

*Our Mission: To Evangelize God's People,
beginning with the Gift of the Holy Eucharist*



A Stewardship Parish

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH • 1813 OAKDALE ROAD • MODESTO, CA 95355

September 16, 2012 Twenty-Forth Sunday in Ordinary Time

(209) 551-4973
Fax: (209) 551-3213
Visit our website:
www.stjmod.com

Holy Eucharist

Sunday Mass:

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

Daily Mass:

8am & 5:45pm; Saturdays 8am
Traditional Latin Mass, Fridays at Noon

Perpetual Eucharistic

Adoration:

Chapel access code available in office

Children's Services:

Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

Sunday Mass 10:30am

Adoration & Confessions

First Friday 6:30pm-7:30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Monday thru Thursday 5-5:30pm
Fridays 6:30pm-7:30pm
Saturdays 8:30-9:30am & 4-5pm
*Homebound please call 551-4973 for
a priest to visit you by appointment.*

Clergy:

Fr. Mark Wagner, Pastor
Fr. Francis Arakal, Assoc Pastor
Fr. Tony Chacko, Assoc Pastor
Fr. Larry Guerrero, Hospital Chaplain
Rev. Mr. Ken Ochinerro, Deacon
Rev. Mr. Ernest Ciccarelli, Deacon

From the Pastor's Laptop

In today's Gospel (Mk 8:27-35) Jesus says to the crowds: *"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself..."* He wants the crowds to have no delusions about who He is, what He has come for, and what it means to follow Him. He has come to be *"the lamb of sacrifice"* and He wants followers who can also make sacrifices to save souls.

The "crowds" in today's society have no concept of this. People seek the "party atmosphere" where they can do whatever they feel like. Many have forgotten the notions of sacrifice and self-denial. And so the "crowds" are ill-prepared to mount a resistance when small minorities lobby for new laws which allow people to do things that were universally considered abhorrent just a few years ago. Most of us are reluctant to say "Well, no, you can't do that." We are slow to tell others that they must make sacrifices and deny themselves. But Jesus did not hesitate. It requires sacrifice to carry a baby to full term. It takes self-denial to resist urges to commit unchaste acts. One must forget oneself in order to think of what is good for children and for society.

In the past few weeks a vocal minority has subjected us to much commentary which says that everyone should have the "right" to abortion, free contraception and same-sex marriage. They ridicule anyone in the crowd who would speak out against them. Only a few brave individuals, businesses, organizations and churches have spoken out in defense of life, in defense of traditional marriage, and in defense of the rights of the Catholic Church to oppose contraception.

Our Catholic Church opposes any law that would allow these things that are harmful to human life and to the true meaning of marriage. We know that we have the truth on our side. The opinion of the crowd changes constantly. Political platforms change constantly. The political parties are no longer the same as they were a generation ago. But the Catholic Church has remained firm and constant in speaking out just as Jesus did.



Fr. Mark having a good time with volunteers at last week's parish festival.

Fr. Mark

Questions?

To make an appointment with a priest or deacon or to register at St. Joseph's please contact Lulu, Alex, Brenda or Donna in our parish office at 551-4973 or stop by during any of the 50 hours our office is open each week.

Parish Office

(Lulu, Donna, Alex, Brenda)

Sunday: 10am-3pm.

Monday: 10am-7:30pm

Tuesday through Thursday 8:30am-7:30pm

Closed Wednesday from 11am-1pm

Friday 8:30am-12noon

Weekend Maintenance 568-7558

How can we help? 551-4973

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Se Habla Español</i> | Alex x103 |
| Accounting | Barbara x108 |
| Adult Ed & Bible Studies.... | Michael x203 |
| Altar Servers..... | Svetlana x200 |
| Audio / Video..... | Jeremy x213 |
| Buildings & Grounds..... | Susie x201 |
| Bulletin & Website..... | Jeremy x213 |
| Child Ed & Sacraments | Debbie x205 |
| Choirs & Cantors..... | Svetlana x200 |
| Events & Activities..... | Susie x201 |
| Faith & Life Magazine | Michael x203 |
| Giving to St. Joseph's..... | Tammy x207 |
| Parish Lending Library..... | x208 |
| Parish Ministries..... | Tammy x207 |
| Parish Registration | Donna x102 |
| Room Reservations..... | Rosario x110 |
| Volunteering..... | Tammy x207 |
| Youth Ministry | Nathan x206 |



ST. JOSEPH'S JOB OPENING

Adult choir
conductor

position (10:30am Mass)
St. Joseph's Catholic
Church. Must have music
education and experience.
Please call 551-4973 , ext.
207 for more information.

Welcome to St. Joseph's

We're glad you're here!

Parish Life

Upcoming Events & Activities

ST. JOSEPH'S SENIOR LUNCHEON

Our next Senior Luncheon is Wednesday, September 19. The luncheon consists of BBQ Tri-Trip, corn, salad, French Bread, and Tapioca pudding. The price is \$7 for members and guests. Social hour begins at 10am, business at 11am and lunch is at noon. If you have any questions, call Chris at 522-2694.

IMMACULATE HEART RADIO

Join us for our Fall Pledge Drive! Sept 24-27. Live from our network headquarters; 4 full days of life-changing testimonies and inspiring interviews, plus exciting prize giveaways and so much more. Set your radio to 1230am or listen on the Internet at IHRadio.com.

FAITH SHARING AND BIBLE STUDY

The last season of ARISE will begin the week of October 7. Sign ups for small group leaders and participants are being taken on the plaza today and the following two weekends. No experience necessary, just bring your enthusiasm!



STEWARDSHIP 101 — OCTOBER 13

Your annual "spiritual" exam. Come to this seminar on Saturday, October 13 from 9am-1pm to better understand the Mass and to get plugged into our parish community. A free continental breakfast is included. Please RSVP: 209-551-4973 ext. 207.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND



Scripture says about married people that "Two shall live as one." How often do you find yourselves living as two? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend can help you get back to basics in this complicated day and age. The next local weekend is October 19-21 in Salida. For more information or to register, call Barry and Julia Reynolds 866-825-2046, or John and

Angelica Angarita 209-521-7973, or go to <http://sacramentowwme.org>.

ALATEEN GROUP HAS NOW STARTED

Alateen is a part of the Al-Anon family group. It is for young people who have been affected by someone else's drinking. It is not for young people seeking sobriety. We meet every Wednesday, 5:45-6:45pm in JPII Center, Rm. 8. There is also an Al-Anon and AA meeting every Wednesday. If you have any questions, call Bev Sousa, 605-0001.

Religious Education

Saints, Our Heroes!

By Maria F. Delgado-Braun, Religious Education

Process of Canonization:

The cause for any person can begin only after 5 years from his/her death. The local bishop must initiate the investigation and a postulator must organize the work. Witnesses are called, documents are gathered and the candidate is called **Servant of God**. When everything is gathered, it is sent to the Vatican to the *Congregation for the Causes of Saints*. The investigation process is taken up by this body and a postulator is selected, a paper is drafted and is analyzed by 9 theologians, then sent to the cardinals and bishops of the Congregation for approval or rejection. If approved, then it goes to the Pope who must give his approval. The person is then called **venerable**. A promoter of the faith is assigned (devil's advocate) to examine any hindrances to sainthood in the life of the candidate. The process for beatification involves more work and looks into the miracles attributed to the candidate's intercession (physicians, and medical specialists are consulted to see if cure could be natural). If the miracles are accepted as valid, all those involved review the case and the venerable is raised to **Blessed**. An official feast date is designated (candidate's death) during a Mass celebrated by the Pope. The final stage of canonization requires another approved miracle, which must take place after beatification and the same process follows. Once canonized, the name of the saint is written into the catalogue of saints and may be included in the canon of the Mass.

As Catholics we are constantly hearing about saints, and perhaps sometimes we have wondered why that person was a saint and how did they become saints? A common description we hear is ... *"They were saints because they cooperated with God's grace and practiced heroic virtue."* That is great! But what does it mean to the modern mind? What is heroic virtue? Is it doing nice things for others, fasting, living a life of poverty and mortification? Is this reserved only for priests and nuns? How do we explain it to our children, or better yet, to those who are not Catholic? The Church declares that a person is a saint when she believes they are in Heaven and are worthy of veneration and imitation. The saints practiced virtues and actions with supernatural motives, not for self-gratification; that the good works they do are for God's glory and the salvation of souls and they perform these *"with self-abnegation and full control over their natural inclinations," (Pope Benedict XVI)*. There are numerous examples, such as when a baby covered with puss-filled wounds was brought to St. Faustina so she could pray for his healing, and as she felt naturally repulsed, she asked God to heal the baby as she kissed the wounds. St. Faustina put aside her repulsion wanting what was best for the baby and for God's glory. Sainthood is available to all of us, and the good God offers us the extent of our lives to practice a life of virtue, detachment and self-conquering. We must take it one day at a time and do the most mundane tasks with love, offering them to God for the salvation of souls. Let's imitate the Lord and follow the example of our brothers and sisters the saints, so we can get to our final destiny of union with God! **We are all called to holiness!**



Canonization of St. José Maria Escrivá

☞ Parish School of Religion Update ☜

PSR starts on this upcoming week (September 17-20)!

And tonight for the High School (7pm)!

We will continue taking late registrations Monday – Wednesday from 1- 3pm though Sept 26. The office will be open during class time but no registrations will be taken.

**Mandatory Parent Meeting
Tuesday, September 25
7pm Fr. O'Hare Hall**

We also offer faith formation for children or youth with special needs. Special Education Classes are held on Tuesdays beginning September 18. The catechist is bi-lingual, in English and Spanish. For more info, please contact the PSR office at 551-4973, ext. 217.

Parish School of Religion E-mail: psr@stjmod.com

Books at our library:

Modern Saints Their Lives & Faces- Ann Ball
The Life of Faustina Kowalska - Sister Sophia Michalenko, CMGT

Something Beautiful for God: Mother Teresa of Calcutta - Malcolm Muggeridge

Padre Pio Man of Hope- Renzo Allegri

John Paul the Great- Peggy Noonan

☞ RCIA ☜

Inquiry classes are for people who want to learn more about Catholicism, but aren't necessarily sure they want to become Catholic. The RCIA process is also for Catholics who have not yet completed their sacraments of Confirmation or Holy Communion.

To start the process: **call Michael Webster: (209)581-8477** to make an appointment.

∞ Youth Ministry ∞

Contact Us!



Nathan Steingrebe

C. 247-7863
W. 551-4973, ext. 206
Nathan@stjmod.com

Katie Steffanic

W. 551-4973, ext.223
Ksteffanic@stjmod.com



Confirmation 1 Catechists Needed!

St. Joseph's first year Confirmation class meets Wednesday nights from 7-8:30 pm in the Fr. O'Hare Hall. We are in need of adult men volunteers to help teach 7-8th grade and lead small groups. Please contact the youth office if interested.

High School Fall Retreat

St. Joseph's high school fall retreat will take place during the weekend of **November 9-11**. This annual trip takes place in Aptos, at Camp St. Francis retreat center on the beach. The cost is \$100. The weekend event includes Mass, adoration, confession, praise and worship, small groups, games, skits, and time to meet new friends and enjoy fellowship!

High School Kick-Off: TONIGHT

'So you think you CAN'T Dance'

Join us following the 5:30 p.m. Youth Mass for St. Joseph's annual youth group kick-off! Come and participate in our version of "So you think you CAN'T dance?" and enjoy other games, fellowship, and free taco truck! Come and meet the 2012-13



CORE team that will be helping with youth ministry for the year! We are so excited to start this year off with a great night. The event will take place in the Fr. O'Hare Hall from 7-8:30 p.m. Bring a friend and see you there!

"Suave Bailador" will be at the Night to teach some moves and share his joy of dance.

Victory Team

Weekly meetings will start on Monday, September 10, in the youth and family center in the JP II building! Victory is open to high school students and young adults who lead small groups and minister to the youth in first year Confirmation. The C1 class meets on Wednesday nights from 7-8:30 pm. We look forward to seeing all returning students and excited to meet anyone that is interested in joining the team!

CORE Team

Weekly meetings for CORE team will begin on Monday, September 10, in the youth room of the JP II center. The CORE team works together to plan LifeNights and lead small groups for St. Joseph's high school youth group on Sunday evenings from 7-8:30 pm. CORE is open to adults and young adults. Please contact Nathan to schedule a meeting if you are interested in more information.

Center for Lay Apostolates

FOCUS ON LEADERSHIP: Thank you to our parish Knights of Columbus for staffing our coffee and donuts this weekend and for all of the good work they provide for our parish!

Parish Stewardship — a way of life

Practicing Stewardship in our community and for our priests and offices



I visited with John Layman, above, as he was delivering water and dispensers for our Festival Ministry and Hospitality Tent. I told him we were preparing for our Annual Stewardship Renewal and talked him into letting me take his photograph, as he represents one of the best examples of returning to God what is his. John has quietly and consistently been delivering Aquas bottled water to our priest's rectory quarters and our parish office for over seven years. *At no cost to our parish.* For those in our parish community who are acquainted with Aquas or Mr. Layman and his extended family, you know they are not Catholic but are instead active members of the Brethren church. They practice Stewardship in their daily lives—and in their commercial business—and we thank them, profusely, for sharing with our parish community. God Bless you, John and Aquas Water.

By Tammy Menezes, —Development Department

New to the Parish? Wondering where to start??
Call the Center for Lay Apostolates
551-4973, ext. 207

Profiles in Stewardship

by Michael Webster



Toni Perkins

Toni Perkins recently said yes to being a part of the Stewardship Committee. She truly lives stewardship as a way of life.

If you went to the parish festival last weekend, you probably saw Toni's smiling face several times. Her joy is a great example of stewardship; because, I know that her joy is rooted in the love that God has for her and out of love for Him she shares that joy with everyone she meets. At the parish festival Toni also excellently witnessed stewardship of time. She volunteered and dedicated many hours of humble behind the scenes service to make sure the parish festival was a success. Additionally, she a PSR catechist and a sponsor for someone going through the RCIA process. Toni, as a good catechist and sponsor stewards and shares the gift of faith that God has given her.

We are heading into our Stewardship Renewal Weekend (September 22 & 23), where we are all asked to consider how we might share the gifts that God has given to us to be better disciples — loving Him and our neighbor. Toni you are blessing to have at St. Joseph's. Thank you for your example of stewardship and inspiring others to practice stewardship in their lives.

In the Diocese

A DAY FOR LIFE CONFERENCE

October 6 — at St. Joseph's
The conference begins with the Bishop celebrating Mass at 8am. The conference is free to attend. Come hear great speakers on many important life issues.

MINISTRY DAY 2012 ON A NEW DAY, IN A NEW LOCATION!

October 27,
at the Modesto Centre Plaza
Ministry Day is approaching fast! Have you registered yet? The deadline for early registration is September 14. Don't miss out on the opportunity to hear some great speakers, like Bishop Stephen Blaire, Rev. Tony Ricard, Valimar Jansen and more. Registration packets are here at the Parish or visit www.stocktondiocese.org/ministryday12

FILIPINO CONCERT AT GALLO ARTS CENTER

Families for Vocation and Healing Ministry, a part of FACLCC Group of Ministries-Modesto, an Inter-Parish base group of the Filipino Pastoral Ministry of Stockton Diocese will host a concert entitled "Amerikana, Made in the Philippines" featuring Fe Delos Reyes on Saturday, September 29 at 7pm. There will be free reception from 6-7pm. (The show will be in English language). The proceeds will benefit the vocation for priesthood in the Diocese of Stockton. Ticket prices \$15, 20, 35 & 45. Contact Monet Florendo 209 322-3429 or 846-9274 or GALLOARTS.ORG.

From our Holy Father in Rome

GENERAL AUDIENCE Wednesday, 22 August 2012
Liturgical Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary Part I



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today is the liturgical Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, invoked by the title: "Queen". It is a recently instituted feast, although its origins and the devotion to her are ancient. It was in fact established in 1954, at the end of the Marian Year, by Venerable Pius XII who fixed the date as 31 May (cf. Encyclical Letter *Ad Caeli Reginam*, 11 October 1954: AAS 46 [1954], 625-640). On this occasion the Pope said that Mary was Queen more than any other creature because of the sublime dignity of her soul



and the excellence of the gifts she received. She never ceases to bestow upon humanity all the treasures of her love and tender care (cf. *Discourse in honour of Mary Queen*, 1 November 1954). Now, after the post-conciliar reform of the liturgical calendar, this feast is set eight days after the Solemnity of the Assumption to emphasize the close link between Mary's royal nature and her glorification in body and soul beside her Son. In the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Church we read: Mary "was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory... and

exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things, that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son" (*Lumen Gentium*, n. 59).

This is the origin of today's feast: Mary is Queen because she is uniquely conformed to her Son, both on the earthly journey and in heavenly glory. Ephrem the Syrian, Syria's great saint, said of Mary's queenship that it derives from her motherhood: she is Mother of the Lord, of the King of kings (cf. Is 9:1-6) and she points Jesus out to us as our life, our salvation and our hope. In his Apostolic Exhortation *Marialis Cultus* the Servant of God Paul VI recalled: "In the Virgin Mary everything is relative to Christ and dependent upon him. It was with a view to Christ that God the Father, from all eternity, chose her to be the all-holy Mother and adorned her with gifts of the Spirit granted to no one else" (n. 25).

Now however, let us ask ourselves: what does "Mary Queen" mean? Is it solely a title, together with others, a crown, an ornament like others? What does it mean? What is this queenship? As mentioned above, it is a consequence of her being united to the Son, of her being in heaven, that is, in communion with God; she shares in God's responsibility for the world and in God's love for the world. There is a worldly or common idea of a king or queen: a person with great power and wealth. But this is not the kind of royalty of Jesus and Mary. Let us think of the Lord; the royalty and kingship of Christ is interwoven with humility, service and love. It is above all serving, helping and loving.

Sacraments

Our Mass Intentions

This Week

| Sunday, September 16 (Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time) | | | |
|--|---|-------|---|
| 7:30a | Manuel Borges Victoria | 1:30p | Jose and Irma Silva and Modesta Galvan |
| 9:00a | Betty Casale | 3:30p | Polo & Carlina Miranda |
| 10:30a | All St. Joseph's Parishioners | 5:30p | Margaret Govea |
| 12:00p | Joe Mendes | 7:30p | Frances Rife |
| Monday, September 17 | | | |
| 8:00a | Jim Inglima and Charles Aguilar | 5:45p | Carlos Christian and Manuel Bairos |
| Tuesday, September 18 | | | |
| 8:00a | Imogene & Quentin Stoeckel and Elias Alhadate | 5:45p | Maria Emma Ortega and Jane Crivello |
| Wednesday, September 19 | | | |
| 8:00a | Kurtis Kraft and Christine Gallo | 5:45p | Carmen & Alejandro San Pedro and Nivea Pereira Ferriera |
| Thursday, September 20 | | | |
| 8:00a | Frank Cusenza and Neil Phillips, Jr. | 5:45p | Micaela Galvez and Manuel Nunes |
| Friday, September 21 | | | |
| 8:00a | Mark Kummerle and Paterio & Fortunata Lamanilao | 5:45p | Paulino Costa and Marjorie Duggan |
| 12:00p | Neil Phillips, Jr. | | |
| Saturday, September 22 | | | |
| 8:00a | Rosemary Silva and Niel Phillips, Jr. | 5:45p | St. Joseph's Memorial Mass |
| Sunday, September 23 (Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time) | | | |
| 7:30a | Romeo & Juanita Taylan | 1:30p | Tony Espinoza and Yosymar Mosqueda |
| 9:00a | Kathryn Bruna | 5:30p | Jose & Jesuina Bairos |
| 10:30a | All St. Joseph's Parishioners | 7:30p | Joe Vultaggio |
| 12:00p | Paul Serpa | | |

| Sunday, September 16, 2012 | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 10:00A | Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) | JP6 |
| 10:30A | Respect Life | JP4 |
| 1:00P | Youth for Family & Life | JP7 |
| Monday, September 17, 2012 | | |
| 7:00P | Charismatic Prayer Grp | JP10 |
| 7:00P | Rediscovering the Catechism | Hall |
| Tuesday, September 18, 2012 | | |
| 9:00A | Senior Strength Training | JP6 |
| 10:30A | Light Weigh | JP8 |
| 5:30P | Development Committee | Confr |
| 6:00P | ESL Classes | JP4 |
| 6:15P | Legion of Mary | JP4 |
| 7:00P | Charismatic Prayer Group Spanish | JP7 |
| Wednesday, September 19, 2012 | | |
| 10:00A | Seniors' Lunch | Hall |
| 1:30P | Widows and Widowers Bible Study | JP5 |
| 5:30P | AA Principle Study Grp | JP5 |
| 5:45P | AI Anon Group | JP10 |
| 6:30P | Health Ministry | JP4 |
| 7:00P | On the Go Adults | JP4 |
| Thursday, September 20, 2012 | | |
| 9:00A | Senior Strength Training | JP6 |
| 12:00P | Lunch Bible Study | JP5 |
| 7:00P | Spanish Young Adults | JP2 |
| Friday, September 21, 2012 | | |
| 12:00P | Latin Mass | Chur |
| 3:00P | Divine Mercy Prayer | Chap |
| Saturday, September 22, 2012 | | |
| Sunday, September 23, 2012 | | |
| 10:00A | CLOW | JP6 |
| 1:00P | Youth for Family & Life | JP7 |

Stewardship: A Way of Life

Faith in God is our path to salvation. But it comes at a cost as we can see from today's Gospel passage. Peter recognized that Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah. He had faith. Then his humanity betrayed him and he objected to the path of suffering and death that Jesus described as His coming journey. The cost of Peter's faith was accepting the passion and death of Jesus. The cost to us is the denial of self and acceptance of our personal cross. May we believe in our Lord and follow Him without reservation.

Readings 9/17-9/23

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Monday: | 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Lk 7:1-10 |
| Tuesday: | 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Lk 7:11-17 |
| Wednesday: | 1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Lk 7:31-35 |
| Thursday: | 1 Cor 15:1-11; Luke 7:36-50 |
| Friday: | Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13 |
| 12pm Latin Mass: | Ezech. 1:10-14; Mt. 9:9-13 |
| Saturday: | 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Lk 8:4-15 |
| Sunday: | Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54; Jas 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37 |
| Latin Mass | Eph. 4:1-6; Mt. 22:34-46 |

Remember a special day or person.



-Altar Flower Donation-
Call the Development Office for info.
551-4973, x207

Bienvenido a St. Joseph's

El Verano ha pasado y las
Clases resumen:

Inglés como Segunda Lengua

Para las personas que ya entienden y hablan un poco de Inglés pero quieren progresar. Las clases son todos los martes a las 5:30pm en el Edificio JP II salón #4.

Retiro de Otoño

Estudiantes de High School

El Retiro de Otoño para estudiantes de high school será del 9-11 de noviembre. Este retiro anual toma lugar en Aptos, en el centro de retiros *Camp St. Francis* en la playa. El costo es de \$100. El retiro incluye la Misa, Adoración al Santísimo, Confesión, alabanza y oración, compartimiento en grupos pequeños, juegos, presentaciones, y ¡tiempo para conocer nuevos amigos!



ESTUDIO BIBLICO

La última etapa de LEVANTATE, comenzará la semana del 7 de octubre. Registros para líderes y participantes se están tomando este fin de semana y los próximos dos en la plaza. ¡No se requiere experiencia, solo entusiasmo!

Página 8 - St. Joseph's Modesto

¡Boletín Parroquial en Español! DEL LAPTOP DEL PÁRROCO, Padre Mark Wagner

Queridos Feligreses,

En el Evangelio de hoy (Marcos 8:27-35) Jesús le dice a la multitud: *“el que quiera seguirme, que renuncie a sí mismo, tome su cruz y me siga...”* El desea que la multitud no tenga ilusiones de quien es El, a lo que ha venido, y lo que implica el seguirle. El ha venido a ser *“el cordero de sacrificio”* y desea que aquellos que lo sigan puedan también hacer sacrificios para salvar almas.

La “multitud” en la sociedad de hoy no tiene este concepto. La gente desea un “ambiente festivo” donde puedan hacer lo que quieran. Muchos han olvidado la noción de sacrificio y la renuncia de sí mismo. Por esto “la multitud” se encuentra sin preparación alguna para montar una resistencia cuando una pequeña minoría pide nuevas leyes que dejen a la gente hacer cosas que universalmente hace algunos años eran consideradas repugnantes. Muchos de nosotros estamos reacios a decir “No, no pueden hacer eso.” Dudamos decirle a otros que deben de hacer sacrificios y renunciar a sí mismos. Pero Jesús no vaciló en hacerlo.

Se requiere sacrificio el llevar un bebe por nueve meses. Se requiere una renuncia de sí mismo el resistir las ganas de cometer un acto impuro. Uno debe de olvidarse de sí mismo para poder pensar en lo que es beneficioso para los niños y para la sociedad.

En las semanas pasadas una minoría muy vocal nos ha sometido a bastantes comentarios que dicen que todos tienen el “derecho” al aborto, anticonceptivos gratuitos y al matrimonio entre el mismo sexo. Ellos ridiculizan a cualquier persona de la multitud que se oponga a ellos. Solo unos pocos y valientes individuos, negocios, organizaciones e iglesias, han hablado en defensa de la vida, en defensa del matrimonio tradicional, y en defensa de los derechos de la Iglesia Católica a oponerse a la contracepción.

Nuestra Iglesia Católica se opone a cualquier ley que deje estas cosas las cuales son dañinas para la vida humana y el verdadero significado del matrimonio. Sabemos que tenemos la verdad en nuestro lado. La opinión de la multitud cambia constantemente. Las plataformas políticas cambian constantemente. Los partidos políticos no son lo mismo que eran hace una generación. Pero la Iglesia Católica ha sido firme y constante en su denuncia así como Jesús lo hizo.



El Padre Mark divirtiéndose con voluntarios durante el festival parroquial la semana pasada.

Fa. Mark Wagner

Nuestro Santo Padre en Roma

AUDIENCIA GENERAL — Miércoles 22 de agosto de 2012 Parte I



Queridos hermanos y hermanas:

Se celebra hoy la memoria litúrgica de la Bienaventurada Virgen María invocada con el título: «Reina». Es una fiesta de institución reciente, aunque es antiguo su origen y devoción: fue instituida por el venerable Pío XII, en 1954, al final del Año Mariano, fijando para su celebración la fecha del 31 de mayo (cf. Carta enc. *Ad caeli Reginam*, 11 de octubre de 1954: *AAS* 46 [1954] 625-640). En esa circunstancia el Papa dijo que María es Reina más que cualquier otra criatura por la elevación de su alma y por la excelencia de los dones recibidos. Ella no cesa de dispensar todos los tesoros de su amor y de sus cuidados a la humanidad (cf. *Discurso en honor de María Reina*, 1

de noviembre de 1954). Ahora, después de la reforma posconciliar del calendario litúrgico, fue situada ocho días después de la solemnidad de la Asunción para poner de relieve la íntima relación entre la realeza de María y su glorificación en cuerpo y alma al lado de su Hijo. En la constitución del concilio Vaticano II sobre la Iglesia leemos: «María fue llevada en cuerpo y alma a la gloria del cielo y elevada al trono por el Señor como Reina del universo, para ser conformada más plenamente a su Hijo» (*Lumen gentium*, 59).

Este es el fundamento de la fiesta de hoy: María es Reina porque fue asociada a su Hijo de un modo único, tanto en el camino terreno como en la gloria del cielo. El gran santo de Siria, Efrén el siro, afirma, sobre la realeza de María, que deriva de su maternidad: ella es Madre del Señor, del Rey de los reyes (cf. *Is* 9, 1-6) y nos señala a Jesús como vida, salvación y esperanza nuestra. El siervo de Dios Pablo VI recordaba en su exhortación apostólica *Marialis cultus*: «En la Virgen María todo se halla referido a Cristo y todo depende de él: con vistas a él, Dios Padre la eligió desde toda la eternidad como Madre toda santa y la adornó con dones del Espíritu Santo que no fueron concedidos a ningún otro» (n. 25).

Pero ahora nos preguntamos: ¿qué quiere decir María Reina? ¿Es sólo un título unido a otros? La corona, ¿es un ornamento junto a otros? ¿Qué quiere decir? ¿Qué es esta realeza? Como ya hemos indicado, es una consecuencia de su unión con el Hijo, de estar en el cielo, es decir, en comunión con Dios. Ella participa en la responsabilidad de Dios respecto al mundo y en el amor de Dios por el mundo. Hay una idea vulgar, común, de rey o de reina: sería una persona con poder y riqueza. Pero este no es el tipo de realeza de Jesús y de María. Pensemos en el Señor: la realeza y el ser rey de Cristo está entretejido de humildad, servicio, amor: es sobre todo servir, ayudar, amar. Recordemos que Jesús fue proclamado rey en la cruz con esta inscripción escrita por Pilato: «rey de los judíos» (cf. *Mc* 15, 26). En aquel momento sobre la cruz se muestra que él es rey. ¿De qué modo es rey? Sufriendo con nosotros, por nosotros, amando hasta el extremo, y así gobierna y crea verdad, amor, justicia.



CORRESPONSABILIDAD
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Por Michael Webster



**Toni
Perkins**

Toni Perkins recientemente aceptó ser miembro del Comité de Corresponsabilidad. Ella es un buen ejemplo sobre la corresponsabilidad en la vida diaria.

Si usted asistió al festival parroquial la semana pasada, probablemente se encontró con la cara sonriente de Toni varias veces. Su alegría es un ejemplo de corresponsabilidad; porque, sé que su alegría está enraizada en el amor que Dios tiene por ella y ella, por su amor a Dios, comparte su alegría con toda persona que encuentra. Durante el festival parroquial Toni también dio un excelente testimonio sobre la corresponsabilidad del tiempo. Ella humildemente ayudó dedicando muchas horas de servicio detrás del telón. También es sponsor de una persona participando en el RCIA. De esta manera Toni comparte con los demás el don de la fe que ha recibido de Dios.

Se acerca nuestro Fin de Semana de Renovación de Corresponsabilidad (22-23 de septiembre), donde a todos se nos pide considerar cómo podríamos compartir los dones que Dios nos ha dado para ser mejores discípulos—amándolo a Él y a nuestro prójimo.

Toni, es una bendición el tenerte en St. Joseph's. Gracias por tu ejemplo de corresponsabilidad y por inspirar a los demás a practicar la corresponsabilidad.



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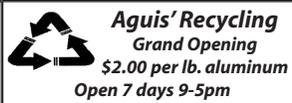
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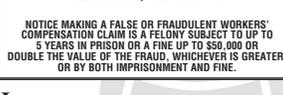
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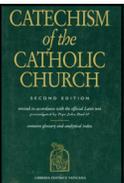
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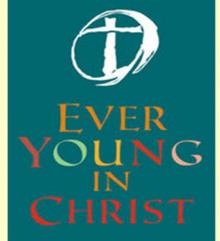
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