

*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

February 24, 2013 Second Sunday of Lent

(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

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Monday thru Friday 5-5:30pm

****During Lent Friday confessions
are before the 5:45pm Mass due to
the Stations of the Cross.****

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

Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent 8:45am,
6:30pm (Español), 7:30pm (English)

Clergy:

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

From the Pastor's Laptop

As we draw near to the celebration of Jesus' entering Jerusalem for His "Passover" through death to life, we listen to the Gospel story of the Transfiguration. His chosen disciples see Him glorified and conversing with two heavenly figures, Moses and Elijah, about "His exodus that He was going to accomplish in Jerusalem." The text says: "They saw His glory and the two men standing with Him." What a beautiful vision of the Communion of Saints! This should always be our goal and our ideal: to be "standing with Him." Moses and Elijah "stood with Him" to show that the Old Testament contains prophecies about what would happen to Jesus. Each of us must "stand with Him" in difficult times. We must follow him by carrying our crosses.

In the family of the church we never stand alone. We always stand with the saints. In the church we stand with the pope, who is the "Vicar of Christ" on earth. As a church we also stand with our bishop, who represents Christ as the chief shepherd of our diocese. Each parish has a pastor and other priests who stand defending the sheep of their little flock.

I thank God for all of you who do not stand alone but who "stand with" and support me and all the shepherds of the church. Thanks to those who will commit to supporting our local church in the Bishop's Ministry Appeal. And thanks to those who are praying for our pope and his successor!

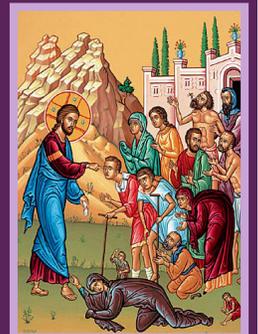
Fr. Mark Wagner

The Militia of the Immaculata Villages & the Health Ministry
invite you to attend...

MASS & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

March 2 at 10am in the church

If you need transportation, please contact
Suzanne Flint by February 25 at 521-8299.
(Hispano parlantes vean página 8 para
información)



Questions?

To make an appointment with a priest or deacon or to register at St. Joseph's please contact Lulu, Rosario, or Donna in our parish office at 551-4973 or stop by during any of the 44 hours our office is open each week.

Parish Office

(Lulu, Donna, & Rosario)

Sunday: 10am-3pm.

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday:

8:30am-noon and 1pm-6:30pm

Wednesday: 8:30am-11:15am and

1pm-6:30pm

Friday 8:30am-noon

Weekend Maintenance 568-7558

How can we help? 551-4973

<i>Se Habla Español</i>	Rosario 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

Save the Date:
**St. Joseph's Lenten
Penance Service**
March 20
7pm in the church



Priests from around the diocese will be at St. Joseph's to hear your confession.

Welcome to St. Joseph's

We're glad you're here!

Parish Life

☞ Upcoming Events & Activities ☜



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CRAB FEED

The Knights of Columbus will be on the plaza today selling tickets for their Crab Feed which will be held on Saturday, March 2.

FISH FRIES AND SOUP NIGHT

They will also be on the plaza today selling tickets for all their Fish Fries and Soup Night dinners. The Fish Fries will be held on the Lenten Fridays of March 8 & 15. Soup Night will be held on March 22. All proceeds will go toward supporting the various charities and ministries of our parish. Thank you in advance for your support.

LIGHT WEIGH

Did you eat more this holiday season that you wanted? Would you like to get in shape for summer? Break free from the vicious cycle of dieting and learn to achieve real peace with food through the Christ centered principles taught in this 12-week bible study. Classes will be held on Wednesday evenings. Come to an orientation March 6 at 7:30PM. For more information call Cheryl, 545-7992 or Ann, 522-0697. Hope to see you there!

PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS 2013-2016 Term

The Pastoral Council is accepting nominations for two new members for the next 3-year term on the council. At the request of Bishop Blaire, we are seeking candidates between the ages of 18-35 to represent our young adult community at St. Joseph's. Do you know someone who or do you possess: a desire for spiritual growth in themselves/yourself and the parish, enthusiasm about the future direction of the parish,



willingness to listen, speak honestly and work toward consensus, ability to inspire and empower others to delegate, flexibility and openness with people and ideas. We'd love to hear from you! Council members are not

experts, but are people who are committed to the parish and want to see the parish live and thrive in the future. They build relationships within the parish and increase participation in the parish life.

What's the next step if I am interested?

Please send a letter of interest to Donna Roeck, chairperson, at dromni2@aol.com. This includes, but is not limited to: professional background, community and parish involvement, the gifts and talents you have to offer to the council. **Deadline is March 5.** Thank you!

Religious Education

St. Polycarp, Martyr, Church Father & Bishop

By Michael Webster

Just as a reminder, every month during the Year of Faith we are examining the life and teachings of some of the early Church Fathers and Doctors of the Church. This month we are featuring St. Polycarp, a Church Father whose feast day is February 23. A Church Father refers to early Christian theologians, many who were bishops and are now saints. One thing that is special about St. Polycarp is that he is an Apostolic Church Father, in that he received his teaching from the apostles themselves. In fact, it is traditionally believed that he was a disciple of John the Beloved Apostle and was ordained by him to be the bishop of Smyrna. St. Polycarp was born in 69AD and died as a martyr in 155AD. After the death of the last apostle, being a Christian was difficult because many heresies started. St. Polycarp held fast to the teachings of Christ and the apostles, and fought a great deal against heresies. St. Polycarp also wrote a letter to the Philippians which is one of the oldest early church writings in existence. St. Irenaus corresponded with St. Polycarp and wrote an account of his martyrdom. St. Polycarp was preparing to die and said this prayer, which can be fitting for us to pray when we are facing difficulties or trials:

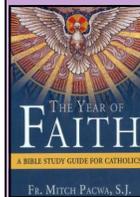
“Lord God Almighty, Father of your beloved and blessed Son Jesus Christ, through whom we have received knowledge of you, God of angels and powers, of the whole creation and of the whole race of the righteous who live in your sight, I bless you, for having made me worthy of this day and hour, I bless you, because I may have a part, along with the martyrs, in the chalice of your Christ, to resurrection in eternal life, resurrection both of soul and body in the incorruptibility of the Holy Spirit. For this and for all benefits I praise you, I bless you, I glorify you, through the eternal and heavenly High Priest, Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, through whom be to you with Him and the Holy Spirit glory, now and for all the ages to come. Amen.”

St. Polycarp, Apostolic Father and Martyr ... Pray for us!



In this Year of Faith, delve deeper into the riches of sacred scripture.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY FOR THE YEAR OF FAITH



We will be using Fr. Mitch Pacwa as our guide to discover scripture and get more out of the Year of Faith. It is not too late to join us: Tuesdays during Lent at 7pm in Fr. O'Hare Hall.

LUNCH BIBLE STUDY

Join us for bible study every Thursday at noon in the JP II, room 5. You may bring your lunch and your bible. Currently we are studying St. Paul's letters to the Corinthians. For more information call Angelica at 521-7973.

Parish School of Religion Update

Parish School of Religion

psr@stjmod.com

551-4973 ext. 217

PSR is now on Facebook... search St Joseph PSR & like us!

Students return to their PSR classes this week.

Please pray for our students who will be receiving sacraments in the months to come.

February School of Faith Classes

February			Liturgy	
M	T	W	T	F
4	5	6 4, 7pm	7	8
11 4pm	12 5:15pm	13 Ash Wednes- day	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28 7pm	

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 **John and Nichole Sablan (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



Service Hours Opportunities:

Attention all high school and junior high Confirmation students that need service hours! Volunteers are needed to help with the fish fry that is held on Friday evenings during Lent. The event is held in the Hall from 5-9 p.m. You can sign up in the PSR office if interested.

The Knights of Columbus annual Crab Feed will take place on Saturday, March 2nd. Twenty-five high school volunteers are requested to help serve. Please sign up at Life Night or in the PSR office if you are able to help!

LifeNight Line-Up

2/24: The church of our time

3/3: The doctrine of grace

3/10: Heroic virtue



Live Stations of the Cross

Volunteer options still are available to help with Live Stations of the Cross. Practices are held on Tuesday afternoons from 4:30-6 p.m. in the youth and family center, JP II center. If you are a confirmation student and participate in the play, you can earn 20 community service hours.



San Diego: Youth Conference
The Steubenville Conference: San Diego trip will be July 26-28. There are

45 spots for teens! Permission slips are available now in the youth center and you can reserve your spot with a \$20 deposit. A minimum payment of \$20 is due each month leading up to the trip. Total cost is \$200. Join 5,000 other teens in adoration, Mass, praise and worship, men's and women's sessions and confession.

Spots are filling already! You do not want to miss out!



Center for Lay Apostolates

FOCUS ON LEADERSHIP: Please thank our Plaza Hospitality Volunteers for hosting our plaza coffee and donuts this morning.

Parish Stewardship — a way of life

St. Joseph's Health Ministry Health Career Scholarships



We salute the stewards of our active Health Ministry Team, who annually award three \$500 scholarships for graduating seniors or those currently studying for a health career while in college.

2012 Health Ministry Scholars: *Yvette Clary & Laura Oregel*

Applications in Parish Office
Due: April 15

Volunteer Office Helpers

The volunteer office welcomes parishioners who have several hours of time each week and either have existing office skills or who are interested in developing them.

Call for Tammy or Bertha for more information:

551-4973, ext. 202

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

Profiles in Stewardship

by Debbie Greco



Erik Jimenez, ready to serve and share faith

Lent is a special time of preparation for all Catholics, but especially for the unbaptized catechumens, who are to be Baptized, receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation at Easter. Children over age 7 who are not yet baptized spend two years in formation before receiving the sacraments. Erik Jimenez is one of our catechists preparing these children. Every Wednesday he shares the treasures of faith with them by both word and example. He patiently teaches and prays with them, often bringing them to the Adoration Chapel to spend a few minutes with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. He often stays late to help communicate important information to our parents who only speak Spanish.

Erik is a true evangelizer who eagerly shares his faith with his fellow students at Johannsen High School, where he is a senior. He recently won an award for being the Top Teen of Modesto for his service to the community.!

In addition to being a catechist, Erik, serves as a Victory Peer minister to our Confirmation students, is an altar server and an active member of our youth group.

God has blessed Erik with many gifts and he joyfully stewards them everywhere God places him, anytime and in any way God asks. Our parish is blessed by Erik's faithful stewardship.

In the Diocese

2013 BISHOP'S MINISTRY APPEAL

Our gift to the 2013 Bishop's Ministry Appeal can help make a direct impact on the lives of many through the Diocesan ministries. These ministries can only function and prosper with your support. For more information:

www.stocktondiocese.org/BMA



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

40 Days for Life has started. We pray outside the abortion clinic, located at 2030 Coffee Rd., from 7am-7pm, seven days each week, Monday through Sunday. For more information call Brian 606-1766.

ALL SAINTS SCHOLARSHIPS

All Saints Catholic Campus Ministry in Turlock is offering scholarships for students currently or planning to attend CSU, Stanislaus, for the 2013-14 School year; regardless of religious affiliation. Need and potential for success in their chosen fields are among the things taken into consideration when choosing the recipients. Scholarship application forms are available online through the collage website under: off Campus Scholarships, the Church office, or by contacting: Carol Parks 634-1142 All application forms must be returned to the church office by St Patrick's Day, March 17.

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From our Holy Father in Rome

GENERAL AUDIENCE
Wednesday, 13 February 2013



Dear Brothers and Sisters,
As you know, I have decided – thank you for your kindness – to renounce the ministry which the Lord entrusted to me on 19 April 2005. I have done this in full freedom for the good of the Church, after much prayer and having examined my conscience before God, knowing full well the seriousness of this act, but also realizing that I am no longer able to carry out the Petrine



ministry with the strength which it demands. I am strengthened and reassured by the certainty that the Church is Christ's, who will never leave her without his guidance and care. I thank all of you for the love and for the prayers with which you have accompanied me. Thank you; in these days which have not been easy for me, I have felt almost physically the power of prayer – your prayers – which the love of the Church has given me. Continue to pray for me, for the Church and for the future Pope. The Lord will guide us.

Today, Ash Wednesday, we begin our yearly Lenten journey of conversion in preparation for Easter. The forty days of Lent recall Israel's sojourn in the desert and the temptations of Jesus at the beginning of his public ministry. The desert, as the place of silent encounter with God and decision about the deepest meaning and direction of our lives, is also a place of temptation. In his temptation in the desert, Jesus showed us that fidelity to God's will must guide our lives and thinking, especially amid today's secularized society. While the Lord continues to raise up examples of radical conversion, like Pavel Florensky, Etty Hillesum and Dorothy Day, he also constantly challenges those who have been raised in the faith to deeper conversion. In this Lenten season, Christ once again knocks at our door (cf. *Rev 3:20*) and invites us to open our minds and



hearts to his love and his truth. May Jesus' example of overcoming temptation inspire us to embrace God's will and to see all things in the light of his saving truth.

Sacraments

Our Mass Intentions

This Week

Sunday, February 24 (Second Sunday of Lent)

7:30a	Justina Scaramuzzino	1:30p	Wenceslao Jimenez and Celina Vera
9:00a	Nick J. Alves	5:30p	Florin Edward
10:30a	All St. Joseph's Parishioners	7:30p	Fr. Joseph O'Hare
12:00p	Matias & Maria Ferreira		

Monday, February 25

8:00a	Melito Retanan and Mommy Braganza	5:45p	Joseph (Buster) Aruda
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Tuesday, February 26

8:00a	Gail Friedrich	5:45p	Frances A. Creel and Ruth McCarthy
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Wednesday, February 27

8:00a	Rose Cusenza and Amy Nonato	5:45p	Nancy Aboularage
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Thursday, February 28

8:00a	Dwaine Stephan	5:45p	Verdie Williams
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Friday, March 1

8:00a	Panfilo & Anastacia Mahayag	5:45p	Reynaldo N. Briones
12:00p	Nick Alves		

Saturday, March 2

8:00a	Alfredo P. Antonio	5:30p	St. Joseph's Memorial Mass
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Sunday, March 3 (Third Sunday of Lent)

7:30a	Kay Baggett	1:30p	George Medina and Joaquin Rocha
9:00a	Nick Alves	3:30p	Indian Mass
10:30a	All St. Joseph's Parishioners	5:30p	Franco Agazzi
12:00p	Nancy Aboularage	7:30p	Cristina Linares

Stewardship: A Way of Life

As children of God we are called home to the kingdom of heaven. Just as Abraham received a sign to mark the covenant between God and him, in faith we recognize in the Church the promise Jesus made to his followers. Abraham witnessed the power of God and therefore believed. By our faith we acknowledge the truth delivered to us by the Church, that Jesus is our savior. His death opened the gates of heaven to us so that we may enter if we choose to do so. May the gift of faith enable us to follow Jesus as our guide as we make this lifelong journey to God's Kingdom.

Readings 02/25-03/03

Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46 12pm Latin Mass: Gen. 37:6-22; Mt. 21:33-46
Saturday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday:	Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/ Lk 13:1-9
Latin Mass	Eph. 5:1-9; Lk. 11:14-28

Sunday, February 24, 2013

11:30A	7 Steps	JP8
2:00P	JPII Lectures	JP7

Monday, February 25, 2013

7:00P	Charismatic Prayer (English)	JP10
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Tuesday, February 26, 2013

9:00A	Senior Strength Training	JP6
10:30A	Light Weigh	JP8
6:00P	ESL Classes - Intermediates	JP4
6:15P	Legion of Mary	JP4
6:30P	Stewardship Committee	JP4
6:30P	ESL Classes - Beginners	JP10
7:00P	Charismatic Prayer - Spanish	JP6
7:00P	The Year of Faith Bible Study	Hall

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

	Widows and Widowers Bible Study	JP5
1:30P		
5:45P	Priciple Study Group	JP5
5:45P	Path to Serenity - ALANON	JP10
5:45P	Alateen Group	JP8

Thursday, February 28, 2013

9:00A	Senior Strength Training	JP6
12:00P	Carmel Study Group	JP4
12:00P	Lunch Bible Study	JP5
6:30P	Rosary Makers	JP5
6:30P	Compartiendo las Escrituras	JP4

Friday, March 1, 2013

8:45A	Stations fo the Cross	Chur
6:30P	Viacrucis - Español	Chur
7:30P	Stations fo the Cross	Chur

Saturday, March 2, 2013

9:00A	AA Language of the Heart	JP4
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Sunday, March 3, 2013

11:30A	7 Steps	JP8
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PERPETUAL EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

During Lent try a Holy Hour with Jesus once a week! Make it your Lenten resolution. Please contact David & Monica at 527-4920 if you can pick up an hour.

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

Bienvenido a St. Joseph's

SOLICITUD MINISTERIAL del OBISPO en 2013

Nuestra donación a la Solicitud Ministerial del Obispo puede ayudar a hacer un buen impacto en las vidas de muchas personas por medio de los ministerios diocesanos. Estos ministerios solo pueden funcionar y prosperar con su apoyo. Para más información: www.stocktondiocese.org/BMA

Ministerio Juvenil

Conferencia Juvenil de San Diego:

Julio 26-28, 2013

**¡Tenemos 45 lugares para
adolescentes!**

Las formas de permiso están disponibles en la oficina, y pueden apartar su lugar con sólo \$20 de depósito. Un pago mínimo de \$20 se debe pagar cada mes hasta la fecha del viaje. El costo total es de \$200. Únete a 5,000 adolescentes más en Adoración al Santísimo, Misa, alabanza y culto, sesiones para hombres y mujeres, y confesión.

¡El cupo se está llenando!

**¡No te pierdas de vivir esta
experiencia espiritual!**

CLASES DE INGLES

¿Sabía usted que St. Joseph's ofrece clases de Inglés como segunda lengua todos los martes? Para intermediarios de 6-7pm en el cuarto JP 4 All Saints Room. Para comenzantes de 6:30-7:30pm en el cuarto JP 10. Regístrese en la oficina e invite a las personas interesadas en asistir a las clases.

Página 8 - St. Joseph's Modesto

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

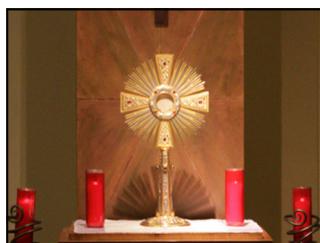
Mientras nos acercamos mas a la celebración de la entrada de Jesús en Jerusalén para su "pascua" a la vida por medio de la muerte, escuchamos la historia de la Transfiguración en el Evangelio. Sus discípulos escogidos lo ven glorificado y conversando con dos figuras celestiales, Moisés y Elías sobre "el éxodo que estaría llevando a cabo en Jerusalén." La escritura dice: "Vieron la gloria de Jesús y a los dos hombres que estaban con El". ¡Que linda visión de la Comunión de los Santos! Esta siempre debe de ser nuestra meta y nuestro ideal "Estar con El." Moisés y Elías "estaban con El" para mostrar que el Antiguo Testamento contiene profecías sobre lo que le acontecerá a Jesús. Cada uno de nosotros debemos de "estar con el" en momentos difíciles. Debemos de seguirle, llevando nuestras cruces "En la familia de la Iglesia nunca estamos solos. Siempre estamos con los santos. En la Iglesia estamos con el papa, que es el "Vicario de Cristo" en la tierra. Como Iglesia también estamos con el obispo, que representa a Cristo como el Pastor principal de nuestra diócesis. Cada parroquia tiene un pastor y otros sacerdotes que defienden a las ovejas de su rebaño.

Doy gracias a Dios por todos ustedes que no están solos y que "están conmigo" y me dan apoyo a mi y a todos los pastores de la Iglesia. Gracias a todos los que se comprometerán a apoyar a nuestra iglesia local con La Apelación Ministerial del Obispo. Y gracias a aquellos que están rezando por nuestro papa y su sucesor.

Fr. Mark Wagner

MISA Y UNCIÓN DE LOS ENFERMOS

Los Grupos de la Milicia Inmaculada y el Ministerio de Salud Lo invitan a atender a la Misa de Unción para los Enfermos el 2 de marzo a las 10am. Si necesita transporte, por favor llame a Maria Palmerin antes del 25 de febrero al 606-6298.



ADORACION al SANTISIMO

¡Haga su resolución para Cuaresma inscribese para pasar una hora por semana frente al Santísimo Sacramento! Favor de llamar a David y Monica Wood al 527-4920.

Nuestro Santo Padre en Roma

*AUDIENCIA GENERAL
Miércoles 13 de febrero de 2013*



CORRESPONSABILIDAD (STEWARDSHIP)

Por Maria Delgado-Braun

Queridos hermanos y hermanas

Como sabéis – gracias por vuestra simpatía –, he decidido renunciar al ministerio que el Señor me ha confiado el 19 de abril de 2005. Lo he hecho con plena libertad por el bien de la Iglesia, tras haber orado durante mucho tiempo y haber examinado mi conciencia ante Dios, muy consciente de la importancia de este acto, pero consciente al mismo tiempo de no estar ya en condiciones de desempeñar el ministerio petrino con la fuerza que éste requiere. Me sostiene y me ilumina la certeza de que la Iglesia es de Cristo, que no dejará de guiarla y cuidarla. Agradezco a todos el amor y la plegaria con que me habéis acompañado. Gracias. En estos días nada fáciles para mí, he sentido casi físicamente la fuerza que me da la oración, el amor de la Iglesia, vuestra oración. Seguid rezando por mí, por la Iglesia, por el próximo Papa. El Señor nos guiará. Hoy, Miércoles de Ceniza, iniciamos el tiempo litúrgico de la Cuaresma, cuarenta días que nos preparan a la celebración de la Santa Pascua. Es un tiempo de particular esfuerzo en nuestro camino espiritual. Cuarenta días es el período que Jesús pasó en el desierto antes de iniciar su vida pública, y donde fue tentado por el diablo.

Reflexionar sobre las tentaciones de Jesús en el desierto es una invitación a responder a la pregunta fundamental: ¿Qué es lo importante en la vida? ¿Qué puesto ocupa el Señor en nuestra existencia? Las tentaciones que afronta Jesús muestran el riesgo de instrumentalizar a Dios, de usarlo para el propio interés, para la propia gloria. Dar a Dios el primer puesto ante las tentaciones requiere “convertirse”; significa seguir a Cristo de forma que su Evangelio sea guía concreta de la vida; es reconocer que somos criaturas, que dependemos de él, de su amor; que solamente “perdiendo” la vida por su causa la podemos ganar. Convertirse es



no dejarse invadir por las ilusiones, las apariencias, las cosas; es buscar que la verdad, la fe y el amor en Dios sean lo más importante de nuestra vida.



Erik Jiménez

La Cuaresma es un tiempo de preparación para todo católico pero especialmente para los catecúmenos no bautizados aun, quienes se preparan para ser bautizados, recibir la Primera Comunión y la Confirmación en la Vigilia Pascual. Los niños mayores de siete años que no han sido bautizados pasan dos años en preparación antes de recibir los sacramentos. Erik Jiménez es uno de nuestros catequistas quien prepara a estos niños. Cada miércoles él comparte el tesoro de la fe con ellos por medio de la palabra y el ejemplo. Él pacientemente les enseña y ora con ellos, a menudo llevándolos a la capilla de adoración al Santísimo para pasar unos momentos con Jesús. Después de clase se queda para comunicarle información importante a los papás que hablan Español. Erik es un verdadero evangelizador quien con mucho entusiasmo comparte su fe con sus compañeros en la escuela Johannsen. ¡Recientemente recibió un premio por ser el mejor adolescente en el servicio a la comunidad! Erik también ayuda en el ministerio Victory sirviendo a nuestros estudiantes de Confirmación, es monaguillo y miembro del grupo juvenil.

Dios ha bendecido a Erik con muchos dones y él alegremente los administra donde Dios lo lleva, a cualquier hora y como se lo pide el Señor. Nuestra parroquia está bendecida por la fiel corresponsabilidad de Erik.

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