

# live the faith

Pray Gratefully - Serve Responsibly - Give Generously



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

Volume 4, Issue 3 May & June 2016



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## Fr. Mark:



The months of May and June are a time of transformation. The cool, rainy springtime changes into a hot summer. The school year becomes vacation time for our children. Some graduate and move on in life. The young people on the cover of this magazine became all smiles when they received St. Joseph's scholarships

to attend either Catholic elementary schools, colleges or become NET Evangelists in the fall. Conversely, the adults of our parish are just beginning their classes to learn the faith every Wednesday night with the "Foundations of the Faith," and our men are being transformed by gathering every Wednesday morning at 6:00 AM. Teenagers will be transformed into adults in the faith by receiving Confirmation. Children are transformed by First Confession and especially by First Communion, when they receive for the first time the Sacred Host, which was transformed into the Bread of Life. In fact, all of us at St. Joseph's should try to be transformed by the Lord into saints!

*"We want our hearts to catch on fire with the love of God"*

May 26 is the Feast day of a great saint whose heart caught on fire with love that enabled him to transform the Church of Rome: St. Phillip Neri. He renounced his family wealth and went to Rome to prepare for the priesthood. He lived simply and spent his days helping the poor and sick and often spent his nights praying in churches and in underground catacombs. On the vigil of Pentecost in 1544, he was praying in the Catacomb of St. Sebastian and he saw

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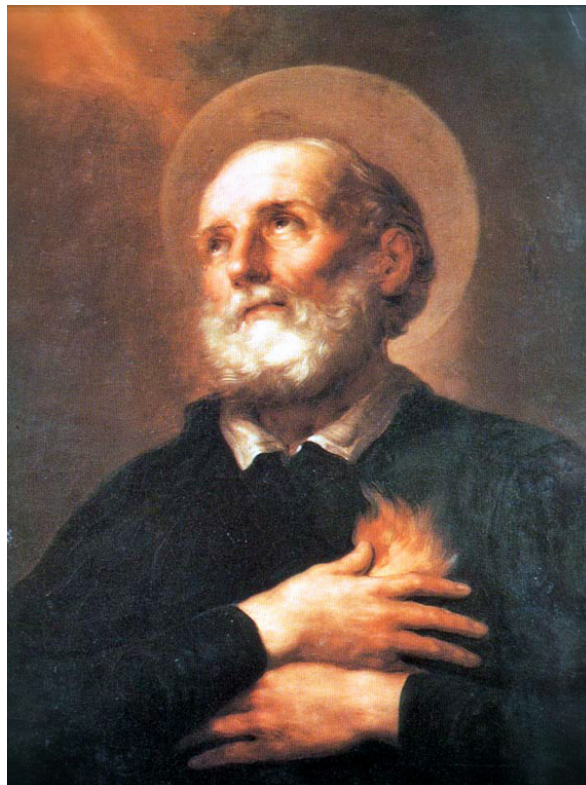
**On the Cover:** St. Joseph's Parish Scholarship recipients.

## "The Saint of a Joyful Heart"

a vision of the Holy Spirit in the form of a ball of fire, which entered his mouth and descended into his chest where he felt a fire of divine love. He felt such a great heat that he had to open his shirt and lie flat on the cold stone floor to cool himself. Even years later he would sometimes go into ecstasies of prayer in which his heart would beat violently and he would register a high temperature. His biographer wrote that even in winter he would "uncover his chest, open the doors and windows of his room at night, and use fans and other means of creating a draft so as to cool the divine fire within" (Antonio Gallonio #13). After his death, an autopsy showed that several ribs were displaced to give room for his enlarged heart! He had the gifts of tears, levitation, bilocation, prophecy and of healing. He could tell the future, read people's minds and cast out demons. He even raised a fourteen-year-old boy from the dead. His joy was contagious and he led crowds of young people on foot to visit the great churches, which started the tradition of visiting the major basilicas of Rome, especially during Holy Years such as the current Jubilee Year of Mercy. He was called "the apostle of Rome" the "Roman Socrates" and "the Saint of a Joyful Heart." He once said "A joyful heart is more easily made perfect than a downcast one."

We all need a fire in our heart. The warmer weather should remind us that our hearts need to heat up and burn with love! It is interesting that the months of May and June are dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus, respectively. These two hearts were so united that they are always depicted similarly as being pierced and burning with love. Many saints have had visions in which they see fire coming out of the Heart of Jesus or the Heart of Mary. We know that Jesus Himself said that He wants this fire to begin to glow and grow in our hearts as well: "I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and my only desire is that it was already kindled (Luke 12:49).

Since 2016 is the Jubilee Year of Mercy, we have been trying to change our hearts by practicing the Works of Mercy in our parish. In May we will try to "Comfort the Afflicted;" and in June we will focus on "Visiting the Sick." By doing these things we hope that our hearts will feel the same love that burned in the heart of St. Phillip Neri, in the Immaculate Heart of Mary our Mother, and in the Sacred Heart of Our Lord Himself.



St. Phillip Neri

Sunday, May 29, is the Feast of Corpus Christi and we will have our second annual Eucharistic Procession through the streets near our parish. Last year we had over 700 people join in the procession despite the extreme afternoon heat! Hopefully we will have even more people willing to follow Jesus who wants to "cast fire upon the earth" with His love! On Saturday, June 11, the men of our parish and of the entire region will gather in our parish hall for the "Central Valley Catholic Men's Conference." They will hear inspiring talks from nationally-known speakers, share food and fellowship with other Catholic men, and then process into the church for Eucharistic Holy Hour. After that they will be ready to go out in the world with their hearts on fire.

*Fr. Mark's*

Visit Fr. Mark's blog...

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







# Year of Mercy

## Works for this month:

- Call "211", a free and confidential service that helps people find the local resources they need. They are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Visit <http://www.csa-stanislaus.com> for a list of online resources.
- Sometimes the people who suffer the most are the ones who suffer in silence. Be a friend to someone and show concern for their well-being. Try to always be a comforting Light of Jesus in the world.
- Step in when you see someone being degraded or bullied, and put a stop to it. You can change the course of someone's life with a simple act of Mercy.
- Don't ignore people; try to be that person who listens when someone is talking to you about their concerns.



## MAY: Comfort the Afflicted

- Come to evening Mass on Wednesdays where we pray for the intercession of our Mother of Perpetual Help.
- Check the front office for information on help groups being held in our St. Joseph's Center. Some groups are:

AA  
AI Anon (Spanish and English)  
AIA Teen  
Encourage  
Courage

## Works for this month:

- Volunteer at a hospital.
- Volunteer to call Bingo at a nursing home.
- Send flowers or a card to someone you know who is in the hospital.
- Get involved as a missionary and help those in need.
- Take the Eucharist to the homebound in your community. Become a Eucharistic Minister.
- Visit a seriously or terminally ill member of your parish.
- Volunteer to visit seniors in a skilled nursing facility or nursing home at one of the many locations throughout Stanislaus County through Catholic Charities



## JUNE: Visit the sick

- Send cards to friends or relatives who are sick and in the hospital. If possible, make them a homemade card and hand deliver it.
- Be part of a group that visits the sick. Many nursing homes get visitors over the holidays. Call the nursing home office and find out who doesn't get any company. Offer to visit them.
- Make or buy some note cards for parishioners in adult care facilities and leave them with stamps so they can send letters home.
- Pick up donations for the St. Vincent DePaul Society.
- Help elderly sign, address and mail Christmas cards.
- Volunteer to read to the blind.



# Supporting the Youth of our parish



## "100 for Youth"

In July, our youth will be traveling to San Diego for a State Youth Conference, which is conducted by the Steubenville Conference, considered the best youth formation program offered.

Will you be one of the 100 who can donate \$50 to support and underwrite half of the cost for this conference? The youths and their families will raise the other half. We don't want any youths who have a desire to deepen their faith not be able to go.



Over 300 St. Joseph's parishioners are now using E-giving for their offertory and other gifts! Make 2016 the year you and your family begin giving with E-giving; just use the laminated E-giving cards in the pews during the offertory.

For more information, please call 551-4973, ext. 202

<https://egiving.stjmod.com/>



## STJ Parish Scholarships

With your help we were able to give scholarships to 36 students this year! Want to be a donor? Log on to STJMOD E-giving and select Parish Scholarship Fund today!

Thank you for supporting our youth.



# Responding to God's Blessings (Counts)



# 118,451

Total number of hours parishioners gave to serve our parish and community

28,133 Adoration Prayer Hours	150 Baptisms	13 Homeless families Sheltered
2,701 Homebound Communions	\$57,500 Parish Scholarships Awarded	5,313 Dinners Served to the Homeless
6,700 Weekly Mass Attendees	\$38,000 Emergency Housing & Utility Assistance	1,305 Respect Life Walkers
1,579 Parish School of Religion Students (ages 3-17)	\$361,000 Value of Food Donations	11,112 Grocery Bags to the Hungry
3,500 Advent and Lenten Mission Attendees	58 Teens attended San Diego Steubenville Conference through "100 For Youth" Sponsors	27,211 People fed by grocery bags
700 Corpus Christi Procession Participants		3,200 Rosaries Made
		112 ESL Students Served, with 3 passing citizenship



# St. Joseph's Events Calendar

## May Events



**Saturday May 21**  
**7pm** Confirmation

**Saturday May 28**

**10am** First Holy Communion  
**1pm** First Holy Communion  
**7pm** Confirmation



**Corpus Christi Procession**  
See page 7

**Monday May 30th**  
**Memorial Day office closed**

## June Events



**JUNE 30-JULY 1**  
**CHILDREN**  
**(AGES) 7-14**

Friday session includes choral participation at the 12:00 TLF Mass. Parents are encouraged to join us for the Mass. Forms in the parish office

### St. Joseph's Workshop

Men's Ministry  
Every Wednesday  
6-7:30am  
Fr. O'Hare Hall

Doors open at 5:45 for breakfast



## June Events

**Men's Conference**  
See Back Page

**Vacation Bible Retreat**  
See page 7



**Saturday**  
**June 25**  
7pm  
Fr. O'Hare Hall

*"Why is religious liberty so important for our politics, economics, and civil society?"*

Presenter: **Michael Nader** is a graduate of both the Notre Dame law school and its Center for Civil and Human Rights, where he also served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policy. He studied the writings of St. John Paul in Krakow, Poland, and the teachings of Pope Benedict XVI in Regensburg, Germany. He has also authored articles for the Catholic World Report and the Fellowship of Catholic Scholars Quarterly, and has taught Catholic social doctrine for the Archdiocese of San Francisco and the Diocese of Oakland.

## Save the Date



**Knights of Columbus/  
World Youth Day**  
Fireworks Sale  
June 28-July 4th

**Free Parish Movie Night**  
**Saturday July 16**

Bring cookies to share







## Vacation Bible Retreat

"Mercy Wins"  
(Olympics theme)  
Grade: Pre K - 6th

**June 20-24**  
**8am-12pm**

Applications available now in  
the parish office.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Corpus Christi Procession May 29, 2016

**Walk in the  
Way of Mercy**

St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
Procession begins at 2:30pm.  
Please arrive by 2:15pm  
on the Church Plaza

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

**iViva 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



## FOUNDATIONS OF THE FAITH



Defending the Faith

*"Ready With an Answer"*

Wednesdays at 7pm

Fr. O'Hare Hall



Join the 300+ people already attending the  
Foundations of the Faith series, "Ready With an  
Answer." Learn Apologetics (the art and science  
of giving reasons for the faith) for everyday use  
and explore the classical arguments and evi-  
dences offered for the truth of Christianity.

**Have questions?  
Find the answer**





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Modesto, CA 95355

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH **CENTRAL VALLEY CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 11**



**FEATURED SPEAKERS**

**Deacon Alex Jones**

**Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers**

**ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS:**



**RICHARD BRAUN**



**JOHN SABLAN**

**"BE STRONG AND SHOW YOURSELF A MAN"**

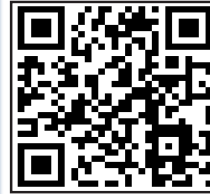
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**8:30am - 6:30pm**  
Register at:  
[www.stjmod.com/MensConference](http://www.stjmod.com/MensConference)

**Sponsors:**



PHONE: 209-551-4973  
1813 OAKDALE RD. MODESTO, CA  
[WWW.STJMOD.COM/MENSCONFERENCE](http://WWW.STJMOD.COM/MENSCONFERENCE)



**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 1:30 (Spanish) 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**