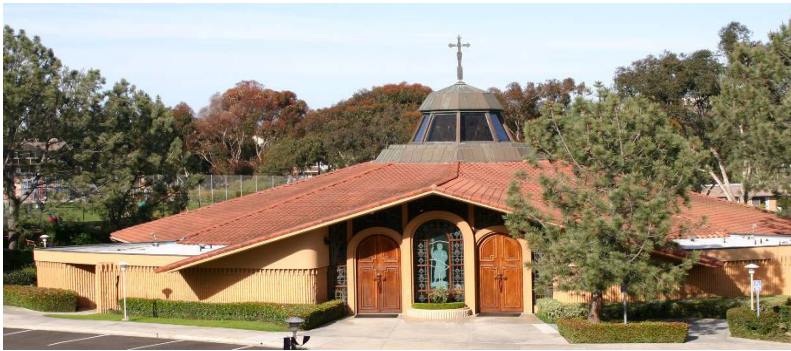


St. James-St. Leo Catholic Community



St. James Church

625 South Nardo Avenue, Solana Beach, CA 92075
858 755-2545 Fax: 858 755-3845

www.stjames-stleo.org

St. Leo Mission

936 Genevieve Street, Solana Beach, CA 92075
858 481-6788 Fax: 858 481-5832

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - **October 31, 2010**



St. James—St. Leo Catholic Community is under the pastoral care of the Eudist Fathers, or Congregation of Jesus and Mary. We owe our name to Saint John Eudes who founded the Congregation in France in 1643. The Eudists currently operate in 15 countries, most of which are in the developing world. Evangelization, mainly with the poor and the youth, is our primary purpose, as well as formation to ministry in the training of diocesan priests and lay ministers. Our motto is "To Serve Christ and His Church." For more information visit: <http://www.eudistes.org/english.htm>

Today's Readings

First Reading — LORD, you love all things that exist (Wisdom 11:22 — 12:2).

Psalms — I will praise your name forever, my king and my God (Psalm 145).

Second Reading — May the name of Christ be glorified in you and you in him (2 Thessalonians 1:11 — 2:2).

Gospel — Zacchaeus, a tax collector, considered to be a sinner, is converted to the Lord (Luke 19:1-10).

Readings for the Week

Monday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a

Tuesday: Suggested: Wis 3:1-9; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40

or any readings taken from the Masses for the Dead, nos. 1011-1016

Wednesday: Phil 2:12-18; Lk 14:25-33

Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a; Lk 15:1-10

Friday: Phil 3:17 — 4:1; Lk 16:1-8

Saturday: Phil 4:10-19; Lk 16:9-15

Sunday: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14; Ps 17; 2 Thes 2:16 — 3:5; Lk 20:27-38 [27, 34-38]

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time;

Halloween; Priesthood Sunday

Monday: All Saints

Tuesday: Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls); Election Day

Wednesday: St. Martin de Porres

Thursday: St. Charles Borromeo

Friday: First Friday

Saturday: First Saturday; Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass Schedules

St. James

(In English)

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am,
11:30am, & 6:00pm

Daily Mass at St. James:

Liturgy of the Hours:

Communion Service:

St. Leo Mission

(In Spanish)

3rd Saturday Vigil: 7pm

Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30am

8:00am Monday - Friday

7:30am Monday - Friday

6:45am Monday - Friday;

8:00am Saturday

Reconciliation/Confesiones: Saturdays-Sábados,
3:30pm or upon request

Marriage Preparation: Call Parish Office 9 months prior
to wedding.

Baptism: Call (858) 755-2545 ext. 105



Life and Dignity Sunday

Today is Life & Dignity Sunday in the Diocese of San Diego, a day when parishioners will be invited to join the state-wide **Catholic Legislative Network**.

Members of this network will provide a strong, clear, and moral voice for life and justice in our state and nation.

The **Catholic Legislative Network** uses an email-based system, so only those who have email should register.

Look for volunteers with registration cards at all the Masses.

If you missed signing up today, you can register online at

www.cacatholic.org.

Welcome to St. James-St. Leo Catholic Community

We warmly welcome all visitors and hope you will consider making our community your parish home. **Church attendance does not make you or your family registered members.** Registration forms are in the brochure rack at the entrance of the church, or at the parish office. For more information on parish life, please visit our website: www.stjames-stleo.org.

Pastoral Staff

Rev. John H. Howard, CJM, Pastor	858-755-2545	jhhcjm@aol.com
Rev. Ernesto Torres, CJM	858-755-2545 x 101	ernesto@stjames-stleo.org
Rev. Gerard Lecomte, CJM, Youth & Vocation Ministry Consultant	858-755-2545 x 306	glecomte2@yahoo.ca
Deacon Al Graff.....	858-452-3684	
Deacon Peter Hodsdon	619-991-5311	dcnpeterh@yahoo.com
Deacon Joe Santen.....	858-922-0325	gon2mass@att.net
Sr. Zita Toto, OLC Coordinator St. Leo Mission.....	858-481-6788	sisterzita@stjames-stleo.org
Carol Becker, Adult Faith Formation Coordinator	858-354-7085	cabecker@san.rr.com
Abel & Gloria Castellanos, Youth Ministry Coordinators.....	760-207-4645	g.castellanos@cox.net
Debbie Derderian, Receptionist/Secretary	858-755-2545 x 100.....	debbie@stjames-stleo.org
Abel Castellanos, Maintenance Manager	858-755-2545 x 109.....	acastellanos@stjames-stleo.org
Kathy Dunn, Principal St. James Academy	858-755-1777	principalsja@yahoo.com
Kate Hodsdon, Coordinator of Pastoral Care.....	858-682-1118	katehodsdon@yahoo.com
Robert Kidd, Director of Catechetical Ministry.....	858-755-2545 x 105.....	rob@stjames-stleo.org
Vicente Leal, Spanish Religious Education Coordinator.....	858-755-2545 x 102.....	vicente@stjames-stleo.org
Amy Martinez, Finance Manager.....	858-755-2545 x 103.....	amartinez@stjames-stleo.org
Timothy O'Shea, Saints Thrift Store Manager	858-755-0654	timothykoshea@yahoo.com
Dot Renner, Sacristan	858-755-2545 x 301.....	sacristandot@yahoo.com
Lee Santen, Faith Formation for Children.....	858-755-2545 x 106.....	ffc@stjames-stleo.org
Patrick Villa, Youth Ministry Coordinator.....	858-755-2545 x 111.....	pvilla@stjames-stleo.org
Pauline Wright, Director of Music	858-755-7668	musicladyphd@yahoo.com
Bulletin.....	858-755-2545	bulletin@stjames-stleo.org
Centennial Committee Chairperson-Mary Larkin.....	858-259-0698	mlarkin93@yahoo.com

Parish Contacts

Finance CouncilDavid Goodell.....	858-481-2626	Parish Library.....Katie Harte	760-271-6365
Pastoral CouncilAnthony Corso.....	858-481-7096	Blood Bank.....Bob Graves.....	858-755-8990
Liturgy		Bridge Club.....Dee Eller.....	858-755-7808
Eucharistic Ministry.....Karen Charest	760-943-0046	Getting To Know You.....David Reagan.....	760-632-9470
Lector Ministry.....Neil Quinn	858-792-7003	Good-Timers.....Nora Cochrane.....	858-755-2714
Eucharistic Adoration.....Marie Dorr.....	760-942-2107	Healing Ministry.....Lily Loh	858-755-2545 x 308
Altar Servers.....Clare McDonald	858-792-6036	Ecumenical Representative.Warren Henderson.....	951-243-4900
Hospitality/Ushers.....Charles Lasnier.....	858-792-8264	Marriage Encounter.....John & Bianca Roy	858-513-1099
Bereavement Ministry.....Pauline Marsh	760-431-8970	Mom's Group.....Lisa Ronco	858-793-3592
Organizations		Life Matters Ministry.....Sandy Murphy.....	619-997-0848
Communion to the Sick...Katie Hodsdon.....	858-682-1118	Returning Catholics.....Carol Becker	858-354-7085
Medical/Dental Program.....	858-259-9464	RCIA (Becoming Catholic).Rob Kidd.....	858-755-2545 x 105
Mission Circle..... www.missioncircle.com	858-792-0516	Separated & Divorced.....Frank Grant.....	760-533-1520
SJA Mothers.....Claire Johnson	858-755-2167	Singles and Young Adults.....	www.yamsd.org
Christ Renews His Parish...Alice Lamberger.....	858-509-3900	Small Church Communities.Mary Kieffer.....	858-755-2436
Knights of Columbus.....Hank Ingorvate.....	760-727-8329	Women Together.....Judy O'Connor.....	760-212-4727
		Widows & Widowers.....Pat Smart	858-259-7794

To be a good steward is to be conscious that all things we have on earth are generous gifts from God. Stewardship is to care, to have concern, and to give thanks by giving of what has been given to us.

**Collection Report
October 24, 2010**

St. James Collection:	\$ 9,117.45
Credit Cards:	\$ 977.20
St. Leo Collection:	<u>\$ 1,328.50</u>
Total Collection:	\$11,423.15

Parish Pilgrimage—October 3-15, 2011

Celebrate **Saint James Centennial** next year by making a pilgrimage to **Saint James Shrine** in **Compostela**, Spain

Visit Spain and Portugal:

Madrid, Avila, Salamanca, Santiago de Compostela, Fatima, Lisbon, Seville, Granada & Toledo

Cost is \$2999, from San Diego

For more information, see brochure in back of church, visit <http://www.stjamesandleo.org/?p=1219>, or call Fr. Howard at 858-755-2545 ex. 104.

Donations

There are many ways to help support your Parish! We offer a variety of options for easier giving.

- ◆ *Credit Card Withdrawal (Visa/Master Card)*
- ◆ *Automatic Checking Account Deduction*
- ◆ *Automatic Savings Account Deduction*

Contact Parish Finance Office (858)755-2545 ext. 103.

St. James Healing Ministry

Healing Prayer is available at St. James Church EVERY SUNDAY after the 9 a.m. Mass; on FIRST MONDAYS at 9 a.m.; on SECOND TUESDAYS from 6-7:15 p.m.; and on THIRD SATURDAYS after the 5 p.m. Mass. All are welcome. For information call (858) 481-6911.

Getting to Know Us

Many of us, if we were asked whether or not the goal of our prayer and spiritual life was to get to know God better, would most likely answer, "Of course." But how many of us would think that another purpose of our prayer and spiritual life was for God to get to know us better? We think of God as the One who views the whole universe as a grain of sand. How can God get to know us better? The author of Wisdom reminds us that the Lord is a "lover of souls" (Wisdom 11:26)—and lovers, if they do nothing else, are always seeking out their beloved, wanting to know them better, knowing yet overlooking their faults, wanting nothing but to love them more and more.

In today's Gospel Jesus embodies this God whose imperishable spirit is in all things. Not only does he allow the extreme sinner Zaccheus to speak with him, but Jesus seeks him out, up in a tree. And then—losing his head with love for his brother in the faith of Abraham—Jesus becomes a part of his life by insisting that Zaccheus take him into his own house, the house he lived in through ill-gotten, sinful gains as a tax collector. Wisdom and Luke both tell us that God is willing to walk right into our frail sinfulness in order to know us better, love us more, and bring us in forgiveness to salvation.

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Save the Date ~ "The Scriptural Words of Mary, Our Model for Discipleship" Thursday, November 18

Women Together and Life Matters presents Dorothy Hulburt, retreat master, spiritual director and speaker. It will be an evening of good food, fellowship and inspiration.

Dinner @ 6:00pm, cost \$10

Tickets on sale after Masses starting October 31.

All are welcome.

Attention Widows and Widowers

Please join us for lunch on Sunday, November 14

Place: Chart House Restaurant
2588 South Coast Hwy 101
Cardiff, CA 92007

Time: Noon

Price: \$25.00

Reservations: Pat Smart (858) 259-7794

Mary Lou Matthews (858) 481-6255

Deadline: Thursday, November 11

Saints Thrift Store Update

**A+ effort from this fabulous Catholic community . . .
Recent donations are solid. . .
Remember, charity begins at home and quality makes all the difference . . .**

A list of our needs:

- CDs, DVDs, picture frames, pots, pans, "corning ware", sets of dishware, silverware, glassware, wine glasses

Proceeds benefit parish ministry, the local community, and the poor. Donations and Volunteers welcome. We appreciate donations **before** 3:30pm. Hours: 10am-4pm

Address: 817 Academy Dr., Solana Beach, CA 92075 (one block up from Fidel's and across from Santa Fe Christian school)

1 Cor 13:8 . . . Love never fails.



Wide Awake Day Conference

November 6, 8:30am-6:30pm
at SDSU Newman Center

For flyer and more details check out www.yamsd.org

Mission Circle



Homework coaches needed to help kids after school at St. Leo's. No special training is necessary. If you have free time from 3: 00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday or Wednesday, contact Amanda Maytom at (858) 342-9220 or amanda.maytom@att.net.

Small bookcases and chests of drawers can be used to furnish the new apartment at Casa Eudes. If you have one of these, we'll pick it up. Call Laura Wagner at (858) 259-1253.

We're collecting **warm blankets** for the destitute people in Tijuana to ward off the winter cold. Please leave new or gently used covers in the back of the church with our thanks.

Maintenance and craft projects at Casa Eudes need Saturday helpers twice a month. Volunteer for a day -- it's fun! The church van leaves the parking lot at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 13. To join us, call Don Brosnahan (760) 436-4920 or Vreni Crimmins (760) 436-2678. Please remember to bring your passport.

Mission Circle is a charity run by St. James parishioners dedicated to helping the poor.

Visit our website at www.missioncircle.com

To receive our quarterly newsletter, contact Lucie Walther at 858-755-8060 or Reubli28@aol.com

Adult Faith Formation Introduces
Spirituality and the Movies

Chariots of Fire	Thurs, Nov 11	Hall
Billy Elliott	Thurs, Dec 2	Church
Eat, Pray, Love	Fri, Jan 7	Church
Fried Green Tomatoes	Fri, Feb 4	Church
Babette's Feast	Fri, Mar 4	Hall
The Blind Side	Fri, May 6	Church

6:30-8:30 p.m.: Watch movie

8:30-9 p.m.: Discuss movie in small groups (optional)

This series will use as a basis for discussion the 24 Character Strengths emphasized in Positive Psychology that enable individuals and communities to thrive. After each movie, there will be an opportunity to identify and discuss in small groups the strengths in the main characters that enable them to overcome obstacles or adversity. Find your own signature strengths and lesser strengths in 20-30 minutes by taking the free 240-item VIA Survey online at www.viacharacter.org Your character strengths will come up in a report immediately. For more info, call Carol Becker (858) 354-7085

Prayer List

Anthony Ambrose	Claude Kordus
Virginia Amos	Bill Larkin
Germaine Bernheisel	Betty Mettee
Jean Brosnahan	Mi Le Nguyen
Abel Castellanos, Sr.	Marie Randazzo
Cleo Cella	Carmela Sacco
Nora Cochrane	Gerardo Sacco
Alli De Francesco	Evelyn Schramm
Jeannette & Gerry Fetzer	Jean Stanley
Jaime Garcia	Kate Turner
Winston Hines	Claire Valentine
Jim Johnson	Mike Van Vranken
Dorothy Kerschbaum	Dorry Williams
Ray Kieffer	Sophia Maria Woodworth

We are happy to list the names of persons who need special prayers in our parish bulletin. Names will be listed for one month. **A new prayer request list will be published the first Sunday of each month.** If you wish to have a name included, you must resubmit the name. This will assure that we keep an up-to-date list. **Please call 858-755-2545 ext. 304 to add a name to the list.**

Women's Spiritual Day of Reflection

November 6, 2010 from 10:00am – 1:00pm

Join Father Larry Dolan, OFM in the special day of reflection as we celebrate the feast of Diego of Alcala, Franciscan patron of the City and Diocese of San Diego. We will look at certain aspects of his life to try to understand his inspiration, thus enabling us to see how God is working in our lives as well. Please bring your bibles as we reflect on biblical themes that will aid in our faith journey during this time approaching Thanksgiving and Advent.

The cost is \$20 per person, which includes lunch. To register, please call 760-757-3659 or visit our website at www.sanluisrey.org.

**Saint Martin de Porres (1579-1639)
November 3**

An old illustration pictures Martin de Porres, finger to his lips—"Shhhh!"—as several mice peek out of sacristy vestment drawers, preparing to join a rodent "procession" following him out of church! Martin's rescue of these unwelcome "guests," and statues depicting him, broom in hand, feeding a dog, cat, bird, and mouse from the same dish symbolize his life and sanctity. Initially denied entrance by the Dominicans because of "mixed race" (Spanish father, Panamanian mother), Martin cherished society's marginalized. For him, menial tasks, lovingly done, were sacred. Great and lowly alike feasted on his charity. Enemies were reconciled by this "poor mulatto" (his self-description), kind even to those whose racism demeaned him. Apprenticed to a surgeon-barber in his youth—thus patron saint of hair stylists and public health providers—Martin dispensed healing and dignity to Lima's poorest, serving in them the Christ he adored for hours in the Blessed Sacrament. By the time he died, all Peru called him "Martin the Charitable," a title even those of us who will never be called "saint" might still aspire to.

—Peter Scagnelli, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Volunteers Needed:

Become a child advocate and make a lasting difference in the life of a foster child. More than just a mentor, you can give hope to a child who has none. Call Voices for Children at 858-598-2235 or visit www.speakupnow.org for upcoming information session dates.

St. Augustine Open House

Open House at St. Augustine High School, San Diego's only Catholic high school for young men. **Sunday, November 7, 2010, 1:00-4:00pm.** Presentation at 2:00pm. See Saints in action, tour the campus and meet teachers and coaches. For more information call Mike Haupt, Director of Admissions (619) 282-2184 ext 5521.

Centennial Meeting

Wednesday, November 3rd at 9am
St James Academy Day Care Room

Everyone is invited! If you can't make it and want to be included, or have ideas to share, please contact Mary Larkin at mlarkin93@yahoo.com, or at 858-259-0698.



Monday, November 1
Tuesday, November 2
Wednesday, November 3
Thursday, November 4
Friday, November 5

Eleanor Light †
Garver Light †
Joan McCormick †
Bill Thomas †
Hattie Naft †

To arrange for a Mass Intention during any of the weekday masses, please stop by or call the parish office.

Adopt a Seminarian!

We are blessed with many seminarians who require financial assistance. Please make checks payable to: The Eudists, CJM. Contact Fr. Howard: jhhcjm@aol.com, (858) 755-2545 ext. 104

Voice of Saints:
"Daily reflections on life
by those who lived closest with Christ"
<http://voiceofsaints.blogspot.com/>

Join St. James *JustFaith* participants at a Special Event!

Rev. Greg Boyle, S.J., author of Tattoos on the Heart, will share stories of struggle and hope and his reflections on God's unconditional love through his twenty years of ministry to gangs in East Los Angeles.

Sunday, November 7, 2010, 12:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

The Immaculata Church, University of San Diego Campus
 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego

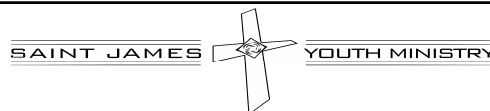
\$15 donation per person is requested for this event. All proceeds to benefit Homeboy Industries, a ministry of outreach and training for gangs in East LA. To register and/or for more information, contact Margie Carroll, Ignatian Volunteer Corps-San Diego, at (619) 881-9509 or mcarroll@ivcusa.org

Boomers & Beyond...Craft & Chat

Every Tuesday, 10:00am-12:00pm

Meet fellow parishioners at the St. James Ministry Center, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. every Tuesday, to socialize, trade ideas, work on projects and show off your creations!

This is not a class, but a gathering of like-minded people for crafting, conversation and camaraderie. Craft makers of all types are welcome! (Jewelry, Beading, Basket Making, Embroidery, Scrap booking, Knitting, Crochet, Card Making, Calligraphy, Tatting, Needlepoint, etc.)



For details about High School, Jr. High & Confirmation Prep Ministries visit:
w w w . s j y m . n e t



Adult Faith Formation Bible Study: The Gospel of John
Beginning Tuesday, November 9, St James Hall (Cost: \$20)

The Gospel of John Bible Study will begin with an overview of the Gospel (including John's style and spirituality) presented by Dr. Eugenia Constantinou, scripture scholar from USD, whose teaching specialties include John and Early Christianity. Presented by: Carol Becker, Rob Kidd, Dn Joe Santen, and Dn Peter Hodsdon, the 12 classes will be given between Tuesday, November 9 and Tuesday, April 5. For more information and to sign up, please see the table outside the church after mass or contact Carol Becker: 858-354-7085 or cabecker@san.rr.com

CARE CORNER...

We Care Greeting Card Ministry

If you know of a parishioner who would be encouraged by receiving a "love note" during an illness or following the death of a family member, please contact Katie Hodsdon at 858-682-1118 or katehodsdon@yahoo.com

Veterans Breakfast
November 14, 2010

Please join the Knights of Columbus for breakfast on Sunday November 14th, as we celebrate all Veterans in our Parish. Wear your hat or pins. The proceeds of the breakfast to assist the homeless veterans in Oceanside. Please join us!

Any questions call Adrian Varni 760-602-1263

Kairos Prison Ministry Thanks You!

"I was in prison, and you came to me." (Mt. 25:36b)

Congratulations, St. James! You set a new record for our Kairos ministry - 285 dozen cookies! You beat last year by 45 dozen! Many thanks to all of the kids from various classes who helped out - and to all of you who set aside some time to remember the forgotten through your efforts. Please continue to pray for Kairos participants who heard the Good News and received 3,420 little expressions of love from you last weekend.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Señor, tú amas todo cuanto existe (Sabiduría 11:22 — 12:2).

Salmo — Bendeciré al Señor eternamente (Salmo 145 [144]).

Segunda lectura — Oramos siempre por ustedes para que el nombre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo se glorifique en ustedes y ustedes en él (2 Tesalonicenses 1:11 — 2:2).

Evangelio — Zaqueo, cobrador de impuestos, considerado socialmente como pecador, se convierte al Señor (Lucas 19:1-10).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Apo 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a

Martes: Recomendado: Sab 3:1-9; Rom 5:5-11 o 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40 o lecturas de las misas para los difuntos, #1011-1016

Miércoles: Flp 2:12-18; Lc 14:25-33

Jueves: Flp 3:3-8a; Lc 15:1-10

Viernes: Flp 3:17 — 4:1; Lc 16:1-8

Sábado: Flp 4:10-19; Lc 16:9-15

Domingo: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14; Sal 17 (16); 2 Tes 2:16 — 3:5; Lc 20:27-38 [27, 34-38]

LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS OBSERVANCIAS

Domingo: Trigésimo primer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario; Jaloín; Domingo del Sacerdocio

Lunes: Todos los Santos

Martes: Todos los Fieles Difuntos; Día de Elecciones

Miércoles: San Martín de Porres

Jueves: San Carlos Borromeo

Viernes: Primer viernes

Sábado: Primer sábado; Santa María Virgen

Fiestas Guadalupanas

Le gustaría ser padrino/madrina de las fiestas guadalupanas, pida informes con la Hna. Zita Toto, OLC; hay varios proyectos en puerta. Preparemos la fiesta con un espíritu de oración con el rezo del rosario a nuestra madre santísima de Guadalupe. La celebración será el sábado 11 de diciembre por la noche, programa especial y el domingo con las misas.

**San León Magno**

Fiesta patronal de la Misión de San León Magno. Habrá un programa especial. Dios mediante celebraremos la fiesta de nuestro santo Patrono san León Magno el domingo 7 de noviembre. Invite a sus familiares y amigos a compartir una convivencia familiar y a disfrutar de una buena tarde con la comunidad de San León's.

Cambio de hora

El próximo domingo 7 de noviembre se cambiará la hora en los relojes, tomen sus precauciones: se atrasará una hora. Sea puntual, con Dios y con su comunidad. La puntualidad es una virtud que la gente importante y valiosa la practica, como tú.

Bienaventurados los puntuales, porque ellos recibirán a tiempo el reino de Dios.

Cultura favorable al Matrimonio

Casarse, mantenerse casado, construir un matrimonio amoroso, unido y fiel y tener hijos son los principales instrumentos con que una comunidad se impulsa hacia el futuro. Cuando una nación o comunidad de fe logra transmitir una eficaz visión del matrimonio a la siguiente generación, el resultado es bueno no solamente para los hijos, sino que es vital para el futuro de toda la comunidad.

LA COLLECTA
24 de octubre, 2010

Misa de 8:30	\$437.00
Misa de 10:30	733.00
Misa de Grupo de Oración	<u>158.50</u>
Total	\$1,328.50

Ser buenos co-responsales es ser concientes de que todas las cosas que tenemos en la tierra son regalos generosos de Dios. Corresponsabilidad significa ver por los demás, estar atentos a sus necesidades y agradecer a Dios dando a los demás de lo que se nos ha dado a nosotros.

CONOCIÉNDONOS

Si a muchos de nosotros nos preguntaran si la meta de nuestra oración y vida espiritual es llegar a conocer mejor a Dios o no, probablemente responderíamos "por supuesto". Pero ¿cuántos de nosotros pensamos que el propósito de nuestra oración y vida espiritual es para que Dios nos conozca mejor? Pensamos que Dios es Aquél que mira a todo el universo como si fuera un grano de arena. ¿Cómo puede Dios llegar a conocernos mejor? El autor de Sabiduría nos recuerda que Dios "ama la vida" (Sabiduría 11:26), y los que aman siempre buscan a la persona amada, queriendo conocerla mejor, conocerla aparentando no ver sus faltas, no deseando otra cosa que amarla más y más.

En el Evangelio de hoy Jesús encarna a este Dios cuyo espíritu imperecedero está en todas las cosas. No sólo permite que el extremo pecador Zaqueo le hable, sino que Jesús lo busca, allí arriba en el árbol. Y entonces —perdiendo la cabeza por amor a este hermano en la fe de Abraham— Jesús viene a ser parte de su vida insistiendo que Zaqueo lo lleve a su propia casa, la casa donde vivía con sus ganancias mal habidas y pecaminosas de cobrador de impuestos. La Sabiduría y san Lucas nos dicen que Dios está deseoso de entrar en la fragilidad de nuestro pecado a fin de conocernos mejor, amarnos más y traernos a la salvación por el perdón.