

OUR LADY of the ASSUMPTION P A R I S H

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5057 COTTAGE WAY CARMICHAEL, CA 95608



(916) 481-5115



WWW.OLAPARISH.NET



PARISH@OLAPARISH.NET

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Eduino T. Silveira | pastor@olaparish.net

Pastors Emeriti

Rev. Brendan McKeefry & Rev. Michael F. Kiernan Deacons

Michael Tateishi | deacon@olaparish.net Paul Friedrich | deaconpaul@olaparish.net

Office Manager

Ivan Florez | officemgr@olaparish.net

Parish Bookkeeper 916-481-5115, ext. 203

Music Director

Casey Oliver | worship@olaparish.net

Faith Formation

Joan Cotton | faithformation@olaparish.net

Youth Minister

Johann Rubia-Miller | youth@olaparish.net

Building Maintenance

Earl Knight | maintenance@olaparish.net

Groundskeeper Paul Narloch

PARISH OFFICE

Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 4:30pm (Closed 12:00 - 1:00pm)

ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSONS

Pastoral Council: Juan Yniguez Liturgical Committee: Deacon Michael Tateishi Finance Council: Joe Selewicz Buildings & Grounds Committee: John Blaschke

OLA PRESCHOOL - EIGHTH GRADE

Principal, Robert Love Vice Principal, Jeff Moore

K-8th: eaddy@olaparish.net | 489-8958 P-8th Admissions: sweeney@olaparish.net P-8th Website: www.school.olaparish.net

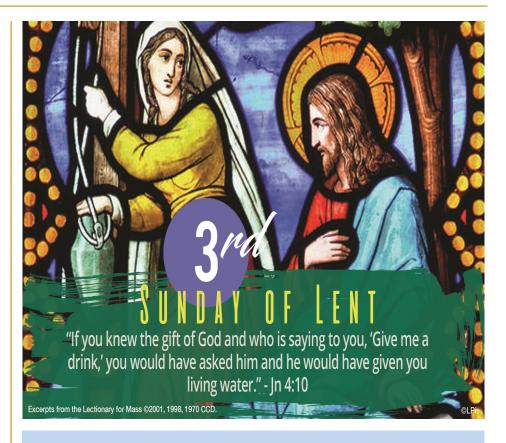
Preschool Director, Yesenia Gutierrez 916-485-1504 | gutierrez@olaparish.net License No. 343616796

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Provides assistance for those in need within our parish boundaries. Please call: 916-481-6352

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES

Ask an usher about them!



SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Required classes & scheduling, Deacon Michael

First Eucharist (child), Reconciliation (child), & Confirmation (teen): Faith Formation

Marriage: Contact office six months in advance.

Reconciliation: Saturdays at 3:30pm or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Contact Pastor to request.

Eucharist for Homebound Parishioners: Call office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Unbaptized or uncatechized. If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, you are welcome to join this year-round process at any time by contacting Deacon Michael. Teteishi.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the parish community at Our Lady of the Assumption Church is to proclaim the Word of God more fully, to gain a more intimate knowledge of God through our Catholic traditions, and to serve the people of God, especially in our efforts to meet the needs of the poor in our community, and when possible around the world. We strive to build a sense of community among our parishioners, with the wider Diocesan community, and with the entire family of God.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm First Saturdays: 8:00am

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 & 7:30pm Weekday: Mon - Fri | 8:00am

Holy Days: 8:00am & 5:30pm

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tues/Thurs after 8am Mass until 7pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays at 3:30pm or by appointment

WE WELCOME YOU HOME

Thank you for joining us today! We welcome you to our faith family and look forward to growing in faith and friendship with you. If you are interested in formally joining our parish community and/or the Catholic Faith, you can do so on-line or by coming in to the parish office. If you are returning to an active Catholic life, we are happy to facilitate a smooth and joy filled transition. May you find fellowship, peace and serenity in our community. Sincerely in Christ, Fr. Eduino, Pastor.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

5:00 PM † Edwin Silva By Kelly Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

†† Marguerite & DeDe 8:00AM

by Janice Sutherland

9:30AM † Kenneth Whitfield by Shirley Whitfield

† Meg Henneman 11:00AM

by Janice Sutherland **OLA Parishioners**

7:30PM MONDAY, MARCH 16

8:00AM † Agnes Grabacki

by Mary DeGraaf

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

St. Patrick, Bishop; St. Patrick's Day

8:00AM † Richard F. Ciszek

by Mary DeGraaf

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor

of the Church

8:00AM † Peggy Swanson

by The Rutledges

THURSDAY, MARCH 19 St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Marv

8:00AM † Terese Mary Grath

by Mom

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

8:00AM † Edna Ahlgren

by Al Ahlgren

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

† Ona Wilsey 5:00 PM

By Chuck & Maureen McBride



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, MARCH 16

2 Kas 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 [cf. Ps 42:3]/Lk 4:24-30

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [6a]/Mt 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 [12a]/Mt 5:17-19

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-

9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 [cf. 11 and 9a 1/Mk 12:28-34

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab [cf. Hos 6:6]/Lk 18:9-14

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

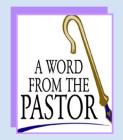
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6[1]/Eph 5:8-14/ Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-



A MESSAGE FROM FATHER EDUINO

Encountering the Savior of the World

Today the Church recalls the encounter of Jesus with the Samaritan woman where she came to know Him as the Savior of the world. She was surprised that Jesus talked with her and promised her living water (The Holy Spirit). It was His love for her that let her discover that He is the Savior of the world and that led



her to bring the Good News to her people who also came to know that He is truly the Savior of the world. The Jews did not regard the Samaritans well but Jesus looked at this woman and the Samaritans with love and a desire to save them. This is how He looks at us. He looks at us with love and the desire to save us and give us His Holy Spirit.

DEANERY LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18 - ST. LAWRENCE

7:00PM Confessions

FRIDAY, MARCH 20 - OUR LADY OF LOURDES

7:00PM Confessions

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25 - ST. PHILOMENE

7:00PM Confessions

FRIDAY, MARCH 27 - ST. MEL

7:00PM Confessions

TUESDAY, MARCH 31 - OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

6:30PM Taize Prayer & Lectio Divina

7:00PM Confessions

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 - ST. IGNATIUS

10:00AM Confessions

7:00PM Confessions

TUESDAY, APRIL 7 - ST. JOHN THE **EVANGELIST**

7:00pm Confessions

St. Joseph's will have no penance service, just extended hours for confession



PENANCE QUESTION

OUESTION

If I go to the Sacrament of Penance and end up repeating the same sins, does that mean I do not have a strong enough intention to amend my life?

ANSWER

There is a popular expression that says, "Be patient. God isn't finished with me yet!" Growing in faith and holiness is an ongoing, life-long project, and our struggle with sin is at the heart of it. As St. Paul says, the good he intends to do, he does not do. The evil he does not intend, he does! It is not always a lack of intention, but more often the allure of evil that makes it difficult to change.

When we confess our sins, we are to come with a fully contrite heart. Reflect on your true feelings toward your actions before approaching the sacrament. After confession, there are strategies you can make to avoid falling into the same traps of sin. First, pray for and seek strength & perseverance through multiple sacraments, charitable work, and personal sacrifice. Second, avoid occasions of sin when you might fail or be sorely tempted. In doing these things, remind yourself daily that it is a spiritual war we wage, and with God's grace, we will succeed.

OUR PARISH

PARISH CALENDAR

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

9;00AM First Reconciliation

Parish Hall - Church

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

10:30AM Flame Group Meeting

St. Paul's Room

12:10PM Stations Of the Cross Practice

Church

MONDAY, MARCH 16

4:00PM Christian Meditation

Church Chapel

6:00PM Catholic in Recovery

St. Anne's Room

6:30AM OLA Pastoral Council Meeting

St. John's Hall

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

11:00AM PERT Club

St. John's Hall

6:30PM Finance Council Meeting

St. Paul's Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

8:45AM Legion of Mary Meeting

St. Paul's Room

6:00PM Youth Music Ministry Rehearsal

Church

6:30PM Estate Planning Specialist

St. John's Hall

7:00PM Adult Music Ministry Rehearsal

Church

7:00PM RCIA

St. Paul's Room

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

7:00PM Living the Word

St Paul's Room

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

5:30PM Parish Fish Fry

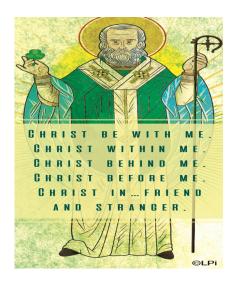
Parish Hall

7:00PM Stations of the Cross

Church

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Catholic Relief Services Collection Church





ESTATE PLANNING 101 | ST. JOHN'S HALL MARCH 18, 2020 6:30-8:00 P.M.

A SEMINAR PRESENTED BY: Mark Drobny

California State Bar Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Introduced by Kelly Brothers, CFP

- •An Introduction to Estate Planning
- Living Trust vs. Wills
- •Probate: Can it be avoided?
- •Who needs Durable Powers of Attorney for
- •Financial Management and Advanced Health Care Directives?
- •How to best remember OLA in your estate plan

THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH



PERT CLUB

Pert Luncheon

People enjoying retirement together will meet this Tuesday, 3/17 at 11am. Come for a potluck lunch, socializing, and to share your Lenten o reservations. Games after. For more info call George 916-483-7194 or Penny 916-531-0750



PARISH LENTEN FISH FRY

Parish Hall

5:30PM -Dinner

7:00PM - Stations of the Cross





SPECIAL REQUEST

Grocery Bags

The OLA St Vincent de Paul Food Locker would appreciate any donations of grocery bags. We use grocery bags to distribute food. Currently, we purchase paper bags from Raley's, so the donation of any grocery bag - plastic or paper - would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

LOST&FOUND

We have several items in our Lost & Found box, please stop by the parish office, should you have left anything in our church.

All the items that are not claimed will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul store.

SCHOOL & YOUTH MINISTRY

SCHOOL NEWS & EVENTS

Sports News

Our Varsity Girls brought home the 2020 pennant, defeating Woodland Christian. Our boys and girls on the JV and Varsity Comp teams participated in the PAL playoffs. All of our teams won at least one game and our JV Boys and Varsity Girls, made it to the finals.



School Accreditation

We are accredited by Western Catholic Education Association or WCEA and by the Western Associaiton of Schools and Colleges or WASC. We have completed a self study with an action plan for the next 6 years. Our self study is being reviewed by the visiting team and they will verify the findings when they visit on March 25th – 27th.

Spring Book Fair

March 12th thru March 19th - OLA Library

Future Events

The 11th OLA Cougar Classic Golf Tournament Friday May 1, 2020, Lincoln Hills Golf Club, in Lincoln. Contact: Mike

Rockenstein@rockusc@gmail.com for more information.



Alumni News

Alum Hannah Parulan competed in the Southern CA Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Swimming Championships (SCIAC) for Chapman University. As a freshman she helped the team to a 3rd place finish overall. Hannah also made the finals in all of her Individual events and competed in 4 relays for the team. She broke 2 school records in the 800 free relay and the 400 Individual Medley.

If you know of any alumni who are in the news or doing something special, please let us know. Contact: Lynn Sweeney at sweeney@olaparish.net

Have you considered a Catholic Education for your child? We invite you to visit and learn more about OLA School.



Please contact Lynn Sweeney at Sweeney@olaparish.net

OLA School, Preparing the Whole Child for a

Please follow us

Website: www.school.olaparish.net
Facebook; ourladyoftheassumptionschool
Instragram;; OLA_Cougars

YouTube: OLA This Week

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP

Meetings

Meetings are held in the Youth Rom

Grades 7 & 8: Wednesdays, 7:00pm-8:30pm

LIFE TEEN GROUP



Meetings

Grades 9 - 12: OLA's Life Teen Mass every Sunday at 11am followed by group meeting from 12-1:30pm



OVERNIGHT LOCK-IN FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Begins Friday, March 27, 2020 at 7PM Ends Saturday, March 28, 2020 at 8AM Our Lady of the Assumption Parish 5057 Cottage Way, Carmichael, CA 95608

Inspiring speaker • Games • Adoration • Music • Snacks throughout the night



YOUTH CHOIR & ENSEMBLE

OLA YOUTH CHOIR FOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We need singers for the OLA Youth Choir for **Stations of the Cross and Praise and Worship Music Prelude** on **Friday**, **3/20/20**, **6:30-8:00 pm (arrival time 6:15**



-CHOIR PRACTICE-

pm). The annual Fish Fry event will be taking place beforehand, and you can come over to the church after having dinner at the Fish Fry in the Parish Hall. This choir will be joining our OLA Youth Ministry Choir and Ensemble for this special event and is open to students in grades 3-12. There are two rehearsals: Wednesday, 3/18, 5:30-6:30 pm in the church. We would love to have a large youth choir for this very special event. If your child would like to participate, please confirm his/her participation via

email: Casey Oliver, Music Director, at worship@olaparish.net. Thank you!

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY









PRAYERS FOR PEACE

The Legion of Mary has a statue of Our Lady of Fatima for parishioners to host her at their homes, and commit to pray for peace in her presence.

For information, please call Maggie Mongeau at 483-5807 or the Parish Office 481-5115. We will deliver it so you can offer your prayers in this time of great need.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesdays and Thursdays, following the 8 a.m. mass, & continuing until 7 p.m.

First Saturday of the month following the 8 a.m. mass until 1 p.m.

For additional information please call Joan at 335-3532.

LIVING THE WORD

Thursdays 7 p.m. in St. Paul's Room

LECTIO DIVINA & TAIZÉ PRAYER

Typically the 4th Thursday of every month, during our regular "Living the Word" meeting time. Please check parish calendar.

Pray For ...

Please hold in your prayers our sick brothers and sisters:

Cathy Quesinberry Joan Cotton Larry Nelson Gloria Ploa George Peres J. Richard Heintz Jennifer Burk Molly Garcia Julie Nelson Craia & Jane Holmquist Nancy Carlson Daniel McNerney Jonathan Barbara Farren Rassmussen Stacie Higginbotham Richard McClintock Sandi Lanz Ben Koerber

Tom Bogetich Rees Lee
Joe and Sue Simon Margaret Parker
Shirlow Word

Shirley Ward Mary Silva

Note: Please call the parish office to add a name or to remove them from this list. Thank you.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Question for Children: How do you experience Jesus helping and loving you?

Question for Youth: Jesus revealed himself to an outcast of society. How can you be "living water" to the outcasts of your school? Society? The world?

Question for Adults: When you are tempted to try to satisfy your "thirst for meaning" through some other means, what keeps you coming back to the living water of intimacy with Christ? Through what means do you experience Christ's power in your life: Sacraments? Scripture? Prayer? Others?



SOMETHING TO PONDER

Remember and be Transformed

Did you know that our word "Lent" comes from the Old-English word for "springtime?" This gives us a wonderful insight into what the days between Ash Wednesday and Holy Thursday are all about: a season when faith and the virtues of the Christian life grow and flower within our hearts and souls. But, as Ash Wednesday approaches each year, one of the first questions we Catholics ask is, "What should I give up for Lent?" And it's a fair question because, as we know, penance is a part of Lent.

So, how do you or your family and friends answer this question? Do you give up social media? Television? Chocolate, or another favorite food? Soft drinks, coffee, or alcohol? While it's true that taking a break from any of those can be good for us, we also have to ask ourselves if these sacrifices are really helping us to grow in our lives as Christians. Lent isn't only about doing penance. We have to think of other opportunities for "good works" during the Lenten Season.



The traditional works of prayer, almsgiving, and fasting help us focus our attention on what is most important in life. If we can think of our Lenten penance as a "good work" to be taken on and shift our focus away from what we "give up," we will find that our Lenten prayer and devotions will be richer and more fruitful. As Henri Nouwen has reminded us: "Lent is a time of returning to God... a time of refocusing, of re-entering the place of truth, of reclaiming our true identity."

But, there's more at stake because, as we reflect on all of this, we have to remember that Lent isn't an end in itself. The purpose of the season of Lent is to help us prepare for Easter when we will renew our baptismal commitment.

If we keep the themes of Baptism and discipleship in mind as we consider the value of fasting and sacrifice, we quickly realize that fasting isn't about just giving up something we enjoy. After all, there isn't any real spiritual value in giving up chocolate or soft drinks. The point of fasting is that we give up something that we enjoy to help us pay better attention to our deeper hungers and desires.

Each one of us lives with needs—physical needs and the need for love, security, and community—that we often bury or try to hide by filling our lives with "stuff" and relationships that can never really make us happy or give us peace. And so, Lenten fasting means that we set aside those things with which we self-medicate so that we can be free to recognize what our real hungers and desires are—including our desire for God.

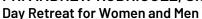
Only God can truly satisfy the deepest desires and needs of our hearts.

- Br. Silas Henderson, SDS

COMMUNITY

NOURISH

LENTEN DAY OF RECOLLECTION SATURDAY, MAR 28 8:30AM - 3:30PM FR. ANDREW RODRIGUEZ, S.J.



As Holy Week approaches, do you desire time for prayer and reflection but cannot commit to a weekend retreat? Then consider coming to this Lenten Day of Recollection.



PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND RETREAT FRIDAY, APR 3, 4:00PM THROUGH SUNDAY, APR 5, 1:00PM

Pastoral Staff Silent Retreat for Women and Men

This is a time to prepare our hearts and minds for Jesus' Passion and Resurrection. We will reflect on the final week of his earthly ministry – from his entry into Jerusalem to his last day on earth. Spend Palm Sunday Weekend in silent prayer saying "yes" to God.

For more information call (650) 917 4000 or email retreat@irclosaltos.org.

INVITE

JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL PRE-HSPT (HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST)

Jesuit High School is hosting a Pre-HSPT (High School Placement Test) for all

boys currently in 7th grade

Saturday, March 28. If you plan on applying to a Catholic high school, you

should definitely register to take this

practice exam. For more information and to register, visit our website,

https://www.jesuithighschool.org/placement-testing-hspt.

PLEASE NOTE! NEW BULLETIN DEADLINES

Send typed articles, in MS Word - Times New Roman, font 10, via email to :parishbulletin@olaparish.net with copy to officemgr@olaparish.net, no later than 8am on the day indicated below. Mass intentions are not subject to these deadlines.

Bulletin Weekend Dates	Article DUE
March 28 - March 29	March 20
April 4 - April 5	March 27
April 11 - April 12	April 3
April 18 - April 19	April 10

WORD OF LIFE

"To celebrate the Gospel of life means to celebrate the God of life, the God who gives life... In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God's glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ" (The Gospel of Life 84).



Pregnant? Worried? Need Help?

You are not alone. We can help.

The Gabriel Project
Call: 800-910-0191

DIOCESAN NEWS

PRESERVING OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS WITH A CIVIL VOICE: PEOPLE OF FAITH WORKING TOGETHER IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2020 • 7PM - 8:30PM THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

3621 ELVERTA ROAD, ANTELOPE, CA 95843

You are invited to an ongoing ecumenical dialogue with Bishop Soto on religious freedom hosted by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, William Jessup University and the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento. Those who attend this event will discuss how to engage our families and communities on the following topics:

- * Religious Liberty in the Public Square: What is at stake and why is civility important in these matters?
- * What is comprehensive sex education and how can parents be involved?
- * How can I be involved in religious freedom with civility as an employee or employer?

Register for FREE: scd.formstack.com/forms/civilvoice

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED: A YEAR OF SERVICE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 6:00 P.M. ST. ANNE PARISH, 7724 24TH ST.

A Mass for mothers in need and mothers to be. Wednesday, March 25, 6:00pm at St. Anne Parish, 7724 24th St., Sacramento Walking with Moms in Need is an initiative of the U.S. Conference of Bishops. It is a year long event commemorating the 25th anniversary of Pope St. John Paul II's landmark encyclical Evangelium Vitae. This initiative is meant to encourage us, as the Church, to assess, expand, and provide resources to pregnant women and mothers in need. Bishop Soto invites you to join him in this nationwide effort which goes from March 25, 2020 to March 25, 2021. For more information please visit our website at www.scd.org/moms

STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING

For these gifts we are grateful!

Week of February 23

Average Weekly Budget Amount	\$12,000.00
Total	\$1 7,077.59
Electronic Giving	\$5,993.08
Weekend Offertory	

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Please gently take note of the upcoming second collections:

⇒ April 10 (Good Friday): Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land



THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

Next week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC). Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the CRSC, and help Jesus in disguise. Learn more



about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.



WAYS TO HELP OUR PARISH

AMAZONSMILE

When shopping at Amazon, enter through AmazonSmile, They donate 0.5% of the purchase price to our Parish. Please bookmark our link, located at smile.amazon.com/ch/45-3954215, and support us every time you shop at no additional cost to you. Thank you

ESTATE PLANNING

A legacy gift to Our Lady of the Assumption is one of the most rewarding and far-reaching investments you can make. Our Lady of the Assumption takes the trust you place in us seriously. We are grateful to those who have included us in their plan for the distribution of their assets after death. We pray that you will keep Our Lady of the Assumption Parish and/or School in mind. We invite you to contact the Parish Office if you wish to learn more about how you can include us in your estate planning.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

MARCH 15, 2020

GOD-CENTERED STEWARDSHIP

3rd Sunday of Lent

"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again." John 4:13 Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us for long. When we build our lives around material possessions we always want more. True Joy and Peace only comes when we follow Jesus; when we become His **Stewards**, we become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered".

HELP NEEDED!

If you can sew we are in need of sprucing-up our collection baskets. Your sewing talent would be greatly appreciated.

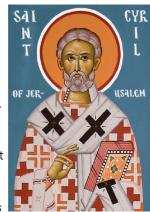
Please contact Joan Cotton at (916) 488-4626 Monday & Tuesday or call (916) 849-2282.

STEWARDSHIP SAINT

St. Cyril of Jerusalem Bishop, Doctor of the Church Feast Day: March 18

Cyril was born in Jerusalem in 315. After he became a priest, his bishop, Maximus, put him in charge of preparing people to be baptized. Cyril became well-known for the catechesis he gave.

Maximus feared for the future of Jerusalem. The heresy of Arianism, which denied the divinity of Christ, was spreading. Even bishops and the emperor believed in it. Maximus wanted a successor strong enough to stand up for the Church's teaching. Cyril was ordained bishop in about 349 and began at once to bring law, order, and peace to Jerusalem. In the neighboring diocese was a man named Acacius, a staunch believer in Arianism. When Acacius couldn't persuade Cyril to support Arianism,



he became angry. First, Acacius and his friends accused Cyril of heresy. Then they summoned him before a council of bishops, saying he had sold church property to feed those who were poor. When Cyril refused to appear at the council, the group charged him with disobedience, and Cyril was exiled to Tarsus in southern Turkey. In exile, he won the hearts of the people with his preaching.

When Cyril was allowed to return to Jerusalem, it was violent with heresy, fighting, and crime. Even Saint Gregory of Nyssa, who was sent to help Cyril, left because conditions were so bad. Twice again before his death, Cyril was exiled over Arian disputes. He died in 386. In 1822, Cyril was vindicated and declared a Doctor of the Church.

Ten years after Cyril's death, the abbess, Lady Etheria, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and wrote that she found a peaceful Christian community. This was the result of the efforts of Bishop Cyril, who suffered to heal the wounds that Arianism had inflicted on the Church.

-Source: Loyola Press