

# THE WORD

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Mon:** 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19  
**Tues:** Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15  
**Wed:** Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32  
**Thur:** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12  
**Fri:** Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26  
**Sat:** Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48  
**Sun:** Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27;  
 Phil 3:17 — 4:1 [3:20 — 4:1]; Lk 9:28b-36

## REMEMBER

Once again the Church invites us to enter the desert of repentance. That desert, as today's first reading reminds us, is also a desert of remembrance. This holy season summons us to remember all that God has done for us. Like the Israelites who recalled their captivity and God's work to free them from the Egyptians, we, too, recall those times when we were held captive by sin and experienced freedom through the gift of God's redeeming love.

Saint Paul tells us that the word of God is near us; it is in our mouths and in our hearts. May that sacred word prompt us to remember God's great work of reconciliation in our lives and in our community. As this season of Lent unfolds, let us take to heart these words of Saint Paul and spend these forty days calling upon the name of the Lord, asking for forgiveness and healing.

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The Israelites show their faith by offering the LORD first fruits of the products of their new land (Deuteronomy 26:4-10).

**Psalms** — Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble (Psalm 91).

**Second Reading** — All who express faith in the risen Christ and confess that he is Lord will be saved (Romans 10:8-13).

**Gospel** — Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and was tempted (Luke 4:1-13).

## FIFTY + BUNCH FIELD TRIP

There will be carpooling to Red Hawk Casino on **Feb. 26**. For information and reservations, please contact Pat Kunz at 689-8117. Thanks and see ya'all there.

# CHURCH FAMILY

## DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

**Sat 02/20** Bona Segura & Son (SI).....4:30pm  
 People of GOD (SI).....RM 5:00pm  
**Sun 02/21** Eileen Marie Mello †.....7:30am  
 Aaron Wayne (SI).....9:00am  
 Robert C. Schindler †.....RM 9:00pm  
 Jose F. Santos †.....10:45am  
 Maria de la Luz Aguirre †.....1:00pm  
**Mon 02/22** Mrs. Luprecio (SI).....8:00am  
**Tues 02/23** Bryan A. Lopez (SI).....8:00am  
**Wed 02/24** Brendan O'Reilly †.....8:00am  
 People of SVDP Church (SI)RM 8:30 am  
**Thur 02/25** Norm Imhoff †.....8:00 am  
**Fri 02/26** Alejandra M. Dela Cruz † .....8:00 am  
**Sat 02/27** Nellie Baumann †.....4:30 pm  
 Cornelia Baumgart †.....RM 5:00 pm  
**Sun 02/28** Rosita Estela †.....7:30 am  
 Uwazie Family (SI).....9:00 am  
 People of SVDP Church (SI)RM 9:00 pm  
 Leila De Leon †.....10:45am  
 Roberto B. Ares (SI).....1:00pm

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY FAMILY

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

## JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL THANKS YOU!

Thank you to all who helped support Juniors at Jesuit High School who were raising funds for their Christian Service project to West Virginia. The boys sold over 600 See's Candy bars! Your generosity is appreciated and know that you are making it possible for six young men to spend a week in June working among the poor and marginalized at Nazareth Farms in West Virginia. For more information on this program please visit: [www.nazarethfarm.org](http://www.nazarethfarm.org). A Christian Service project is a necessary component for students receiving a Jesuit Education. Thank you for caring enough to make this trip possible!

**Lenten Prayers and Regulations** by the Diocese can be found on their web site at :  
[http://diocese-sacramento.org/PDFs/2010LentenRegulations\\_EnglishandSpanish.pdf](http://diocese-sacramento.org/PDFs/2010LentenRegulations_EnglishandSpanish.pdf).

## From the Pastor's desk

### TOWARDS OUR MOTHER COUNTRY

Last Sunday God called on our consciences to see what the foundations of our existence were. Today, we realize that all the temptations of the devil tend to convince us to put our security and hope in WEALTH, HONORS and PLEASURES. These temptations are not evil per se, don't be confused; they become evil when we lose focus and make them the objective and goal of our efforts; when we put them in the place of God. We make money, selfishness and pleasure (in this last one we find sex, alcohol, drugs, tobacco, food, clothing, etc.) into poisoning idols which make us manipulate and use people for our own profit, and most of the time with the excuse of love and justice.

At the sight of this confusion, we see very clearly that the answers of Jesus to Satan were for our instruction: Against misplaced honors and pride look for the FACTS of God as motives to make Him the objective of our love and worship; against cheap and temporal wealth, find all the eternal riches that God has prepared for me in His Word; against disorderly pleasures, "taste and see the goodness of God", feed your soul with the Word of God and experience the joy of putting it into practice and feeling the Love and Life of God bearing fruit through you.

St. Paul says that when we believe in Jesus' Resurrection, we are new creatures. Therefore there is no difference of race between Christians and, like Israel in the First Reading, we are living as aliens on this planet. The lines between nations have no relevance for us. The true Christian sees the deep identity and dignity of every person. Our feelings are not guided by bodies' appearances and shapes, nor by political divisions between nations. Loving God in Jesus means loving all human cultures, taking all the good and correcting all evil ignorance of God's truth with His Love. This is exactly what Mary does when she comes to every culture like Guadalupe, Fatima and Lourdes. This is exactly the goal of this time of Lent, to get rid of all the earthly distractions that confuse our spiritual vision and to remember what the goal is of our existence on this planet and universe; we are alien pilgrims on our way toward our mother country, following the steps of Christ until we reach our Father's Home.

... Fr. Rodolfo Llamas

See this bulletin and some past week's bulletins online at our web site: [stjoseph-elkgrove.net](http://stjoseph-elkgrove.net)  
Also, you can check out the many resources of the **Catholic Resources & Links** page on our website.

## Del escritorio del Pastor

### HACIA NUESTRA PATRIA

El Domingo pasado Dios nos hacía un llamado a nuestra conciencia para ver en dónde estábamos colocando los fundamentos de nuestra existencia. Hoy nos damos cuenta que todas las tentaciones del demonio tienden a hacer que pongamos nuestra seguridad y busquemos la felicidad en RIQUEZAS, HONORES y PLACERES. No es que sean malas, no nos dejemos engañar. Nos destruyen cuando las hacemos el objetivo y la meta de nuestros esfuerzos; cuando las colocamos en lugar de Dios y hacemos del dinero, el orgullo y el placer (en placer encontramos al sexo, alcohol, drogas, tabaco, comida, vestido, etc.) ídolos que me hacen manipular y utilizar a las personas para mi propio provecho y la mayoría de las veces diciendo que lo hago por amor o por justicia.

Ante esta confusión tenemos muy claras las respuestas de Cristo a Satanás para instrucción nuestra: Contra honores y orgullo equivocados, descubre en los HECHOS de Dios los motivos para hacerlo el objeto de tu amor y adoración; contra las riquezas pasajeras y sobrevaloradas, descubre en la Palabra de Dios toda la riqueza eterna que Dios te tiene preparada; contra los placeres desordenados, aliméntate de la Palabra de Dios y descubre el gozo de ponerla por obra experimentando el Amor y la Vida de Dios dando frutos a través de ti.

San Pablo nos dice que los que creemos en la resurrección de Cristo somos creaturas nuevas y por tanto ya no hay diferencia de raza entre los cristianos, y como el Israel de la primera lectura, todos estamos viviendo en la tierra como forasteros. Las fronteras entre nosotros no tienen relevancia. El verdadero cristiano ve la profunda identidad y dignidad de todos sin dejarse guiar por las apariencias y formas corporales, ni por divisiones políticas en la tierra. Amar a Dios en Cristo es amar a todas las culturas y descubrir lo bueno que hay en ellas y corregir lo que haya de ignorancia de Dios con su mismo Amor. Exactamente como lo ha hecho María al entrar a cada cultura como en Guadalupe, Fátima y Lourdes. Este es el objetivo de Cuaresma, despojarnos de las distracciones terrenas que confunden nuestra visión espiritual y recordar cual es el objetivo de nuestra existencia en este planeta y universo, que somos extranjeros en camino hacia nuestra patria original siguiendo los pasos de Cristo hacia la Casa de nuestro Padre.

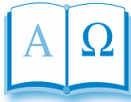
... Padre Rodolfo Llamas

**Para los Servidores de la Liturgia en Español, ya está el Calendario en el web site: [stjoseph-elkgrove.net](http://stjoseph-elkgrove.net)  
Por favor búscalo en la página "Schedules."**

# SERVING THE CHURCH

## CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Thank you families for your wonderful participation in our Ash Wednesday Prayer Service! Parents, please share with your child that for centuries, during the season of Lent, baptized Catholics were to take a look at their faith lives. In Faith Formation we are encouraging the children to focus on a continuing conversion to the spiritual purpose given to us at the baptismal font. How can we better think and act like Christ? As we heard from the reading of St. Paul to the Corinthians: "Brothers and Sisters: We are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us."



We are so proud of all families who are participating in our Lenten water bottle project. While the next forty plus days may be challenging for you, know that God has given you much to be thankful for. Continue to **pray** daily, **share** the Good News and **use** your gifts. Remember those in need. Over 1.1 billion people on the planet do not have clean water. To help the children explore the magnitude of the need's of God's people; the Stations of the Cross by Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers will be hung in the church. In the form of contemporary photo graphics, each will serve as a visual aid. Two to three stations will be introduced each week during Lent.

**Catholic Relief Services** is one organization the children will be learning about as well as donating their coins to. Currently, this worldwide organization and Caritas Haiti are distributing an average of 62 metric tons of food per day in Haiti. Their medical teams are treating an estimated 300 people per day and trauma units are still performing around-the-clock surgeries and saving many lives. Over 8,000 pounds of medical supplies, equipment and medication has been donated. Medical teams in Haiti are seeing a gradual change in needs from acute wounds to more waterborne illnesses, such as diarrhea and typhoid, so a public health campaign has been created to encourage better sanitary health practices to limit these outbreaks. Catholic Relief Services is committed to serving the needs of the poor year round.



**Photo: Rabbi Shoshanah King-Tornberg unrolls the Torah to the Ten Commandments. Thanks to the 30 parishioners who attended this program and also thanks to parents who carpooled!**

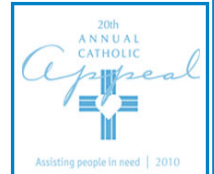
## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

We will have our monthly meeting on **Tuesday, March 2, at 7pm**, in the Renwald Room. Please feel free to join us and give us your ideas on how to help the underprivileged here in Elk Grove. Thank you and God Bless You.



## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Commitment Weekend for the **2010 Annual Catholic Appeal**, will be held at all Masses next weekend, **February 27 & 28**. Please be generous in your gift to help assist so many in need. Each and every gift will make a difference in someone's life. Last year, our parish 25% share of the Appeal was \$13,500.00, which was used to assist 1200 people with shelter, food, clothing, furniture and other household items. We assisted some of the poorer SVDP conferences in Sacramento, financially. We hosted the third Friday meal at Loaves and Fishes every month, at a cost of \$3,600 for the year. Our Wellness Bag Program, which supplies food once a month to terminally ill individuals is serving 40 individuals at this time at a cost of \$2,400 for the year. We also contributed to many of the disaster relief efforts for several national and international disasters. This year we plan to use the funds we receive to continue our efforts at the current level. Please respond generously when you are asked to participate. And remember, God's return to you will be even more generous.



## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The St. Joseph Parish Consolation Ministry's **Grief Support Group**, will be conducting their final session on **Tuesday, February 23, at 9:30 to 11:30am**, in the St. Mary room in the Msgr. O'Connor Social Hall. We will close our session with a prayer service and a celebration of our loved one's life. Please bring a picture of your loved one, as it will be part of the prayer service. If you have any questions, please contact—Marlene Fadness, 684-2206 or Sister Nancy McInerney, 685-3681—ext. 24.

## FEAST DAY OF ST. JOSEPH

This year our parish will celebrate the Feast Day of St. Joseph on **Friday, March 19**. St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin is honored throughout the world on his feast day, "Joseph was chosen by the eternal Father as the trustworthy guardian and protector of his greatest treasures, namely His divine Son and Mary, Joseph's wife. He carried out his vocation with complete fidelity."

More information to follow in the weeks to come.

# AROUND THE CHURCH

## FOOD FOR THE SOUL - FOOD FOR THE BODY

Fridays of Lent: **Feb. 26, March 5 & 12.** Souper Supper at **5:30pm**, Stations of the Cross at **6:30pm**, and Spiritual Formation with Fr. Llamas at **7pm**. All are invited to join in a simple Lenten supper of soup, bread, and salad in the St. Mary's room in the Social Hall before Stations of the Cross and Spiritual Formation sessions. A donation will be requested to cover the cost of the meal. Any profit will go to the Elk Grove Food Bank Services to assist our less fortunate neighbors.

## ADULT CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on adult Catholics on **Saturday, May 22 at 5pm at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.** A course of Faith Formation is being offered at St. Joseph Church on **Wednesday evenings at 6:30** in the **St. Peter room of the Msgr. O'Connor Social Hall**. This course is intended for adult practicing Catholics who have not celebrated their Confirmation. It is intended to assist those candidates to accept and understand their baptismal call to holiness and continuing conversion and to become fully initiated into the liturgical life of the Church. To register or for more information, please call the parish office at **685-3681**.

## FULL-TIME TEACHER NEEDED

Our wonderful Parish School, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School (K-8) presently has an opening for a **full-time Primary 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

## ROME, TURIN AND MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

Please join us as we travel to Medjugorje, site of Our Blessed Mother's apparitions; Turin, to see the Holy Shroud and Rome, home of our Holy Father. We leave Sacramento with Fr. Oscar Medina-Gomez as Spiritual Director on **April 29** and return on **May 13**. Package includes air, ground transportation, lodging, some meals and tips. For additional information, please call Denise at (916) 455-3132.

## ALIMENTO PARA EL ALMA - ALIMENTO PARA EL CUERPO

Los viernes durante la Cuaresma: **26 de Febrero, 5 y 12 de Marzo**, tendremos Cena de Sopa a las **5:30pm**, Vía Crucis a las **6:30pm** y Formación Espiritual a las **7pm** con el Padre Rodolfo Llamas. Están todos invitados a participar a la Cena Cuaresmal con sopa, pan y ensalada, en el salón St. Mary (Salón Social) antes del Vía Crucis y las sesiones de Formación Espiritual. Se pide una donación para cubrir el costo de la comida. Cualquier ganancia irá a los Servicios del Banco de Alimentos de Elk Grove, para ayudar a nuestros vecinos menos afortunados.

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

This Sunday, the **First Sunday of Lent**, the catechumens (un-baptized) and candidates (our baptized) will be presented to our Bishop in a ceremony called *Rite of Election*. This is a formal celebration in which the names of the adults are proclaimed in the assembly of the Cathedral, the mother church of the diocese, before the Bishop, who represents the universal Church! In our parish community, some 25 adults are seeking full initiation into the Catholic Church. They will be presented to their sisters and brothers during the **9am Mass**, and "sent forth" from us, to the Cathedral. In the rite of **Election**, these adults are **CHOOSING** to enter into a spiritual and personal period of enlightenment, leading to our shared celebration of the Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday evening), our **holiest and most important feast**.



## BEGINNING EXPERIENCE OF SACRAMENTO

Men and Women of all faiths, who are now alone due to the death, divorce or separation from a loved one, are invited to attend the Beginning Experience Weekend.

This weekend is an opportunity to spend a time away from the everyday pressures of life, and to spend that time in both personal and private reflection, and in sharing your needs and feelings with people who have been where you are. Their focus is to offer you the support and encouragement you need to make a new beginning of your life, putting the painful past behind you and looking with renewed hope toward a fulfilling future. This event will be held **Friday, March 19, at 6pm through Sunday, March 21, 4pm** at Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat near Applegate, California. **For more information and to obtain an application - please call:** (916) 835-2282 or visit our web site at: **www.sacramentobe.org** to download an application.

# 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 - fax (916) 354-2406 - Office Open: Mon. Wed. Fri. 9am-1pm  
14673 Cantova Way, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683

**THE SECOND ANNUAL WINTER RANCHO MURIETA TEEN DANCE** is scheduled for this **Saturday, Feb. 27** in the St. Vincent de Paul Church Hall. The dance starts at **7pm** and ends at **10pm**. Entertainment will include a local, teen band and Jared Huntsinger, youth pastor from the RM Community Church, will be featured as MC and DJ for the dance. Youth 13-18 years of age are invited, and chaperones from Kiwanis and both churches will be on hand. Snacks and drinks will be provided during the dance.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** A change in Mass procedure for Lent only! As part of our Lenten Journey, there will be no closing song or recessional at the end of Mass during Lent.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND ADORATION:** We are observing Lent with the Stations of the Cross **EVERY FRIDAY** during Lent. To begin our night of prayers, we will serve a Light Meal (soup and salad) from **5:30-6:30pm**. We then have observance of Stations of the Cross from **6:30-7:30pm** with **ADORATION** following. We are looking for volunteers to prepare and bring soup, salad, and bread for one of the Friday evenings. Please sign up one week in advance (there are 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) 779-9122.

**FATHER ROLHEISER RETURNS - FOR LENTEN PROGRAM:** The highly positive response to our recent DVD series featuring the renowned Father Ronald Rolheiser encourages a Lenten series of his new "retreat" video, "Creating Sabbath Space in Our Lives." Each session allows for suitable discussion. The five-week series is a perfect vehicle to explore your relationship with God. The program **begins on Wed. February 24 after 8:30 Mass, with repeated sessions after the scheduled Masses through March 28: Wednesday mornings, Saturday evenings, and Sunday mornings.** These sessions will be held in the Annex classroom. All are welcome to attend. Bring a friend - to expand the opportunity for an enriched Lenten experience.

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING**...will be held on **Sunday, Feb. 28** immediately following the **9am Mass**. All who are interested, please call the church office at **345-2403** on **Tuesday** 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. **There will be no training on Saturday, Feb. 20.**

**ATTENTION ALL EUCHARIST MINISTERS AND LECTORS:** Deacon Dennis and Ed Denison will be conducting a training session on the **NEW MASS PROCEDURES** that are coming up for both Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. The training will take place **March 9 & 10 at 7pm in the church**. Deacon Dennis is requesting all Ministers to **PLEASE** attend either one of the sessions as there are new procedures you need to be familiar with Thank you.

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OR LECTOR?** You are invited to also join the training on **March 9 or 10**.

**NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR VOCATION CROSS:** There is a great need for **FAMILIES** to accept the invitation to take the Vocation Cross into your home for a month and pray with your family - we don't have anyone for March and the months following . If you would like to receive the Vocation Cross into your home for prayer through the upcoming months, please notify **Bob or Margie Coffman at 354-1744** or call the church office at **354-2403**.

**ARE YOU A CAMERA BUG?:** We need photos from all events taking place at the church. Bring your camera with you every time you come. SVDP is looking for someone to be our official photographer. If you are interested please contact Deacon Dennis. Don't forget anyone can snap a photo and turn it in to Deacon Dennis; who knows, your photo might be published on our upcoming church web site.

**CONSIDER A RETREAT IN MARCH AS A PART OF YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY:** Rest and experience the graces of a retreat at Christ the King Retreat Center. The beautiful grounds will help you experience peace and tranquility as you leave your worries behind to truly encounter the Lord. There is a place for you on these dates: **WOMEN-March 12-14, MEN & WOMEN-March 23-25, MEN-March 26-28**. For information and reservations call Ginger Peacock (916) 591-1015 or the church office (916) 354-2403.

**IF YOUR FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO BRING THE GIFTS UP TO THE ALTAR DURING MASS SOME SUNDAYS, PLEASE MAKE IT KNOWN TO AN USHER.**

**Please read the announcement, found in the St. Joseph section, regarding the Diocesan Annual Appeal.**