

# live the faith

Pray Gratefully - Serve Responsibly - Give Generously



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

Volume 3, Issue 5 November/December 2015

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## Living the Faith:



Fr. Mark Wagner,  
Pastor

Growing up, I remember that in our house, and also in my grandmother's house, there were some quite ugly ceramic dishes and statues. I later learned that these came from a ceramic factory

that was owned by my great-grandfather in the city of Trier, Germany.

Last month I had the opportunity to visit the ancient city of Trier while on vacation with my parents. In the morning we went on a guided tour of the city (the ceramic factory was not part of the tour because it no longer exists!). After the walking tour, my parents were exhausted, and so in the afternoon I went alone by bicycle to the medieval Abbey of St. Matthias, which is just outside the city. I wanted to make a personal pilgrimage because it happened to be the day of my 28th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood, and St. Matthias Abbey is the only place in Northern Europe where you can visit the tomb of one of the twelve Apostles. Tradition holds that the relics of St. Matthias were brought here from Jerusalem in the fourth century by the Roman empress St. Helena.

St. Matthias was actually the 13th apostle. The Bible says that after Judas the betrayer committed suicide, they chose a replacement by "casting lots" (similar to "flipping a coin"). First they chose two potential candidates who had accompanied Jesus since the beginning. The Bible says: "So they proposed two, Joseph called

## 2015 Year for Consecrated Life

Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed, 'You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this apostolic ministry from which Judas turned away to go to his own place.' Then they gave lots to them, and the lot fell upon Matthias, and he was counted with the eleven apostles" (Acts 1:23-26)

Upon entering, I took the stone stairs into the lower church (the "crypt"), where I had the place to myself. I was along with St. Matthias, whom I found in his stone sarcophagus. There I sat with him meditating in the stony silence. I began to feel that I was actually in the presence of the true relics of the body of St. Matthias, because an inspired idea came into my hard head. From heaven, St. Matthias gave me an idea that filled me with gratitude for the gift of priesthood I had received 28 years before on that very day. I suddenly realized that I was lucky to have been chosen. Just like Matthias could have not been an apostle, I could have not been a priest. What a wonderful coincidence that on my anniversary day I was able to have this private colloquy with the patron saint of lucky guys!

We are nearing the end of 2015, the "Year for Consecrated Life" which was dedicated by Pope Francis to honoring and praying for the men and women who consecrate their lives to God as religious priests and sisters. We need to pray that more young men and women would consider themselves lucky to be called to the priesthood or the religious life. This month we have lost two of our priests here at St. Joseph's: Fr. Hamilton has returned to his diocese in Colombia and Fr. Edwin has gone to work as chaplain for the Modesto hospitals. Fr. Francis went on vacation, and then there was one! I



am the only priest here during most of the month of November and we must bring in priests from neighboring parishes to help with Masses and confessions.

Nevertheless, I am full of gratitude to God and hope for the future. If there were only one priest left in the whole city, then I think some young men would take notice and see the importance of the priesthood and would respond to the call. The other day on Catholic radio I heard an interesting comment from Dr. Rosalind Moss who said that if we don't have priests, then we won't have Mass, and if we don't have Mass, then we won't have the universe. The Eucharist keeps the world going.

The story of St. Matthias proves that God's plan from the beginning has always included specially chosen men to fulfill the essential roles of apostle and priest. Jesus said: "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38).

I invite everyone to join us for the three nights of our Advent Mission which will be December 20-22 (Sunday, December 20 in the Hall and December 21-22 in the church). We will enjoy talks by Fr. Chad Wahl, who is one of the few American-born priests of our Diocese and who will speak to us as about vocations and about the fact that all of us are called to holiness!

*Fr. Mark*

# Stewarding your Gifts...

Gifts to St. Joseph's Parish come in many forms: gifts of prayer, service and generosity. It is exciting to see these gifts continue to grow in every way! Recognizing that "all are called" to pray, serve and give in some way, your parish wants to keep growing so that all can answer that call.

The generosity that our parish provides, both for our parish ministries and for the greater Modesto area, is a blessing for many who are in need of food, shelter and acceptance. Consistent support, in every way, helps our parish provide these services. **In 2016, we invite you to consider becoming an online offertory supporter so that your gifts can be a consistent form of funds for parish work. It is easy to give electronically and**

**it just makes sense. Please visit our website ([www.stjmod.com](http://www.stjmod.com)) or our parish office to find out how to do this.**



God has blessed us, and through our gifts of prayer, service and generosity, we continue to bless him.

## Financial Report Fiscal Year 2014-2015

	Actual	% of Income	Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Offertory	1,588,763	80%	1,571,531
Other Income	<u>388,661</u>	20%	<u>283,550</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	1,977,424	100%	1,855,081
<b>Expense</b>		% Expense	
Clergy	205,864	11%	201,750
Administration	421,226	22%	476,654
Diocesan Fees	108,234	6%	109,570
Buildings & Grounds	336,238	18%	306,175
Faith Formation	326,812	17%	330,055
Liturgy & Music	179,078	10%	160,907
Lay Ministries & Apostolates	218,046	12%	167,099
Parish Charitable Giving	<u>81,490</u>	4%	<u>91,800</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	1,876,979	100%	1,847,468
*Net Operating Income	<u>100,445</u>		<u>7,613</u>

## Volunteer Hours

### July 2014 - June 2015

Liturgical	14,115
Spirituality / Prayer	29,952
Music	9,103
Religious Education	21,413
Youth & Family	7,411
Outreach/ Service	16,411
Parish Leadership	2,815
Community Life	19,063
<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	<b>120,283</b>

### Sacramental Records Sept. 2014 - Sept. 2015

Baptisms	157
First Holy Communions	140
Confirmations	186
Catholic Marriages	27

\*Used to replenish expenditures from fund balance for facility improvements

# Growth and Facilities Update from the Building Committee

By Rick Dinubilo, Building Committee Chair

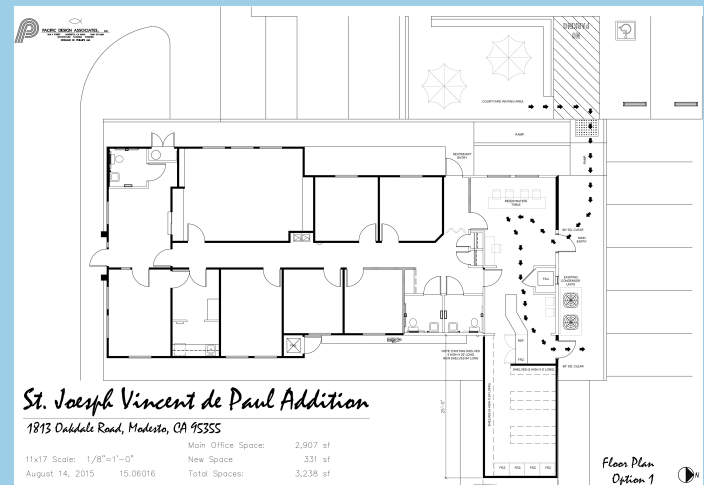


Your parish Building Committee has been hard at work for the past year developing and executing a Facility Improvement Plan. Your monthly support of the Blue Facility

Improvement Fund envelopes funds this work and they are very grateful for your generosity. Previously reports were provided about the remodeling and construction projects in both the JP2 Center and the Church vestibule. There are some elements of each that are awaiting completion, but if you have not visited the interior of the JP2 Center lately, we recommend you do so and view the difference. The Building Committee is chaired by Rick Dinubilo, with members Jason Jackson, Sue Forrest, Mel Noack, Alan Saca, Pat Seefeldt, Mike Ijams, Don Baumgratz and Jim Hicks. Each member is lead on a project or two throughout the year and spend a considerable amount of time with scope, bid review and completion details.

**Some great news:** The Eastern end of the JP2 Building (offices immediately next to the parish library) will revert back to parish use effective November 2. They were previously used as sales offices by Clear Channel Communications. This extra space of a little over 3,000 sq. ft. will allow us to provide a much larger meeting room for this building. Final interior remodeling should be completed as early as the end of December, after which parish activities can begin to be scheduled.

**New project:** Many of you have heard or read about plans to create a small addition to our parish office so that the SVDP Food Pantry operations can accommodate the growth of those who are in need of basic food. Currently, SVDP volunteers are working out of a very limited space as they provide 1,000+ bags of groceries each month. The Many Hands, Many Hearts, One Mission committee knew this when they approached Fr. Mark earlier this year about dedicating one half of the Annual Gala proceeds to this effort. Their hope is that the generosity of our parishioners and Gala supporters will be enough to fund this construction addition and remodeling. More information about the final plans will be forthcoming, as well as progress to fund all of it. Due to the generosity of several generous parishioners, who embrace the call to



**Draft Plan Above**  
“Mercy”, the project now has \$30,000 in beginning seed money.  
If you are interested in helping to support this project with cash donations, donations of project work or supplies, please call the Director of Operations at 551-4973, ext. 207.

# World Youth Day Fundraiser

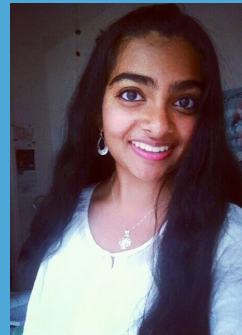


Stephanie



“Unfortunately money is necessary to make this trip happen and your participation in our fundraising events are greatly appreciated. Coming from a college student’s point of view, I’d be grateful if someone bought me lunch let alone helped me travel to a different country. I try really hard to save money and spend it wisely and WYD is one of those things. Please don’t think you’re paying for someone’s vacation as that is very different than a pilgrimage as I described earlier. You would be contributing to a youth’s trip that’s all about getting closer to God, isn’t that the goal for all of us?”

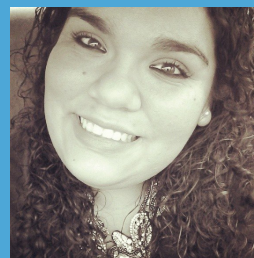
Jennifer



“WYD 2016 means a lot to us pilgrims who are attending and every donation, no matter how small, will help us achieve our goal of \$85,000 to pay for our trip.” True virtue has no limits, but goes on and on, and especially holy charity, which is the

virtue of virtues, and which having a definite object, would become infinite if it could meet with a heart capable of infinity.” -St. Francis de Sales”

Monica



“The purpose of World Youth Day is for young adults from all over the world to gather together in unity, fellowship, and in spirit so as to embrace, become fortified in, and express one’s spiritual

life. The young adults of today are the next generation. It is not only a generation that faces the world in such times as these, but who are the future of the world and what it will grow to be. Many have encountered spiritual seminars and retreats or have seen what the love of God and for God can do in one’s life. Imagine the effect of such an event as World Youth Day and what it can cause in the lives of the young adults of St. Joseph’s parish? Pope John Paul the Second visualized the effect that would emerge from World Youth Day and therefore, brought it to life.”

**VALLEY'S**  
*Finest*  
PREMIERE CRAFT AND GOODS FAIRE

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14**  
**9AM-4PM**

A NEW Annual Fundraising Event benefiting  
St. Joseph's World Youth Day Pilgrims!

**FREE ADMISSION**

- Delicious breakfast and luncheon delights
- Free raffle drawing and children's gift
- Comfortable indoor location

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, 1813 OAKDALE ROAD  
(FR. O'HARE HALL), MODESTO  
WWW.STJMOD.COM/CRAFTFAIRE  
OR (209) 551-4973, EXT. 207

# Largest Teen Ministry on the West Coast!!



# STJYOUTH



Sunday's at 7pm in the Fr. O'Hare Hall



**Parent Involvement:** Want to make a difference in a teen's life? We are looking for parents to help serve food to the teens Sunday nights. Currently we only have six parents helping feed 275 people and more help is needed. Please call Nathan at: (209) 551-4973 ext 206 to help.

Teens were asked "Why go to STJYOUTH??"

**"STJ Youth means the world to me. It has helped me through tough times I've gone through. I attend because I love the atmosphere and people there"**

*"It has given me a group of friends who care about God and me"*

"It means a lot. It's helped me get closer to Jesus and meet great people. I attend because the Man above does everything for me"



I attend youth group because to me it really does help me express my love for God and the things going on in life. I love that no one judges you and I feel free when I make that connection with God and you guys help me with that. I love this one big family we have all together and I'm really looking forward to the rest of this year (:

**"Cause it's awesome"**

"I love going to youth group on Sunday nights because it helps me get through my upcoming school week. It simply makes me feel like a better person."

## Year of Mercy...



In April Pope Francis surprised the world by announcing that 2016 would be the "Jubilee Year of Mercy." Beginning on December 8, 2015, we will spend a year reflecting on how God is merciful, how we need to be merciful, and about how we can experience God's mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation ("Confession") and through the gift of indulgences granted by the church. Pope Francis wrote: "When faced with the gravity of sin, God responds with the fullness of mercy." (Misericordiae Vultus, #3)

Here at St. Joseph's, we will also give special emphasis to the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. During December we will focus on "Feeding the Hungry" and "Giving drink to the thirsty." For us the Year of Mercy will begin with the distribution of our St. Vincent de Paul Christmas food baskets, which feed over 350 families each year; as well as the scheduling of our St. Joseph's Bread Ministry.

### Works of Mercy for December:

"Feed the Hungry" and "Give drink to the thirsty"

**Parish Action:** Support the works of our St. Vincent de Paul Ministry, as well as our St. Joseph's Bread Ministry, whose members prepare and serve food at the Salvation Army Homeless Shelter throughout the year.

Each December, our St. Vincent de Paul Ministry provides nearly 400 Christmas Baskets to those

in need. The "Baskets" contain the staples for a wonderful Christmas meal. **Christmas Basket supplies needed include:**

- *Brownie Mix*
- *Canned yams or sweet potatoes*
- *Jello*
- *Canned Cranberry sauce/jelly*
- *Canned pineapple*

We will also see the return of the famous: **Great Ham Race**, as we follow "Mr. Ham's" race to receive the needed 350 canned hams for the Christmas Baskets. Mr. Ham's



message to all is "The Race begins NOW and the race ends on Friday, Dec. 11!"

Please bring all donated food items to the parish office, including the canned hams. If you

are unable to shop and would rather support the Race or the miscellaneous food needs, please visit Mr. Ham's page at [www.stjmod.com/great-ham-race](http://www.stjmod.com/great-ham-race).

**More friends make more hams:** Introduce your work place to the Ham Race and see if they can help with ham collecting or other food staples! Call Cliff at 552-2310 for large quantity pick up.



### St. Joseph's Bread Ministry

This Ministry's Annual Meeting is on Tuesday, November 10th, at 6:30, JP11 Room 6. If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please plan to attend, as the year's kitchen schedule will be distributed. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Pam Dinubilo at [pdinubilo@gmail.com](mailto:pdinubilo@gmail.com)



# 2015 Advent Mission

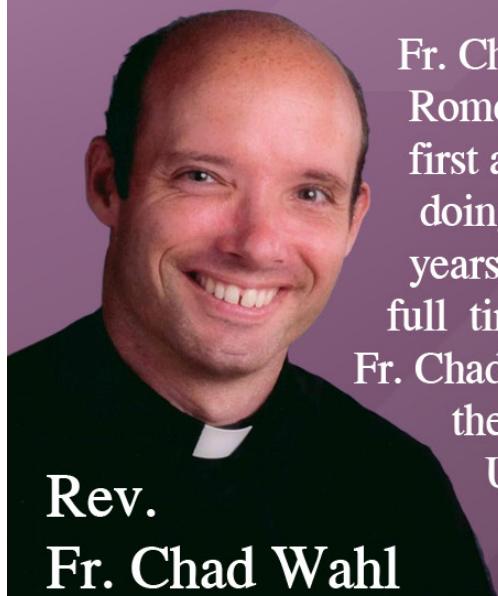
*“Moved by Mercy”*

**DECEMBER 20-22**

**7PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20**

**7PM MONDAY, DECEMBER 21**

**7PM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22**



**Rev.  
Fr. Chad Wahl**

Fr. Chad was ordained December 23, 2006 in Rome at the Basilica of St. Mary Major's. His first assignment as a priest was in California doing full time youth ministry. After six years of missionary ministry, he now works full time at St. Bernard's parish in Tracy, Ca. Fr. Chad earned a degree in philosophy and theology at the Regina Apostolorum University in Rome.

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

EMILY  
WATSON

TOM  
WILKINSON

MICHAEL  
RAPAPORT

DAVID  
HENRIE

CARY - HIROYUKI  
TAGAWA

# LITTLE BOY

BELIEVE THE IMPOSSIBLE

**Free Parish Movie Night**  
**Saturday, January 2, 7pm**  
**Fr. O'Hare Hall**

**Come join our parish family for a Free movie night. Popcorn and lemonade provided, bring some cookies to share.**

**PG-13**

# Parish Events



**Heroes of our Heart: Saluting Our Veterans**

**November 7, 2015**

- Cocktails - Hors d'oeuvre
  - Silent & Live Auctions
  - Gourmet Filet Mignon Dinner
  - Dancing to "Knight Sounds"
- Purchase Tickets & Sponsorships at the parish office or online at [www.stjmod.com](http://www.stjmod.com)**

To donate items call (209) 551-4973



Annually raising funds for St. Joseph's future growth, with a special 50% of proceeds this year to fund the expansion and retrofit of our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry



**Thanksgiving**

**November 26  
9am mass**

Thanksgiving Day. Please bring your dinner rolls, wines, or desserts to place on the table to be blessed by Father Mark. (Please do not bring perishable items, or items not in a sealed container)

**TMIY**  
THAT MAN IS YOU!

**Every Wednesday Morning**

For Men ages 18-99!

- 5:45 am: Doors Open for Breakfast
- 6:20 am: Welcoming
- 6:30 am: Presentation
- 7:00 am: Small Group Discussion
- 7:30 am: Dismissal

"Each week that I attend TMIY I'm learning something new and slowly but surely my life is changing in all aspects; spiritually, within my family and with the men I'm meeting."

**Spring Semester starting back up on January 27th**

*Becoming the Man that God created you to be!*

**SAVE THE DATES:**

**January 9  
Blue Mass  
10am**



**January 23  
Walk for Life  
West Coast**





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

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## Advent & Christmas Liturgical Schedule

### MASS & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Saturday, December 5 Mass: 10am

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

*(Holy Day of Obligation)*

Monday, December 7 Masses: 5:45 Vigil

Tuesday December 8 Masses:

7am, 8am, 9:30 am, 12 noon TLF, 5:45pm, 7:30(Sp)

### FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Saturday December 12: 5am,

Mañanitas, 530am Rosary, 6am Mass

(church), 7am breakfast (hall), Novena

December 4-12



### PARISH ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 16: 7pm

### FILIPINO DAWN MASSES

Wednesday, December 16 -Wednesday, December 24: 5am

**Confessions Dec 21, 22 only (Christmas Week)**

### NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST



### December 24 MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

4:30pm Children's Pageant & Mass in the hall

7:30pm Youth Mass in the church

10:30pm Christmas Concert in the church

12:00 Midnight Mass in the church

### December 25

### MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS DAY (Holy Day of Obligation)

7:30am, 9am (Latin), 10:30am,

12Noon, 1:30pm (Español)

(no evening Masses)



### SOLEMNITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Holy Day (Obligation abrogated by Diocese)

December 31 5:45pm Vigil Mass

11:30pm New Year's Holy Hour

12:30 am

January 1 Masses: 8am, 9:30am, 12noon (Latin),

5:45pm, & 7:30pm (Español)



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

## 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 and 1:30  
(spanish) Sunday Mass*

### DAILY MASS

Monday-Friday 8am & 5:45pm; Saturdays 8am

Traditional Latin Mass, Fridays at Noon

### CONFESSION

Monday through Friday 5pm-5:30pm\*

Saturdays 8:30-9:30am & 4-5pm

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

\*During Lent Friday confessions occur before the  
5:45pm daily Mass due to the Stations of the Cross

**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