> <li>• 6:15-7:45 PM Ernie Bucio Little Big Band</li> <li>• 8:00pm Raffle Ticket Drawings and Closing Prayer</li> </ul>

Saturday:  
Sunday:

Italian Dinner in Hall (5-7:30pm)  
Free Hall Football, 1pm 49rs vs Vikings in the Hall



# Honoring our Priests & Deacon



*Many Hands  
Many Hearts*  
ONE MISSION  
10TH GALA

Saturday, November 3  
5:30-10PM

WWW.STJMOD.COM

Tickets, Sponsorships and Advertising  
Opportunities [stjmod.afrogs.org](http://stjmod.afrogs.org)  
To donate silent or live auction goods or  
services, please call 551-4973, ext. 202.  
This is THE parish fundraising  
event each year!



Over \$500,000 has been raised for the Building Plan Fund and special parish projects have been funded, including:  
2016: The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry addition to the parish office  
2017: The Parish School of Religion classroom remodeling/air conditioning

**The 2018 special parish project will benefit the upgrade and remodel of the Church vestibule/sacristy and the 3X Larger Men's and Women's restrooms!**





## ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

1813 Oakdale Road  
Modesto, CA 95355



## Advent Mission DECEMBER 2-4

### Fr. Agustino M. Torres, C.F.R

When Father Torres gives one of his frequent talks at youth retreats and other events, he is using the public speaking skills he developed on Seton Hall University's speech and debate team as an undergraduate there in the late 1990s. "I didn't really do debate, I did a lot more of acting 'slash' speech writing," said Father Torres, 32, who attended Seton Hall on a speech and debate scholarship. "It was a great learning experience," he said. "We traveled the country going to great universities, holding tournaments. It was really crucial to honing the way I organize, not just talks, but so much else. I'm so indebted to those experiences." Father Torres, who grew up in south Texas, was already considering the priesthood by the time he was ready for college. In college, he first encountered the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, the order that he joined in 1999. Though slightly put off at first by the robes, sandals and beards that the friars wore, he was greatly attracted by their joyful and unabashed faith life. "I saw men my age, coming from all over the world, who loved the same things I loved the Eucharistic holy hours and praying the Rosary every day."

***"I felt like I had found my place in the world. It was a confirmation that the Holy Spirit was really moving."***



SAVE THE DATE!

St. Joseph's presents

**Fr. Rob Galea**

at the State Theatre

March 15

## 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

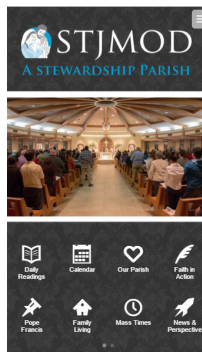
*Homebound please call 551-4973 for a priest to visit you by appointment.*

### Our Parish Mission:

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



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



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