

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

April 22, 2012 Third Sunday of Easter

(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,

12noon, 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. Joseph Illo, Pastor

Fr. Benny Kottarathil, Assoc Pastor

Fr. Tony Chacko, Assoc Pastor

Fr. Larry Guerrero, Hospital Chaplain

Rev. Mr. Ken Ochinerio, Deacon

Rev. Mr. Ernest Ciccarelli, Deacon

From the Pastor's Laptop

A few weeks ago we priests **renewed our vows** before Bishop Blaire in the Cathedral. At this annual "Chrism Mass," all of the priests process in and concelebrate the Eucharist with their Bishop. People who attend this Mass often describe it as the most striking liturgy they've ever seen. Catholics love the priesthood, and we love to see our Bishop together with all his priests at the altar. And yet, we know that the priesthood in America is in crisis.

I would say that our **priest problems** — almost no priests from our own parishes, clergy scandals, burnt-out priests, ineffective or out-of-touch priests, a significant drop-out rate (half of the men I was ordained with have left the priesthood) — these problems result largely from the depressingly low standards expected of us. Simple disciplines, such as wearing clerical attire (required by Church Law), are not encouraged. In 21 years of serving this Diocese as a priest, I have never been asked if I am faithfully praying the breviary. Many priests have given up on this very first vow that we make — to pray the entire Liturgy of the Hours every day. We priests receive little encouragement to strive for holiness. As a result, we tend to stop practicing even basic priestly disciplines, such as devotions to the Mother of God; study of Scripture and Church doctrine; service to the poor; commitment to the confessional; penance, fasting, and tithing; quality homily preparation. We priests need direction, encouragement, and accountability to maintain these difficult standards. I myself have never been evaluated on any specifically priestly duties. Am I making time for real prayer? Do I put in decent work hours? Do I have a problem with alcohol, or pornography, or gambling? Am I going to confession regularly? To be a good priest requires a *greater personal sanctity*. Priests are generally not getting the guidance and accountability to sustain that greater sanctity, and this is our fundamental crisis.

Please **pray for your priests**, as I know you do. Pray that we love God enough to obey Him, as He speaks through our Bishop and the Pope. Pray that we commit ourselves to becoming saints.



Fr. Joseph, assisted by Deacon Ciccarelli, washes the feet of Scott Nunes at the Mass on Holy Thursday.

Fr. Joseph

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 fifty hours our office is open each week.

Parish Office

(Lulu, Donna, Alex, Brenda)

Sunday: 10am-3:00pm.

Monday: 10am-7:30pm

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

Closed Wednesday from 11am-1pm

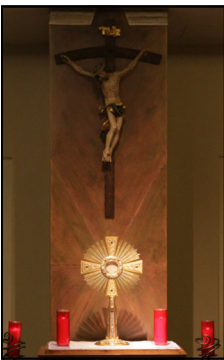
Friday 8:30am-12noon

Weekend Maintenance 568-7558

How can we help? 551-4973

Se Habla Español..... 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 PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL



Try a Holy Hour with Jesus once a week! Please see the schedule outside the Chapel for hours needing adorers.

Contact David & Monica at 527-4920 if you can pick up one of these hours.

Welcome to St. Joseph's

We're glad you're here!

Parish Life

Upcoming Events & Activities



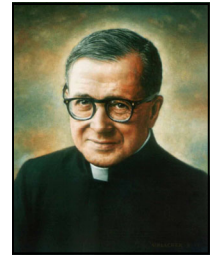
ST. JOSEPH'S LIBRARY SALE

We need your used books for our book sale on April 29. Please drop off any donations to the library or the Parish office. Thank You!

OPUS DEI MEN'S EVENING OF RECOLLECTION

All men are welcome and encouraged to come to an Opus Dei Men's Evening of Recollection on Thursday, May 3, from 7:15pm-9:15pm in the church. This Evening of Recollection will be conducted by an Opus Dei priest.

For further information, please contact Nilo Casiano (209) 324-5926.



St. Josemaria Escriva

CROWNING OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



On May 6th during the 12noon Mass the children of St. Joseph's will participate in the Crowning of Our Blessed Mother sponsored by The Militia of the Immaculata Villages. If your child is interested in participating in the procession and crowning, please call Suzanne Flint at 521-8299. There will be only one practice on Friday afternoon, May 4th; time to be announced.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICE GUILD — MAY 9

Catholic Social Service Guild is having their Celebration of Mothers Luncheon, on Wednesday, May 9 from 10am-2pm, in the Fr. O'Hare Hall. This "Tablescape" Event will include, beautiful tables, delicious food, great vendors and wonderful musical entertainment. Tickets are \$40 dollars. All proceeds benefit the Seniors of Stanislaus County. For Tickets call Patty at 529-2940.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT — MAY 18

Take Friday off and join us on the links for a beautiful day of golf followed by a prime rib dinner in Fr. O'Hare Hall. Cost is \$85/women, \$100/men and includes greens fees, cart, lunch & dinner. Proceeds raised benefit scholarships and local charities. Contact Michael Loschke 572-2271 for more information. Deadline for registering is May 4.



Religious Education

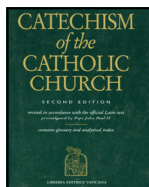
MASS 101 — MAY 12 9am-2pm in the Hall

Do you want to get more out of the Mass? Did you know that most of the words we hear and say at Mass come from the bible? Save the date for this workshop on the Holy Mass. Details coming soon!



CATECHISM 101 — JUNE 18

All adult Catholics are invited to discover the richness of our Catholic faith. On the third Monday of every month, we will have a workshop on the Catechism of the Catholic Church. We will meet at 7pm in JP11 room 8.



VACATION BIBLE RETREAT (VBR) JUNE 25-29

VBR is a treat for the children of St. Joseph's and always fills quickly. Be watching for upcoming announcements for opportunities to sign up your child and to volunteer.



✠ Militia Immaculata ✠

Join us and learn about Militia Immaculata!

May 5th — Monthly Meetings for the Prayer and Spanish Villages, following 8am Mass in Rm. 5, JP11 bldg.

May 6th — Family Village Monthly meeting. after 9am Mass in the Hall.



Save the Date for...

June 6-8 Women's Retreat
led by the Fr. Kolbe Missionaries.

✠ Parish School of Religion ✠

PSR Registration June 9-11

Does your child need their First Holy Communion or Confirmation? Save the date for our Parish School of Religion registration weekend. Details such as hours and enrollment cost will be given

PSR students, please bring canned fruit this month for St. Vincent de Paul. Thanks for your kindness and stewardship!



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

Sacred Art... Man's Expression of Truth

From time immemorial, man has used art not only to depict his surroundings, but to describe the realm of the unknown and unseen. From Paleolithic pictographs on cave walls to catacomb paintings and finally to our time, art always has been part of human expression. Throughout history, the Church has used sacred art to illustrate the realm of the divine, its infallible teachings, the good news of the Gospel and the hope of an eternal life with God. Icons, paintings, statues, mosaics and frescos on the many walls of our magnificent churches throughout time have brought theology to the people, inspired saints and overall lifted the hearts and minds of all to the celestial realm. Sacred art is not only a depiction or a rendition made by the artist who has created it, but a window into the unseen, an inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Through sacred art, one is taken into the events of salvation history, the mystery of God and the sacraments of the Church. In earlier times, the mostly illiterate faithful had little to no access to Sacred Scripture, so it was through the Sacred Liturgy, catechetical instruction and sacred art that they were able to learn about the faith. These windows into heaven bring the mysteries of God and eternity to the laity and recall the salvation events of Sacred Scripture. *"Sacred art is true and beautiful when it corresponds to its particular vocation: evoking and glorifying, in faith and adoration, the transcendent mystery of God..."* (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2502). Whenever the Church has been persecuted, periods of iconoclasm have been experienced, where sacred images, statues, and churches have been destroyed in an effort to do away with the faith. Today, we are confronted with a more subtle attack on the faith, a sort of brainwashing posing as a "greater good" has been slowly eroding reason and truth. The focus on the scientific method, coupled with the need to prove everything, together with a fascination for the material world, has blinded our society to the workings of the spirit and the beauty of God's creation as they are expressed through sacred art.



✠ 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 Stacy Phillips: (209)541-8903** to make an appointment.

Youth Ministry

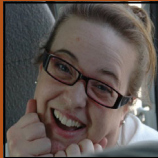
Contact Us!



Nathan Steingrebe

C.209.247.7863
W. 551-4973, ext. 206

Nathan@stjmod.com



Katie Steffanic

St. Joseph's youth ministry challenges young people to love Christ and embrace the Catholic Church. We

have High School Life Nights after the 5:30pm Sunday Mass in the hall.

Also we have our CI nights for 7th graders on Wednesdays at 7pm in the hall.



WYD Cookbooks

Looking for some great food recipes? These books have 200 pages full of favorite recipes and ideas from Parishioners here at St. Joseph's. Contents include appetizers, salads, breads, candies, cookies to beverages. The books are available in our bookstore and the cost is \$15. Proceeds go toward WYD Rio 2013.

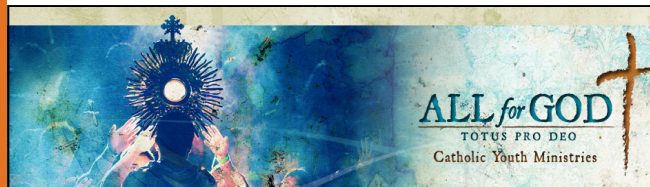
Upcoming LifeNights:
4/22: The Holy Spirit
4/29: Gifts of the Spirit
5/6: Protect this House-Dignity, Rights and Responsibilities
5/13: Our Blessed Mother



All high school teens are invited to join us for Youth Group! Come and enjoy prayer, games, and fellowship. Every Sunday from 7-8:30 in the Hall.

Confirmation Retreat

This is an important reminder that the Confirmation 2 retreat is Saturday, April 28. It will take place in the Hall from 10am-6:30pm. If you have not turned in your permission slip please do so ASAP. Forms can be picked up and turned in to the parish office.



**Steubenville
San Diego
July 27-29**

We are now accepting permission slips! This conference is open to all high school teens, graduating 8th grade through 12th grade. Guest speakers and musicians this year include Ike Ndolo, Fr. Michael Schmitz, Matt Smith, Jackie Francois and Righteous B will be the host. Space is limited. Cost is \$150. Payment options are available. Please contact the youth office for a permission slip and more information.



"Where's Nathan?" was a great success over spring break. Thank you to all of the teens that participated. We had a ton of fun. Here are some of the pictures!



Center for Lay Apostolates

FOCUS ON LEADERSHIP: Plaza Refreshments are being served this morning by the Youth For Christ, Foundation for Family Life.

Parish Stewardship—a way of life

2012 — 42nd Annual Parish Festival

September 7-9, 2012

Join the fun as we plan!
Open Committee Positions:

- Food Booths Supervising Coordinator
- Marketing/Promotions Coordinator
- Decorations Coordinator

(Call 551-4973, ext. 207 for these and other Festival planning opportunities)

“Faith In Action”

New:

Old Time Country Live Auction
Pie Baking Contest



Bringing Families Together

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

Profiles in Stewardship

by Nathan Steingrebe



Oswaldo Ramirez

“Never lack in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord”-Romans 12:11. In our community, Oswaldo Ramirez has faithfully answered the Lord’s call. Oswaldo has been a member of St. Joseph’s for 10 years with his parents, three sisters, and brother. A few years after joining our parish he became an altar server. This year, with prayer and encouragement from his sister Cecilia, he became a member of the ‘Victory’ team. Oswaldo’s favorite part of youth ministry is helping with retreats. His faith deepened while attending WYD Madrid 2011 when, “we got to sleep outside. It was hot all day and then out of nowhere it started pouring rain! Our group, along with Sacred Heart, started dancing and singing and soon after other groups around us joined in. I felt so united with other young Catholics, it was great!”

Oswaldo just turned 19 and attends MJC. He loves playing soccer and spending time with his wonderful girlfriend, Dezaray Nila, who also serves on the ‘Victory’ team. He wants to study mathematics so he can get a nice job and raise enough money to open his own restaurant. “As for my future in my faith, I hope to keep growing closer to God and help Nathan with the Confirmation program so that I can one day educate my own kids on how to get to heaven.”

In the Diocese

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Central Catholic High School in Modesto will host a special open house on Thursday, April 26, from 6-8pm. This is a great family event to check out the academics, athletics and the arts at CCHS. Come out and meet the teachers and coaches, sign your youngsters up for summer athletic camps and enjoy a free family BBQ. Eighth graders will have the opportunity to sign up for CCHS sports teams. Additional information about scholarships and tuition assistance will be available. Please call Cathi Padula at 524-9611 for more information.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

Catholic Daughters of the Americas invite you to join us for our Spring Luncheon and fashion show "100 Years of Fashion" on Saturday, April 28, at SOS Club. Tickets \$35 dollars; doors open at 11am. For tickets and/or information contact Patty at 529-2940.

THE CATHOLIC TOUR PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

The Catholic Tour, a 32-year old Catholic Pilgrimage Apostolate, is pleased to announce a Pilgrimage to Rome for the Opening of our Holy Father's proclaimed "Year of Faith" plus a Mediterranean Cruise followed by the Canonization Ceremony for seven new Catholic Saints, two of which are from the United States: Mother Marianne Cope and Blessed Kateri Tekawitha. Also to be canonized will be Blessed Pedro Calungsod. Dates for the entire trip are October 9-21. Please call The Catholic Tour (1-877-627-4268) for prices, itinerary, reservations and to ask any questions. You also may e-mail: jimadair@thecatholictour.com We look forward to serving you.

From our Holy Father in Mexico

APOSTOLIC JOURNEY TO MEXICO AND THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA

Expo Bicentenario Park, León — Sunday, 25 March 2012



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am very pleased to be among you today and I express my sincere gratitude to the Most Reverend José Guadalupe Martín Rábago, Archbishop of León, for his kind words of welcome. I greet the Mexican Bishops, and the Cardinals and other Bishops present here, and in a special way those who have come from Latin America and the Caribbean...



We said, "A pure heart, create for me, O God" (Ps 50:12) during the responsorial psalm. This exclamation shows us how profoundly we must prepare to celebrate next week the great mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord. It also helps us to look deeply into the human heart, especially in times of sorrow as well

as hope, as are the present times for the people of Mexico and of Latin America.

A pure heart, a new heart, is one which recognizes that, of itself, it is impotent and places itself in God's hands so as to continue hoping in his promises. Then the psalmist can say to the Lord with conviction: "Sinners will return to you" (Ps 50:15). And towards the end of the psalm he will give an explanation which is at the same time a firm conviction of faith: "A humble, contrite heart you will not spurn" (v. 19)... Jesus' answer, announcing his imminent passion, means that a casual encounter in those moments would have been superficial and perhaps deceptive. The Greeks will see the one they wished to meet raised up on the cross from which he will attract all to himself (cf. Jn 12:32). There his "glory" will begin, because of his sacrifice of expiation for all, as the grain of wheat fallen to the ground that by dying germinates and produces abundant fruit. They will find the one whom, unknown to them, they were seeking in their hearts, the true God who is made visible to all peoples. This was how Our Lady of Guadalupe showed her divine Son to Saint Juan Diego, not as a powerful legendary hero but as the very God of the living, by whom all live, the Creator of persons, of closeness and immediacy, of heaven and earth (*Nican Mopohua*, v.33). At that moment she did what she had done previously at the wedding feast of Cana. Faced with the embarrassment caused by the lack of wine, she told the servants clearly that the path to follow was her Son: "Do whatever he tells you" (Jn 2:5).

Dear brothers and sisters, by coming here I have been able to visit the monument to Christ the King situated on top of the Cubilete. ...This monument represents Christ the King. But his crowns, one of a sovereign, the other of thorns, indicate that his royal status does not correspond to how it has been or is understood by many. His kingdom does not stand on the power of his armies subduing others through force or violence. It rests on a higher power that wins over hearts: the love of God that he brought into the world with his sacrifice and the truth to which he bore witness. This is his sovereignty which no one can take from him and which no one should forget. Hence it is right that this shrine should be above all a place of pilgrimage, of fervent prayer, of conversion, of reconciliation, of the search for truth and the acceptance of grace. We ask Christ to reign in our hearts, making them pure, docile, filled with hope and courageous in humility...

Sacraments

Our Mass Intentions

St. Joseph's first quarter average attendance for all Sunday Masses: 4320 people per week

This Week

Sunday, April 22 (Third Sunday of Easter)			
7:30a	Justina Scaramuzzino	1:30p	Adela Andujar and Anastacio & Maria Gomez
9:00a	Felix Cortes	5:30p	Leona De Los Santos
10:30a	All St. Joseph's Parishioners	7:30p	Robert and Elena Gutierrez
12:00p	Frank and Joseph Ferreira		
Monday, April 23			
8:00a	Rodolfo Piamonte and John & Filomena Mendes	5:45p	Apollonia LaForges and Eursia David
Tuesday, April 24			
8:00a	Fr. Benny Kottathil—Special Int.	5:45p	Greg Manoch and Nathan Inqlima
Wednesday, April 25			
8:00a	Elizabeth Machado and Robert V. Cruz	5:45p	Luis & Victoria Dimapilis, Juan Quijano and Rafael Perez
Thursday, April 26			
8:00a	Doris Yago and Joseph Cusenza	5:45p	Robert Cruz and Manuel B. Victoria
Friday, April 27			
8:00a	Rosanna Hollander and George Bringas	5:45p	Carmen Espinoza and Daniel Castellanos
Saturday, April 28			
8:00a	Amelia Sagrado and Jim Trevillyan	5:45p	St. Joseph's Memorial Mass
Sunday, April 29 (Fourth Sunday of Easter)			
7:30a	Bienvenida De Leon	1:30p	Jose Mercado Gonzalez and Ignacio Corea
9:00a	Teofilo Alviar	5:30p	Joe Mendes
10:30a	All St. Joseph's Parishioners	7:30p	Jessica Solis
12:00p	Martin Lorega		

Sunday, April 22, 2012		
10:00A	Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)	JP6
1:00P	Youth for Family & Life	JP7
Monday, April 23, 2012		
7:00P	Charismatic Prayer Group	JP10
Tuesday, April 24, 2012		
9:00A	Senior Strength Training	JP7
10:30A	Light Weigh	JP8
5:30P	ESL Classes	JP4
6:15P	Legion of Mary	JP4
6:30P	Stewardship Committee	JP4
7:00P	Charismatic Prayer Group Spanish	JP7
Wednesday, April 25, 2012		
1:30P	Widows and Widowers Bible Study	JP5
5:30P	AA Principle Study Group	JP5
5:45P	AI Anon Group	JP10
Thursday, April 26, 2012		
9:00A	Senior Strength Training	JP7
6:30P	Rosary Makers	JP5
6:30P	Compartiendo la Biblia	JP4
7:00P	Spanish Young Adults	JP2
Friday, April 27, 2012		
12:00P	Latin Mass	Chur
3:00P	Divine Mercy Prayer	Chap
Sunday, April 29, 2012		
10:00A	CLOW	JP6
1:00P	Youth for Family & Life	JP7

Opportunities to Help

Readings 4/23-4/29

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

We are having difficulty keeping our food pantry full. Deacon Ken has a plea to our parishioners: please help us to help those who count on us to have food on their table, especially for their children. We are in need of canned vegetables, fruit, meat, baby food, toiletries, packaged pasta, packaged beans and cereals. Please contact Deacon Ken, if you know of food suppliers who will work with SVDP to purchase food at wholesale or discount prices. God bless all of you, thank you for the support of our ministry.



St. Vincent de Paul

Monday:	Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday:	Acts 7:51 — 8:1a; Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday:	1 Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20
Thursday:	Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51
Friday:	Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59
12pm Latin Mass:	II Tim. 4:1-8; Mt. 5:13-19
Saturday:	Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69
Sunday:	Acts 4:8-12; Ps 118; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18
Latin Mass:	1 Pt. 2:11-19; Jn. 16:16-22

Remember a special day or person
-Altar Flower Donation-
 Call the Development Office for info. 551-4973, x207

Pay your bills online?
 Call the parish office at 551-4973 to find out about online offertory gifts, instead of writing checks.

VENTA DE LIBROS

Necesitamos sus libros usados para nuestra venta de libros el domingo, 29 de abril. Por favor deje su donación en la librería o la oficina parroquial.



ESTUDIO BIBLICO
INTRODUCCION
A LA BIBLIA

14 de mayo -18 de junio

¿Desea aprender mas sobre la Sagrada Escritura pero no sabe como comenzar? Venga y disfrute de esta clase todos los lunes de 7pm-8:30pm en el salón "All Saints" #4 del edificio JP II. ¡Lo esperamos!

☞ Youth Ministry ☜

¡Dele a sus hijos la oportunidad de conocer buenos amigos!

¡Todo adolescente de high school está invitado a asistir al Grupo Juvenil!

Ven y disfruta de la oración, juegos, y compañerismo. Cada domingo de 7-8:30pm en el Salón Parroquial.

Juntas Sigüientes:

4/15: Divina Misericordia

4/22: El Espíritu Santo

4/29: Dones del Espíritu Santo

5/6: Protege esta Casa-Dignidad, Derechos, y Responsabilidades

Pase una Hora Santa con Jesús en la Capilla de Adoración al Santísimo. Llame a David & Mónica al 527-4920.



Hace algunas semanas, nosotros los sacerdotes **renovamos nuestros votos** ante el Obispo Blaire en la Catedral. Durante esta Misa de Crisma anual, todos los sacerdotes desfilan en procesión a concelebrar la Eucaristía con el Obispo. Aquellos que asisten a esta Misa muchas veces la describen como la liturgia mas deslumbrante que antes hayan presenciado. Los Católicos aman el sacerdocio, y nos encanta ver al Obispo con todos sus sacerdotes en el altar. Y a pesar de esto sabemos que el sacerdocio en América se encuentra en una crisis.

Yo diría que los problemas de nuestros sacerdotes— casi ningún sacerdote proviene de nuestras parroquias, con una gran mayoría de ellos saliéndose (la mitad de todos los hombres con que me ordené han dejado el sacerdocio), los escándalos del clero, sacerdotes que se han dado por vencidos, sacerdotes que son inefectivos o que no se enteran del mundo actual—todo esto es el resultado de un bajo y deprimente estándar esperado de nosotros. Simples disciplinas tales como ponerse la vestimenta sacerdotal (un requisito por ley eclesial). En 21 años de servicio como sacerdote en esta Diócesis, nunca me han preguntado si he sido fiel al rezo del breviario. Muchos de nuestros sacerdotes han dejado este primer voto que tomamos—el rezar toda la Liturgia de las Horas cada día. Nosotros los sacerdotes recibimos poco animo para llegar a la santidad. Como resultado, entonces dejamos de practicar hasta las básicas disciplinas sacerdotales como las devociones a la Santísima Madre de Dios, el estudio de las Escrituras y doctrina de la Iglesia; el compromiso al confesional; penitencia, ayuno y caridad, y la preparación de homilias de calidad. Los sacerdotes necesitamos dirección, ánimo y responsabilidad para mantener este alto nivel. Personalmente nunca he recibido una evaluación basada en ninguna de las obligaciones sacerdotales. ¿Estoy dedicando tiempo para verdadera oración? ¿Dedico horas decentes a mi trabajo? ¿Tengo yo problemas con el alcohol, el juego o la pornografía? ¿Estoy yendo a confesión regularmente? Para ser un buen sacerdote se requiere una *mayor santidad personal*. Los sacerdotes en general no están recibiendo la guía y responsabilidad necesarias para sostener una mayor santidad y esta es fundamentalmente nuestra crisis.



Por favor **recen por sus sacerdotes**, como sé que ustedes lo hacen. Recen para que amemos a Dios lo suficiente para obedecerle, mientras que El nos habla por medio de nuestro Obispo y el Papa. Recen para que nos comprometamos a volvernos santos.

Fr. Joseph

El Padre Joseph lavando los pies de Scott Nunes y asistido por el Diácono Ciccarelli durante la Misa del Jueves Santo.

Nuestro Santo Padre en México

VIAJE APOSTÓLICO A MÉXICO Y A LA REPÚBLICA DE CUBA

Parque Expo Bicentenario de León — Domingo 25 de marzo, 2012



Queridos hermanos y hermanas:

Me complace estar entre ustedes, y deseo agradecer vivamente a Monseñor José Guadalupe Martín Rábago, Arzobispo de León, sus amables palabras de bienvenida. Saludo al episcopado mexicano, así como a los Señores



Cardenales y demás Obispos aquí presentes, en particular a los procedentes de Latinoamérica y el Caribe...

«Crea en mí, Señor, un corazón puro» (Sal 50,12), hemos invocado en el salmo responsorial. Esta exclamación muestra la profundidad con la que hemos de prepararnos para celebrar la próxima semana el gran misterio de la pasión, muerte y resurrección del Señor. Nos

ayuda asimismo a mirar muy dentro del corazón humano, especialmente en los momentos de dolor y de esperanza a la vez, como los que atraviesa en la actualidad el pueblo mexicano y también otros de Latinoamérica.

...Un corazón puro, un corazón nuevo, es el que se reconoce impotente por sí mismo, y se pone en manos de Dios para seguir esperando en sus promesas. De este modo, el salmista puede decir convencido al Señor: «Volverán a ti los pecadores» (Sal 50,15). Y, hacia el final del salmo, dará una explicación que es al mismo tiempo una firme confesión de fe: «Un corazón quebrantado y humillado, tú no lo desprecias» (v. 19)...La respuesta de Jesús, anunciando su pasión inminente, viene a decir que un encuentro ocasional en aquellos momentos sería superfluo y tal vez engañoso. Al que los griegos quieren ver en realidad, lo verán levantado en la cruz, desde la cual atraerá a todos hacia sí (cf. Jn 12,32). Allí comenzará su «gloria», a causa de su sacrificio de expiación por todos, como el grano de trigo caído en tierra que muriendo, germina y da fruto abundante. Encontrarán a quien seguramente sin saberlo andaban buscando en su corazón, al verdadero Dios que se hace reconocible para todos los pueblos. Este es también el modo en que Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe mostró su divino Hijo a san Juan Diego. No como a un héroe portentoso de leyenda, sino como al verdaderísimo Dios, por quien se vive, al Creador de las personas, de la cercanía y de la intermediación, del Cielo y de la Tierra (Nican Mopohua, v. 33). Ella hizo en aquel momento lo que ya había ensayado en las Bodas de Caná. Ante el apuro de la falta de vino, indicó claramente a los sirvientes que la vía a seguir era su Hijo: «Hagan lo que él les diga» (Jn 2,5).

Queridos hermanos, al venir aquí he podido acercarme al monumento a Cristo Rey, en lo alto del Cubilete. ... Pues bien, en este monumento se representa a Cristo Rey. Pero las coronas que le acompañan, una de soberano y otra de espinas, indican que su realeza no es como muchos la entendieron y la entienden. Su reinado no consiste en el poder de sus ejércitos para someter a los demás por la fuerza o la violencia. Se funda en un poder más grande que gana los corazones: el amor de Dios que él ha traído al mundo con su sacrificio y la verdad de la que ha dado testimonio. Éste es su señorío, que nadie le podrá quitar ni nadie debe olvidar. Por eso es justo que, por encima de todo, este santuario sea un lugar de peregrinación, de oración ferviente, de conversión, de reconciliación, de búsqueda de la verdad y acogida de la gracia. A él, a Cristo, le pedimos que reine en nuestros corazones haciéndolos puros, dóciles, esperanzados y valientes en la propia humildad...

Página 8 - St. Joseph's Modesto

CORRESPONSABILIDAD (STEWARDSHIP)

Por el Ministerio Juvenil



Oswaldo Ramirez

“Sean diligentes y no flojos. Sean fervorosos en el Espíritu y sirvan al Señor”-Rom 12,11.

En nuestra comunidad, Oswaldo Ramírez a contestado fielmente el llamado del Señor. Oswaldo ha sido miembro de St. Joseph's por 10 años con sus papás, 3 hermanas y un hermano. Unos cuantos meses después de unirse a nuestra parroquia se hizo monaguillo. Este año, con oración y ánimo de parte de su hermana, Cecilia, se hizo miembro del equipo 'Victory'. Del ministerio juvenil, la parte favorita de Oswaldo es el ayudar en los retiros. Su fe creció al asistir a la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud en Madrid el 2011 'cuando nos tocó dormir afuera'. ¡Todo el día hizo mucho calor y luego sin saber de donde comenzó a llover fuerte! Nuestro grupo, junto con el del Sagrado Corazón, comenzó a bailar y a cantar y muy pronto otros grupos a nuestro alrededor se unieron a nosotros. ¡Me sentí tan unido a los demás jóvenes católicos, fue grandioso!

Oswaldo acaba de cumplir 19 años y asiste al MJC. Le encanta jugar fútbol soccer y pasar tiempo con su maravillosa novia, Dezaray Nila, quien también sirve en el equipo de 'Victory'. Él quiere estudiar matemáticas para poder tener un buen trabajo y ahorrar suficiente dinero para abrir su propio restaurante. 'Sobre el futuro en mi fe, espero crecer y acercarme más a Dios y ayudar a Nathan con el programa de Confirmación para que algún día yo pueda aducar a mis propios hijos y enseñarles cómo llegar al Cielo'.

