

THE WORD

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20
Tues: Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]
Wed: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Mk 6:1-6
Thur: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13
Fri: Sir 47:2-11; Mk 6:14-29
Sat: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34
Sun: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138; 1 Cor 15:1-11 [3-8, 11]; Lk 5:1-11

STRENGTH AGAINST OPPOSITION

In appointing Jeremiah to stand up to the people and announce the truth, God at the same time promised him the strength to do the job. "They will fight against you but not prevail over you, for I am with you" (Jeremiah 1:19).

Jesus also faced opposition, right from the start. In his home town of Nazareth the people couldn't accept the idea that someone from among their own could be God's messenger. "[F]illed with fury," they expelled Jesus from town and would have hurled him over the edge of the hill. "But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away" (Luke 4:28, 30).

Although the true prophet has strength from God, Saint Paul says there's something even more important than suffering death for the sake of God's word. "[I]f I hand my body over so that I may boast, but have not love, I gain nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:3).

(c) Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading -- God appoints Jeremiah as prophet to the nations (Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19).

Psalms -- I will sing of your salvation (Psalm 71).

Second Reading -- Love with its many facets is the most important of the virtues (1 Corinthians 12:31 -- 13:13 [13:4-13]).

Gospel -- When Jesus claims his salvific mission is for all people, not just the Jews, he is expelled by the enraged members of the Nazarean synagogue (Luke 4:21-30).

SCHOOL HOSPITALITY

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School 5th grade students invite parishioners to please join them for some refreshments and fellowship after the **10:45pm** Mass to kick off **Catholic Schools'** week. All are welcome!

CHURCH FAMILY

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 01/30 Marrujo Family (SI).....4:30 pm
 Nwokoro Family (SI)RM 5:00 pm
Sun 01/31 Aaron Wayne (SI).....7:30 am
 Alvaro C. Machado †9:00 am
 Robert C. Schindler †RM 9:00 am
 Roger Esplana †10:45 am
 Fr. Cipriano Ramos (SI).....1:00 pm
Mon 02/01 Mrs. Luprecio (SI).....8:00 am
Tues 02/02 Robert James Hobkirk †8:00 am
Wed 02/03 Nellie Baumann †8:00 am
 SVDP Church members (SI)RM 8:30 am
Thur 02/04 Helen Hobkirk †8:00 am
Fri 02/05 Marcia Jane Hobkirk †8:00 am
Sat 02/06 E. Salas & Son (SI).....4:30 pm
 People of SVDP Church (SI)..RM5:00 pm
Sun 02/07 May Bollong †7:30 am
 Nellie Baumann †9:00 am
 People of SVDP Church (SI)..RM5:00 pm
 Paul Benedetto †10:45am
 Jose Jimenez Hernandez †1:00pm

Pray For Our Military Family

To add names please call: Pat Kunz - **689-8117** or Fran Motz at **686-1326** or Joyce Hesterworth at **686-4887**.

Steven Alsop	Meghan Erwin	Lenin Lopez
Ronald America	Luis Freyre III	Russell Miller
Jon Armstrong	Tomas Gonzalez	Dominic Peterson
Joseph Benedetti	Serena Grandov	Emmanuel Ramirez
Michael Benedetti	T. J. Hart	Jonathan Ramirez
Matthew Blair	Graham Hebert	Jacob A. Starnes
Carl Ian Bravo	Jeremiah Jones	Shawn Tostado
Mark Dollar	Val Keaveny Jr.	Martha Trujillo
Benjamin Erwin	Chris Lindsley	Jason Woodford

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



We will be conducting our monthly meeting this **Tuesday, February 2**, at **7pm**, in the Renwald Room. We would love for you to join us. This is a great opportunity to get in some community service volunteering right here in Elk Grove. God Bless You.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2010

Save The Date...this summer Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be **July 12 - 16** from **5:45 - 8:30pm**. Keep checking the bulletin for more info and registration dates.

From the Pastor's desk

REACHING MATURITY

As members of the Mystic Body of Christ keeping our union with Christ is of vital importance. Christ himself says it in another Gospel passage: "I am the Vine and you are the branches, if you don't remain in Me you will not bear fruit and wither. (cf. Jn 15, 5-6). If we want to know if we already have Eternal Life, let us begin to share it and communicate it to others.

The readings today show us the two faces of the coin of our mission in Christ. On one hand we make the luminous discovery that in Jesus' mission the same words to Jeremiah are applied to us with a deeper sense because God is not only "with" us but "in" us. We realize that our identity was lovingly planned by God before the creation of the world. That He has always loved us and wanted us from eternity. But on the other hand, we notice a dark side: there is so much evil in the world that our mission and our message from God will not always be welcomed. And perhaps to our surprise, even some of our relatives and friends will not accept us.

The secret is to remain firm; united in Christ in the middle of storms and contradictions. This will give us strength in an amazing way. Being a grown Christian, firm and mature, is the greatest goal we can reach. We will see that God will act with great power through us. According to the words of Paul, we will know the true Love because we will know God as He knows us today. The worldly will never know or understand all the characteristics of God's love. But we will be able to show them abundantly to the world. May nothing from this world prevent us from experiencing this beautiful progress in the knowledge of God through his Son, Jesus Christ.

... Fr. Rodolfo Llamas

Del escritorio del Pastor

ALCANZANDO LA MADUREZ

Como miembros del Cuerpo Místico de Cristo mantener la unión con Cristo es de importancia vital. Cristo mismo lo dice en otra parte del Evangelio: "Yo Soy la vid y ustedes son las ramas, si no permanecen en Mí no dan fruto y se secan" (cf. Jn 15, 5-6). Si queremos saber que tenemos ya Vida Eterna comencemos a compartirla, a comunicarla.

Las lecturas de hoy nos presentan las dos caras de la moneda de nuestra misión en Cristo. Por un lado la cara luminosa de descubrir que con nuestra unión en Cristo se nos aplican las mismas palabras dirigidas al profeta Jeremías y con un sentido más profundo porque Dios no está solamente con nosotros sino **en** nosotros. Descubrimos que nuestra identidad ya la había planeado Dios con Amor desde antes de la creación de el mundo. Que nos ha amado y querido desde siempre. Pero por otro lado vemos el lado oscuro: que hay mucha maldad en el mundo y no siempre nuestra misión y nuestro mensaje van a ser bien recibidos. Y para nuestra sorpresa tal vez hasta algunos de nuestros propios familiares y conocidos no me aceptarán.

El secreto es permanecer firme. Permanecer unido a Cristo en medio de las tormentas y contradicciones me fortalecerán sorprendentemente. Ser un Cristiano desarrollado, firme y maduro es la meta mas hermosa a la que podemos llegar, y veremos que Dios actuará poderosamente por medio de nosotros. De acuerdo a las palabras de Pablo, conoceremos el Amor verdadero porque conoceremos a Dios como ÉL nos conoce ahora. Y todas esas características del Amor de Dios que el amor del mundo no conoce, las experimentaremos y las mostraremos al mundo abundantemente. Que nada en este mundo me aparte de este hermoso progreso del conocimiento de Dios en su Hijo Jesucristo.

... Padre Rodolfo Llamas

CHINESE NEW YEAR 2010

The Sacramento Chinese Catholic Community cordially invites all parishioners to their New Year Eucharist to be celebrated by Bishop Jaime Soto at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, on **Sunday, February 7 at 3pm**. A Celebratory Dinner will be held on that same evening at Holiday Villa Restaurant, 7007 South Land Park Drive. Parishioners interested in obtaining dinner tickets are requested to contact Gloria (916) 442-7178 or Barbara (916) 396-9783.

SERVING THE CHURCH

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION NEWS

As we continue the first weeks of Ordinary Times (green color) in our Liturgical calendar, your children will continue to explore the Gospel which focuses on Jesus' public ministry and works. Exploring "The Word" will provide the children with an excellent foundation for their Lenten Journey. We also invite parents to explore "The Word" by attending any of the Spiritual Formation talks given by Father Llamas at **7pm** on the **first** and **third Fridays** of the month in the St. Catherine and St. Juan Diego rooms. The next session in English will be **February 5**.



3rd thru 6th grade parents, we are asking you to donate one case of bottled water per family. These water bottles will be used for our Lenten project. Please bring a case of water to your child's Faith Formation session on **Feb. 2** or **3** or the following week on **Feb. 9** or **10**. Children and parents will then decorate these bottles the following two weeks. The gift of water will, again, be our Lenten theme. **Lent** is a short time away and the first day of Lent, **Ash Wednesday**, is **February 17**.

Our willingness to recognize that there are over 1.2 billion people on this planet who do not have adequate drinking water, is an important component to becoming ambassadors of Christ. By participating in our Lenten project, children will learn how their baptismal promise will be serving those in need. Half of the funds collected will be given to our parish **St. Vincent De Paul Society** chapter and the other half of the funds will be given to one of most effective agencies helping the children in catastrophe-ridden Haiti; **Catholic Relief Services**.

6th graders and parents who are planning on touring the **B'nai Israel Synagogue** on **Feb. 10**, please bring your paperwork to your Faith Formation session by **February 3**. If you have questions, or need a ride please contact Cathy Geppert.

Upcoming Dates:

Jan. 31- Youth Ministered Mass **10:45am**
Feb. 2 & 3 - Lent project, 6th grade-Prophet Isaiah talk
Feb. 5 - Spiritual Formation **7pm** with Father Llamas
Feb. 10 - 6th grade tour of B'nai Israel Synagogue
Feb. 14 - Feast Day of St. Valentine, World Marriage Day
Feb. 17 - Ash Wednesday **8am, 12noon, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30pm**

ST. ANTHONY AIDS BENEFIT

Dancers, live music, and vocal performances on **Sunday, Feb. 14, 3pm** at St. Anthony Parish Hall, 660 Florin Rd., Sac. Door prizes to celebrate St. Valentine's Day; suggested donation: \$10 at the door, children-free. Info: Fr. John Healy 456-7561 or Helen Healy 444-3181.

SACRAMENTS

First Communion Families: Information and the Mass selection form was emailed directly to all families who have children preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Communion this spring. Please direct any further questions to Nancy in the parish office, using the contact information on the front of the bulletin.

FULL TIME TEACHER NEEDED

Our wonderful Parish School, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School (K-8) presently has an opening for a full-time First Grade teacher. The candidate will have a strong commitment to our faith and Christian values, which will be a foundation in his or her service to our Catholic school. Our school has 319 students who are educated by a dedicated staff of teachers, support staff and a very involved parent community. Please reach out to those whom you know who may be excellent candidates for this position.

The salary range is \$30,704 - \$57,571 with stipends for a Master's or Doctorate Degree, plus benefits. Please contact Kelli Baker at (916) 684-7903x16 or Seas.Kelli.Baker@gmail.com

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The St. Joseph Parish Consolation Ministry's **Grief Support Group**, fourth session will be **Tuesday, February 2, at 9:30 to 11:30am**, in the St. Mary's room in the Msgr. O'Connor Social Hall. These sessions are for those who have experienced the death of one's partner, child, sibling, or another relative as well as the loss of a pet, a divorce, loss of a job, or death of a long time friend, these all produce grief. The greatest of these are the loss of a loved one. Grieving is one of the ways which help us accept our loss. If you have any questions, please contact-Marlene Fadness, 684-2206 or Sister Nancy McInerney, 685-3681-ext. 24.

2 WEEKS TO SIGNUP FOR RETROUVAILLE

Give your spouse a truly loving Valentine. Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about or to register for the February 2010 program beginning with a weekend on **February 12-14**, call (800) 283-5952 or email: sacramento@retroca.com or visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.



AROUND THE CHURCH

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

The meeting for on-going Spiritual Formation with Fr. Llamas in English will be at **7:30pm** on **Friday, Feb. 5** in St. Catherine & St. Juan Diego's rooms 2 & 3. The classes will continue in English every **1st Friday at 7:30pm** after evening Mass and **3rd Friday of the month at 7pm**. Open to everyone with the ability to hear and decide. Bring your Bible, something for taking notes, all your questions about your faith and your good will to learn and to help. Looking forward to seeing you there.

LA FORMACIÓN ESPIRITUAL

Las reuniones para la Formación Espiritual con el Padre Llamas continuarán en Español el **Viernes 12 de Febrero** en los salones St. Catherine y St. Juan Diego a las **7pm**, y continuarán en Español **cada 2o y 4o Viernes del mes**. Abierto a todos los que tengan la capacidad de escuchar y decidir. Traigan su Biblia, algo con que escribir, todas las preguntas que tengan sobre su fe y su buena voluntad de aprender y ayudar. Te esperamos.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

A Mass at **5pm** on **Saturday, February 6** at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on 1017 11th St., Sacramento will be celebrated for couples married in the Church celebrating 10, 25, 50 years to renew their vows before God. An informal reception will follow for couples and their families sponsored by Marriage Encounter. Any couple interested in attending this special occasion is asked to register (names and anniversary year) with the Department of Evangelization and Catechesis call (916) 733-0123.

DÍA MUNDIAL DEL MATRIMONIO

Misa a las **5pm** el **Sábado, 6 de Febrero**, en la Catedral del Santísimo Sacramento, ubicada en 1017 11th St. en Sacramento, en la cual parejas casadas por la Iglesia Católica que cumplen 10, 25, y 50 años, podrán renovar su promesa del matrimonio ante Dios. Le seguirá una pequeña recepción para las parejas y sus familia, ofrecida por las parejas del Encuentro Matrimonial Mundial. Toda pareja interesada en renovar sus votos deben llamar al Departamento de Evangelización y Catequesis al Tel. (916) 733-0123. (Información necesaria al registrarse: sus nombres y años de casados).

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Sacramento #172 invites all Catholic women to attend their next meeting at St. Paul Catholic Church at 8720 Florin Rd., Sacramento on **Monday, February 8**. Dinner will be served at **6pm**. Please attend their dinner and get to know them! RSVP to: Regent, Fran Gomes 421-0300.

EMPTY BOWLS

Please fill our bowls. The Second Annual EMPTY BOWLS Luncheon to benefit the Elk Grove Food Bank Services will be held **Saturday, February 6** at the First Baptist Church, 8939 E. Stockton Blvd., **11am – 1:30pm**. Enjoy gourmet soups from local restaurants, bread, and brownies. Take home a hand painted bowl. Tickets are \$25 per person - \$15 per child and will be available after Masses **this weekend, January 30 and 31**. They are also available at **I Made It**, 9667 E. Stockton Blvd. and **Color Me Mine**, 9640 Bruceville Rd. You may also stop by the ceramics studios and, for \$10, paint a bowl for the event.

For wonderful soup recipes, there will also be "**Super Suppers**" cookbooks available for **\$10** this weekend after Mass. The proceeds benefit Elk Grove Food Bank Services.

LAST YEAR'S PALMS FOR ASHES

During the 1100's, the Church developed the practice of using ashes created by burning palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday. We invite parishioners to please bring such palms to church by the weekend of **Feb. 7** and place them in a basket labeled "**For Last Years Palms**" which will be placed in the vestibule. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, **February 17** and there will be several opportunities to receive ashes.

START OF LENTEN SCHEDULE

ASH WEDNESDAY

- 8:00 am** - Mass with blessing/distribution of ashes with Fr. Llamas
- 12 noon** - Scripture service with Ashes
- 3:30 pm** - Scripture service with ashes and (water bottles to children)
- 5:30 pm** - Scripture service with ashes and (water bottles to children)
- 7:30 pm** - Scripture service with ashes - Spanish

LENTEN DAY OF PRAYER

We have much to pray for this year, and much to reflect upon. All around us, Christ Crucified calls us to pay attention, to notice, and to draw closer. **Ash Wednesday is February 17**. Christ the King Retreat Center will hold a special day of prayer beginning at **9:30am** and concluding with Eucharist and ashes at **1:15pm**. Please preregister by calling Margaret at (916) 725-4720, ext. 302. The Retreat Center is located at 6520 Van Maren Lane in Citrus Heights. Overnight accommodations are available for those traveling from a distance. Please visit www.Passionist.org/Christtheking website for more information about programs or renting space.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH

Deacon Dennis Merino, *Pastoral Minister* -- e-mail: deacon.merino@parishmail.com -- Cell (916) 467-6632

Deacon Ned Quigley, *Pastoral Minister* — e-mail: deacon.quigley@parishmail.com

Office ph (916) 354-2403 - Office Open: M W F 9am-1pm at 14673 Cantova Way, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING...will be held on Sundays, **Feb. 7**, and **Feb. 28** immediately following the **9am Mass** and **Saturday, Feb. 20** at **3:30pm** before the **5pm Mass**. All who are interested please contact Jimi Collons, jnfes@sbcglobal.net, or call the church office at 345-2403 on **Tuesdays** between **3-5pm**. Involving your child in a Ministry of the church is one of the many ways to help them grow in their Faith. Be sure to sign your child up, so we will know how many to plan for.

CELEBRATE MARDI GRAS, CALIFORNIA STYLE...on **Friday, Feb. 12** from **6-8:30pm** at the St. Vincent De Paul Social Hall. This event is free and open to all men and women of the community, just bring a pot-luck dessert. Child care will be available. Sip French Roast coffee and indulge in fabulous desserts, as you listen to our speaker, Bro. Kurt Wernert. Come enjoy this fun event and bring your neighbors!

TO HELP US PREPARE DURING LENT: Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17 is the beginning of the Lenten season. We at SVDP will be observing Lent with the Stations of the Cross starting on **Friday, Feb. 19**. To begin our night of prayer, we will be serving a Light Meal (soup and salad) from **5:30 to 6:30pm**. We will then have observance of Stations of the Cross from **6:30 to 7:30pm** with Adoration following. Can you help us by preparing soup for one of the Friday evenings? Please sign up one week in advance (there will be sign-up sheets in the vestibule of the church.) For more information, please call Kathleen Black at the church office (916) 354-2403 or Lynn King at (916) 779-9112. For any cooks looking for new Soup recipes for Lenten Fridays, there are "**Souper Suppers**" cookbooks available for purchase at the church kitchen.

THE SACRAMENTO CATHOLIC FORUM: will present "The Shroud on Trial" - with Larry Schauf (former federal prosecutor and world renowned shroud expert) presenting facts on both sides of the issue. Location: Radisson Hotel, 500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento. Time: check in: **11:30am** - Lunch: **12pm** - Cost: **\$25** in advance, **\$30** at the door. Advance reservations can be made in either of two ways: 1.) Reserve your seat online at www.SacCatholicForum.org or 2.) Mail payment to: Sacramento Catholic Forum, P.O. Box 254848, Sacramento, CA 95865-4848. Either form of payment must be received by **Monday, February 15, 2010**.

WALK FOR LIFE IN SAN FRANCISCO: No matter what side of the issue on abortion you take, we should all be proud and supportive of the march that took place in San Francisco on **Saturday, January 23**. This march is truly emblematic of the freedoms we can exercise in this country. The idea of a government allowing a public demonstration of this size to express support of a controversial topic is far more the exception than the rule in most countries of the world. The **Walk for Life** route was from Justin Herman Plaza (across the Embarcadero from the Ferry Building) to Marina Green just short of the Golden Gate Bridge. This 2.5 mile walk was a slow procession of quiet, resolute people.

The hallmark of this walk for life was the peaceful nature of those participating. The stream of humanity stretched from the Ferry Building all the way to Fisherman's Warf; it was noteworthy for the number of people professing their faith by a continuous praying of the Rosary. The opposition to the **Pro-Life March** had a very small turn out. Some estimates put the number of the pro-abortion advocates at a few dozen to less than two hundred. Crowd numbers are difficult to estimate. Five years ago, at the advent of this event, only **5,000** participants were in the **Walk for Life**. This year's **Walk for Life** was estimated by some to be close to **35,000** on the high side to over **22,000** on the low side. One can easily see the number of participants has grown very quickly in the last five years with over 200 buses bringing in people from all over No. California. At least one husband and wife, carrying their nation's flag, came from Canada.

Rancho Murieta's St. Vincent De Paul Church had a number of people representing their stand for life. Among the St. Vincent De Paul participants were (**pictured left to right:** Kathleen Black, Janis Perschler, Connie Doyle, Connie Laxague, Lynn King, Dennis Berg and Mike Himmelmann) and not in picture: Steve Haidet and three members of the Fisher family, Richard, Gena and Meme. Picture was taken before the return trip to Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Elk Grove where their day began with a Mass.

