

Saint Raphael Church

5444 Hollister Avenue, Santa Barbara, California 93111-2308

Office (805) 967-5641, Fax (805) 964-2988

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Website: www.straphaelsb.com



Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bruce Correio	Pastor	683-9090 x8
Rev. Mark Strader	Associate Pastor	683-9090 x9
Wayne Rascati	Deacon	
Stephen Montross	Deacon	
Sr. Mina Riggs, O.P.	Adult Education	683-9090x5
M. Noël Fuentes	Pastoral Associate	683-9090x7

Parish Office

Jacqui Leicht	Finance Manager
Maria L. Romero	Reception/Baptism Coord

St. Raphael School

Mrs. Ellen Manning	Principal	967-2115
School e-mail: sraph@sbceo.org		

Religious Education

Karen Froelicher	English Coord	967-1641 x3
Ana Cervantes	Bilingual Coord	967-1641 x4

Masses

Monday to Friday/Lunes a Viernes: 8:00 am
Wednesday and Friday/Miércoles y Viernes: 12:05 pm
Saturdays/Sábados: 5:30 pm Vigil
Sundays/Domingos: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am,
12:30 pm Español; 5:30 pm Life Teen Mass

Holy Days/Special Observances

See page ten for Ash Wednesday schedule.

Confessions

Saturdays/Sábados: 4:00-5:00 pm

Exposition

First Friday of every month, 24 Hours.
Primer viernes del mes, 24 horas.

LifeTeen & Confirmation

John Vasellina	Youth Minister	964-3466 x1
Claudia Renteria	Assoc Youth Minister	964-3466 x2

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Magician's Trick

When a magician performs her best magic trick she may say, "See, I am doing something new. This has never been done before!" The children in the audience may be astounded and gasp, "We have never seen anything like this!" Children believe their eyes and ears, but we adults know better. Before the trick is even over we start figuring out how the magician has deceived us.

Some of that spirit of disbelief can creep into our relationship with God, too. When we read in Isaiah, "See, I am doing something new...your sins I remember no more" (*Isaiah 43:19, 25*), we think it is too good to be true. When Jesus says to the paralyzed man and to us, "Child, your sins are forgiven...pick up your mat and walk" (*Mark 2:5, 9*), we may struggle to take him at his word. Like the cynical scribes, we adults may doubt that Jesus has enough power or mercy to forgive our sinfulness and empower us to change.

Child, Your Sins Are Forgiven

Yet Paul reminds us that "the Son of God, Jesus Christ... was not 'yes' and 'no' " (*2 Corinthians 1:19*). Jesus Christ says "yes" to every sinner — even those we think are beyond the reach of his power or his mercy. When we humbly accept the gift of God's astonishing forgiveness we can find ourselves no longer paralyzed, but able to do what previously would have been impossible for us—to pick up our mats and walk. Then we are the ones who glorify God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this." When we respond "Amen" to God this is what we mean: that we accept in childlike faith the forgiveness we do not deserve, and welcome the new possibilities that God's mercy opens up for us.

Yes, Jesus' authority to forgive sins on earth extends even to us! Amen! Amen!

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Saints and Special Observances

- Sunday:** Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time;
George Washington's Birthday
- Monday:** St. Polycarp; Orthodox Clean Monday
- Tuesday:** Mardi Gras; Shrove Tuesday
- Wednesday:** Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence;
Almsgiving
- Friday:** Abstinence

Forgiven

The people of Israel, even in New Testament times, thought of God in a very personal, intimate, and relationship-oriented manner. In our modern times, we have inherited categories about God from Greek philosophy: God as all-knowing, all-powerful, all-present. Not that God isn't these things, but if we think of God primarily that way, when we get to the end of Isaiah today ("your sins I remember no more"), we are a bit confounded. How can an all-knowing God forget anything? Isaiah's listeners would have been more inclined to rejoice at what a wonderful, loving relationship God had with them. God — who had the power to forgive their sins — forgave sins, and then completely forgot them! Jesus, in today's Gospel, is also more interested in the paralyzed man knowing that wonderful, loving, healing presence of God than he is in satisfying the scribes' pre-conceived notions about God. How often it is we, not God, who remain paralyzed by our past sinfulness, even when we have been forgiven by God and reconciled with others. Let us, instead, give God glory by picking ourselves up from our paralyzed past, and journey on as disciples of Jesus.

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Today's Readings

First Reading — It is I who wipe out, for my own sake, your offenses (*Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25*).

Psalms — Lord, heal my soul, for I have sinned against you (*Psalms 41*).

Second Reading — Jesus Christ was not yes and no, but yes has been in him (*2 Corinthians 1:18-22*).

Gospel — The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins (*Mark 2:1-12*).

Readings for the Week

Monday: Sir 1:1-10; Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11; Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51; 2 Cor 5:20 -- 6:2;
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Gen 9:8-15; Ps 25; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

Need help?

Call St. Vincent de Paul: 683-8535.

Parish Community News

Ash Wednesday is February 25

See page ten of this bulletin for complete schedule.

Lenten Fish Fry's — Knights of Columbus Council 5300 will be hosting Lenten Fish Fry's on each of the six Friday evenings during Lent, beginning **February 27** (no fish fry on Good Friday). Serving begins at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

Take-out meals are available. Cost is only \$9.

Children under 12 are \$3. Enjoy one of the best fish dinners you can get in Southern California! Proceeds support the charitable works of the Council.



FISH FRY

Saint Patrick's Day Celebration



Irish Pub Style

Saturday, March 14
St. Raphael Parish Hall



Social: 6:30 pm ~ Dinner: 7:00 pm

Irish Menu includes corned beef and cabbage

~~ Irish Beer ~ Entertainment ~~

Tickets must be purchased by March 11

Adults: \$15, Children under 12: \$5

Call Paul Coyne, 967-7880, Sam Alfano, 967-0595
or contact the Parish Office

This is a benefit for the Saint Raphael Conference of the
St. Vincent de Paul Society

Wear The Green!

2008 Donation Statements

Many of you need your donation records for 2008 for tax purposes. We will be glad to help out. However, due to our current under-staffing, we will only be providing statements to those who request them. To request your statement, please call Maria in the Parish Office with your name and envelope number, if available. We will only be printing and mailing statements once a week, so it is important that you call as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience.

This Week at St. Raphael Church

Sunday, February 22

Life Teen Mass, Church, 5:30 pm, PC afterwards

Monday, February 23

St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, Conf. Rm., 2:00 pm
Confirmation Spirit Night, Church, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, February 24

Spanish Bible Study, PC, Multipurp. Rm., 7:00 pm

Wednesday, February 25

Ash Wednesday

Adult Bible Study, PC, Rm. A/B, 10:00 am

Religious Education (English), 6:00 pm

St. Joseph's Men's Prayer Group, Church, 6:30 pm

Praise & Worship Group, Conf. Rm., 7:30 pm

Thursday, February 26

Rosary & Divine Mercy Prayer Group, Church,
8:30 am

Friday, February 27

Fish Fry, Parish Hall, 6:00 pm

Grupo de Oración, PC, Rm. A/B, 7:00 pm

Adult Confirmation, Parish Library, 7:00 pm

Saturday, February 28

Religious Education (Bilingual), 9:00 am

Sunday, March 1

Life Teen Mass, Church, 5:30 pm, PC afterwards

PC=Parish Center

Fast and Abstinence

During Lent, Catholics in the United States abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of the season. We also fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On a day of fasting, eat only one full meal; you may also eat two partial meals and should not snack between any of them.



Everyone age 14 and older is

bound by the law of abstinence. Fasting binds from after one's 18th birthday until after the 59th.

Catholics younger and older than that need not fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Nonetheless, fasting is a praiseworthy practice, even when it is not required.

Together In Mission 2009

A Time for Reflection

Together in Mission provides substantial financial support to 35 parishes and 48 schools in our Archdiocese. These parishes and schools provide education, ministry and a Catholic presence for tens of thousands of people.

The theme of the campaign is "I turn to you, Lord" (*Psalms 32 (7)*). Together in Mission provides an opportunity to show our concern for those served by the parishes and schools that need your financial support.

Our 2009 goal for Together In Mission is \$84,097.69. As always, what you give should be given in gratitude for what God has given to you. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

Prayer for Priestly Vocations

Father, in every generation
you provide ministers of Christ and the Church.

We come before you now,
asking that you call forth more men
to serve our Archdiocese in the ministerial priesthood.
Give us priests who will lead and guide your holy people
gathered by Word and Sacrament.
Bless us with priestly vocations so that we can continue to
be a truly Eucharistic Church,
strengthened in our discipleship of Jesus Christ,
your Only Son.

Raise up, we pray, men who are
generous in their service,
willing to offer their lives and all their gifts for your
greater glory
and for the good of your people.

We make our prayer in the presence and power of the
Holy Spirit, through Christ, Our Lord

Amen

Vocation Information

A Priesthood Discernment Retreat is offered twice a year for men with a college degree who are considering the diocesan priesthood. For information, call Fr. James Forsen at (213) 637-7515 or email: frjrforsen@la-archdiocese.org.

Additionally, a network of 13 discernment groups throughout the Archdiocese has been established to give you support and guidance. For the location of the group meeting in your area, contact the Office for Vocations at (213) 637-7248. www.archdiocese.la/ministry/vocations/discernment/groups.html

Mass Intentions

February 21, 2009 — February 27, 2009

Feb 21	Sat Vigil	5:30 pm	Esther Mlynik (D)
Feb 22	Sun	7:30 am	Our Parish Community
		9:30 am	George and Mary Guntle (D)
		11:00 am	Chau T. Mai (D)
		12:30 pm	Deceased Members of Ruben Perez Family
		5:30 pm	Tomas Medina (D)
Feb 23	Mon	8:00 am	Helen Relihan (D)
Feb 24	Tues	8:00 am	Maria A. Martinez (D)
Feb 25	Wed	8:00 am	Intentions of Pat & Joe Saenz
		12:05 pm	Dolores Nungaray (D)
Feb 26	Thu	8:00 am	Intentions of Joe Bauer, Sr.
Feb 27	Fri	8:00 am	Intentions of Gloria Merrigan
		12:05 pm	Intentions of Elizabeth Fossen

Devotions

Circle of St. Therese Women's Apostolate — Monthly fellowship and prayer. Contact Lisa at 967-2152.

Discalced Carmelites Secular Order — Usually meets 2nd Saturday of the month at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 9:30 am. Call Reid or Nancy at 681-7150.

Divine Mercy Group — Meets monthly at 7:00 pm in the church. Next meeting is **Monday, March 16**. Please note: the meetings will be on Monday instead of Tuesday in February, March, and May. Contact Martha at 964-4945.

Grupo de Oración — Fridays in the Parish Center, Rm. B, 7:00 pm.

"Intercessors of the Lamb" Prayer Group — Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center Lounge. Contact Cecilia Marks at 968-6008 for more information.

Lay Apostle Prayer Group — Monthly "Hour of Holiness" (silence and rosary). Contact Cindy at 967-4511.

Praise & Worship — Wednesdays in the Conference Room, 7:30 pm.

Rosary Group — Thursdays in the Crying Room, after 8:00 am Mass.

St. Joseph Men's Prayer Group — Wednesdays, in the church, 6:30 pm.

Eucharistic Adoration

Please join us on **Friday, March 6** (and every first Friday of the month). The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 8:00 am on Friday, **March 6** until Solemn Benediction at 8:00 am on Saturday, March 7. We will pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy together at 3:00 pm on Friday. If you sign up for a Holy Hour, it is important that you come at your committed time. For more info, please call 967-7391.

Saint Raphael School
"From The Principal's Desk"

Dear Parishioners,

We invite you to our 21st Annual Dinner and Auction:

DENIM & *Diamonds*

21st Annual Auction  **Saint Raphael School**

to benefit the children of Saint Raphael School

February 28, 2009

Fess Parker's DoubleTree Resort • Santa Barbara

Doors Open at 4:30 pm • Silent Auction from 4:30 pm to 6:45 pm • Dinner and Live Auction begin at 7:00 pm

Tickets are \$100 Per Person • Reservations Required

We look forward to seeing you at this special event and enjoying the atmosphere of "Denim and Diamonds." For more **information** and **tickets**, please call the School Office at **967-2115**. If the recorder is on, please be sure and leave us a message with your requests or questions. We will return your call. Thank you in advance for your continued support!

Protecting Our Children

Online chat rooms, instant messaging systems, and even cell phones equipped to send text messages are environments rich in abbreviations, acronyms, and other shorthand that help increase the speed of communication. Parents need to become aware of some of the common lingo that is used in these environments. Some of these terms may be found to be vulgar, degrading, or otherwise offensive. However, parents and educators need to have a level of understanding of the dangers that face our children. For more information, please call the Archdiocesan Safeguard the Children office: **(213) 637-7227**.

For particular help, you may call Assistance Ministry at **(213) 637-7650**.

Sociable Seniors

Questions? Call Bea at **964-2431**.

The Senior Travelers

Travel News — The anticipated Holy Land Cruise has been cancelled due to "unrest" in that area.

Upcoming Trips

PCPA Santa Maria:

April 22: Les Miserables. Bus/show/dinner. \$69 pp, pay in full by March 10.

July 29: Music Man. Pay in full by June 10.

Make checks payable to *St. Raphael Sociable Seniors*.

Alaska Cruise/Land Tour. 12 days. **May 27, 2009.** Call Joan for more information.

Washington D.C. April 25 to May 2. Minimum 25 people required. Call Joan for more information.

Branson. September 1-9. 25 people required. Call Joan for more information.

Important! — Two waivers per person are required for all participants on trips. This is an Archdiocesan requirement. **These waivers must be submitted at the time of payment.** No checks or reservations will be accepted unless the two signed waivers are included.

It is the Sociable Seniors policy to offer these trips to active members. Additional space, when available, can be offered to family members and friends.

If you have suggestions for trips, need info, or to request a newsletter, please call **Joan Magenheimer, 967-5444**. Leave your name and phone number; please speak slowly and clearly! Thank you.

Sister Mina's Bible Study

We are studying the Gospel According to John. New members welcome. Class usually meets on Wednesdays (except the third Wednesday of the month), 10:00 am to 11:30 am in Room A/B of the Parish Center. The next meeting is **February 25**.

Newly Baptized!

Welcome Into the Family of God:

Noah Ethan Guillen

Christian Velez

Giselle Magdaleno Diaz

Carlos Alexander Rubalcava

Karla Sophia Martinez Andrade

Parish Office and Catholic Community News

Parish Staff and Office Hours — The Parish Staff is usually available to serve you during the following hours: Monday-Thursday: 8:30-11:30 am/12:30-7:30 pm, Friday: 8:30-11:30 am/12:30-5:00 pm, Saturday: 9:00 am-2:00 pm; Sunday: 8:30 am-2:00 pm. After hours **emergency** pager: 897-6371.

Room Scheduling Procedure — Requests for room space at St. Raphael are accepted **in writing** on the forms available in the Parish Office. Requests are processed one day a week (on Mondays).

Building Fund for Saint Raphael Parish

A Building Fund was established in May 2008 to cover several parish improvement projects (new school roof, school fumigation, property line fence, and parking lot repairs), which will cost nearly \$300,000.

As of 12/31/08, we have collected \$137,681.00, which includes \$30,000 from the Saint Raphael School Development Committee. All money collected is considered restricted for these projects only and will remain at Saint Raphael's. In this economy, everything seems to be pulling at us from all directions. Please consider this important need and pray about how you may be able to help.

** Please remember to use a **yellow Building Fund envelope** available in the vestibule of the church and to **write "Building Fund"** on the **memo line** of your check. **

Thank you for your prayers and for your generosity.

Food Items Needed by Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities provides supplemental food **all year long** to those in need. You can help by donating items that will provide "Healthy Staple Foods":

Canned peas, corn, string beans, mixed vegetables, fruit cocktail, peaches. Rice, dried pinto beans, canned pinto beans, boxed macaroni and cheese, bran cereal, bran flake cereal, oatmeal, low-sugar juices i.e. apple, cranberry etc., peanut butter (creamy), light tuna (in water), Top Ramen™, Cup of Noodles™, pasta, pasta sauce.

Day of Recollection

Sponsored by St. Raphael's Praise and Worship Prayer Group and the Santa Barbara Area Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group Community. Saturday, **February 28**, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Saint Raphael Parish Hall. Presented by Father John Hampsch, C.M.F., the topic will be "The Healing Power of the Eucharist." Mass will be also be celebrated. Bring a sack lunch. Snacks/beverages provided. For more information contact Ray Lyra, (805) 684-5373 or Phil/Chris Luna, (805) 962-1438.

Prayer Breakfast for Catholic Women — Hosted by Santa Maria Magnificat Chapter. Saturday, **February 28**, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Santa Maria Inn. Maureen Scanlon, mother of 11, will tell her "Lazarus" story. \$20 pp. Reservations: **878-0420** or **934-1857** — leave a message.

Church Women United of Santa Barbara Meeting — Friday, **March 6** at St Mark United Methodist Church, 3942 La Colina Road, Santa Barbara. The program will be "World Day of Prayer". Cost for lunch is \$5. For more info or reservations, call Skippy Barb at **967-1632**.

Lenten Retreat for Catholic Lawyers — The Los Angeles Catholic Lawyers Associate (LACLA) will hold a one day Lenten Retreat on **March 14**, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Immaculate Heart Retreat House, 3134 Waverly Dr., Los Angeles. For more information or registration, call Antoinette Marino, (310) 445-4165 or email amarino@fleimanlaw.com.

Marriage Encounter — For more info or to sign up, call (805) 648-4244, email info@wwme-la-north.org, or visit www.wwme-la-north.org.

Catholic Counseling — Sliding scale fee based on family income. For more information, call **965-7045 x102** (English) and **extension 114** for Bilingual-Spanish.

Retreats — Old Mission Santa Barbara Renewal Center has retreats throughout the year. For more information, email: retreats@sboldmission.org, call (805) 682-4713, x133, or visit the website www.santabarbaramission.org.

Villa Majella — Do you know someone who is in crisis with an unplanned pregnancy and in need of shelter and support? Call the Villa Majella Maternity Home program office at (805) 683-2838 for a confidential interview. Applicants must be 18 or older.

Life Network — Pregnancy options, parenting/adoption support. All info is free and confidential. Call **967-9096**.

Saint Raphael Youth Ministry

St. Raphael's "Teen" Confirmation Program

This program takes two years to complete. Both years, the candidates meet in small groups taught by adult and peer leaders. This approach teaches the candidates more about their faith while letting them explore their own spirituality. Classes meet monthly from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Candidates are also required to attend "Large Group Gathering" nights with their sponsor. These are held four times a year, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. For information, call John, **964-3466 x1**, or email: srym12@yahoo.com.



The Edge — 7th and 8th Grade Youth Ministry — Junior High students are perched on the edge of many changes in their lives. We want every Junior High student to have the opportunity to be "plugged-in" to a solid Catholic Church program that supports and fosters their spiritual, social and emotional growth. The Edge usually meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm. The EDGE starts in October and is open to all 7th and 8th grade students. Call **964-3466 x1**.

The Youth Ministry is looking for adult and young adult leaders to help with our Jr. High (7th and 8th grade) program, "The EDGE" which meets twice a month, typically on the first and third Thursday of the month from October to May. To volunteer, call John at **964-3466 x1**.

XLT — We are all searching for truth. We are all searching for love. We are all searching for Jesus! **XLT** is a powerful "praise experience" attended by high school teens and adults from parishes all around Santa Barbara. Encounter the living Christ through praise, fellowship, inspiring talks, and His True Presence in Eucharistic Adoration. Parish Center, Rm. A/B, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, after 5:30 pm LIFE TEEN® Mass. **Dates will be announced in advance.**

Young Adult Ministry (ages 18-26)

For info about the Young Adults Group, contact Phyllis at **692-1546**.



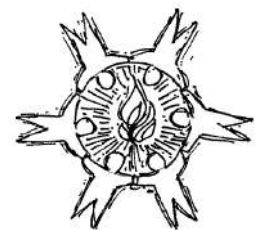
Leading Teens Closer to Christ

LIFE TEEN® Mass — All High School teens are invited to celebrate the Eucharist in this special Liturgy geared toward young people. The goal is to bring teens closer to Christ through Jesus in the Eucharist. People of all ages are invited to join us at 5:15 pm for Praise and Worship. LIFE TEEN® Mass is every Sunday evening, 5:30 pm. High School Life Night immediately follows.

Life Nights for High School Teens grades 9-12 — This group meets every Sunday evening, 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm after the LIFE TEEN® Mass. It gives teens an environment in which to explore their faith and nurture their relationship with God. A typical session includes ice-breaker games, activities, discussions centered on the night's topic, and prayer. For info, call John at the Youth Ministry Office, **964-3466 x1**, or email srym12@yahoo.com.

Please Pass the Mustard — The Sunday Night High School Life Night needs people to provide food for about 75 people. Please consider signing up for once a month or however often you can help! Food is eaten after the 5:30 pm LIFE TEEN® Mass, and meals can be very simple. Call John at **964-3466 x1** for more information. Thank you!

You Can Help Our Teens! — Friends of LIFE TEEN is a group of people who have become donors for the High School LIFE TEEN and Youth Ministry programs. These individuals have chosen our LIFE TEEN program as an organization worth donating to (above and beyond their regular contribution to the church). If you are interested in finding out more about Friends of LIFE TEEN or would like to become a donor, call Mike Murphy at **453-7242**.



Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Un Truco Mágico

Cuando un mago ejecuta un truco suele decir: “¡Miren, estoy haciendo algo nuevo. Esto nunca se había hecho antes!” Los niños en la audiencia pueden asombrarse y exclamar: “¡Nunca habíamos visto nada como esto!” Los niños creen lo que ven y lo que oyen, pero nosotros los adultos sabemos cómo es la cosa. Antes de que termine el truco comenzamos a imaginar cómo nos ha engañado el mago.

Un poco de ese espíritu de incredulidad puede colarse en nuestra relación con Dios también. Cuando leemos en Isaías: “Voy a realizar una cosa nueva ... no acordarme más de tus pecados”, pensamos que es demasiado bueno para ser verdad. Cuando Jesús dice al paralítico y nos dice a nosotros: “Hijo, tus pecados te son perdonados ... toma tu camilla y anda”, podemos tener dificultad para creer lo que dice. Como los cínicos escribas nosotros los adultos podemos dudar que Jesús tenga suficiente poder o misericordia para perdonar *nuestros* pecados y darnos poder para cambiar.

Hijo, Tus Pecados Te Son Perdonados

Sin embargo Pablo nos recuerda que “el Hijo de Dios, Cristo Jesús, no se presentó con ‘sí’ y ‘no’”. Cristo Jesús dice “sí” a *todos* los pecadores — aun a aquellos que piensan que están fuera del alcance de su poder o de su misericordia. Cuando humildemente aceptamos el regalo admirable del perdón de Dios ya no nos sentiremos paralizados, sino capaces de hacer lo que antes habríamos considerado imposible: tomar *nuestra* camilla y andar. Entonces seremos nosotros quienes glorificaremos a Dios diciendo: “Nunca hemos visto nada parecido”. Cuando respondemos “Amén” a Dios eso es lo que queremos decir: que aceptamos con la fe de niño el perdón que no merecemos, y aceptamos las nuevas posibilidades que la misericordia de Dios nos presenta.

Sí, la autoridad de Jesús de perdonar los pecados en la tierra ¡se extiende aún a nosotros! ¡Amén! ¡Amén!

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Santos y Días Especiales de Observancia

- domingo:** Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario;
Nacimiento de George Washington
Domingo del Carnaval
- lunes:** San Policarpo
- martes:** Martes de Carnaval; Mardi Gras
- miércoles:** Miércoles de Ceniza; Ayuno y
Abstinencia; Ayudar
- viernes:** Abstinencia

Perdonados

El pueblo de Israel, incluso en la época del Nuevo Testamento, pensaba en Dios de una manera muy personal, íntima y orientada a la relación. En los tiempos que corren, hemos heredado de la filosofía griega categorías sobre Dios: Dios es omnisciente, todopoderoso y omnipresente. No es que Dios no sea todas estas cosas, pero si pensamos en Dios fundamentalmente de esa manera, cuando hoy llegamos al final de la lectura de Isaías (“no he querido acordarme de tus pecados”), nos sentimos confundidos. ¿Cómo puede ser que un Dios omnisciente se olvide de algo? El público de Isaías debe haberse sentido más predispuesto a alegrarse por la maravillosa y tierna relación de Dios con ellos. Dios, quien tenía el poder de perdonar sus pecados, perdonaba los pecados y luego se olvidaba de ellos. Jesús, en el Evangelio de hoy, también está más interesado en el paralítico ya que conoce la presencia maravillosa, tierna y curadora de Dios que en satisfacer las ideas preconcebidas de los escribas sobre Dios. Cuántas veces somos nosotros mismos, no Dios, los que permanecemos paralizados por nuestros pecados del pasado, incluso cuando hemos sido perdonados por Dios y nos hemos reconciliado con los demás. Entonces, demos gloria a Dios levantándonos de nuestro pasado paralizado para seguir nuestro camino como discípulos de Jesús.

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Lecturas De Hoy

Primera lectura — Hago algo nuevo: Borro, por amor a mí mismo, sus ofensas; sus pecados no recordaré jamás (*Isaías 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25*).

Salmo — Sáname, Señor, porque he pecado contra ti (*Salmo 41 [40]*).

Segunda lectura — Dios ha puesto su sello sobre nosotros y ha enviado el Espíritu a nuestros corazones (*2 Corintios 1:18-22*).

Evangelio — Jesús perdona los pecados del hombre paralítico (*Marcos 2:1-12*).

Lecturas De La Semana

lunes: Sir 1:1-10; Mc 9:14-29

martes: Sir 2:1-11; Mc 9:30-37

miércoles: Jl 2:12-18; Sal 51 (50); 2 Cor 5:20 -- 6:2;
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

jueves: Dt 30:15-20; Lc 9:22-25

viernes: Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15

sábado: Is 58:9b-14; Lc 5:27-32

domingo: Gen 9:8-15; Sal 25 (24); 1 Pe 3:18-22;
Mc 1:12-15

Noticias de la Parroquia

Miércoles de Cenizas: 25 de febrero

Información: La Página 10

Pescado Frito en Cuaresma — Los Caballeros de Colón, Consejo 5300, estarán ofreciendo "Pescado Frito" cada Viernes durante los seis viernes de Cuaresma, empezando el **27 de febrero** (no habrá pescado frito el Viernes Santo). Se comenzará a servir a las 6:00 pm en el Salón de la Parroquia. También se ofrecerán porciones para llevar a casa. El costo es de \$9 y sólo \$3 para niños menores de 12 años. ¡Disfrute uno de los mejores platos de pescado frito que puede encontrar en el Sur de California!. Las ganancias irán en ayuda de los trabajos de caridad del Consejo.

Ayuno y Abstinencia — Durante la Cuaresma, los católicos de los Estados Unidos se abstienen de comer carne el Miércoles de Ceniza y todos los Viernes de la estación. También ayunamos el Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo. En un día de ayuno, coma solamente una comida completa, al día, también puede comer 2 comidas parciales y ningún refrigerio entre comidas.

Todas las personas de 14 años de edad y mayores, deben cumplir con la ley de abstinencia. El ayuno empieza a regir después de cumplir los 18 años hasta después de los 59 años. Los católicos menores de 18 mayores de 59 años, no necesitan ayunar el Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo. De todas maneras, ayunar es una practica loable, aun cuando no es requerida.

Adoración de la Eucaristía — Invitamos a todos ustedes a unirse a nosotros **el viernes 6 de marzo (y el Primer Viernes** de cada Mes) para la Adoración de la Eucaristía. El Santísimo Sacramento estará expuesto ese día viernes **6 de marzo**, desde las 8 de la mañana hasta la Bendición Solemne, a las 8 de la mañana del sábado 7 de marzo.

¡Bienvenidos a la Familia de Dios Por el Bautismo!

Noah Ethan Guillen

Christian Velez

Giselle Magdaleno Diaz

Carlos Alexander Rubalcava

Karla Sophia Martinez Andrade

¿Necesita Ayuda?

Recuerde llamar al **683-8535**, San Vicente de Paul.

Unidos en Misión 2009

Un Tiempo de Reflexión

Unidos en Misión provee un apoyo económico muy importante a 35 parroquias y 48 escuelas parroquiales en nuestra Arquidiócesis. Estas parroquias y escuelas proporcionan educación, ministerios y una presencia católica para decenas de miles de personas.

El lema de la campaña es "Señor, Tú eres mi refugio" (*Salmo 32 (7)*). Unidos en Misión da una oportunidad para mostrar nuestro interés por quienes reciben los servicios de las parroquias y escuelas que necesitan ayuda económica.

Nuestra meta para el Programa "Unidos en Misión" es \$84, 097.69. Como siempre, lo que usted dé debe ser dado en agradecimiento por lo que Dios le ha dado a usted. Gracias por su consideración en oración a esta petición y por su generosa respuesta.

Informe de Donaciones 2008 — Al empezar este nuevo año 2009, nos damos cuenta que muchos de ustedes necesitarán el Informe de sus donaciones para la declaración de impuestos por el año 2008. Estaremos felices de ayudarlos. Sin embargo, debido a que actualmente no contamos con todo el personal que necesitamos, prepararemos los informes solamente para las personas que los soliciten. Para requerir su informe, por favor llame a Maria en la Oficina de la Parroquia y de su nombre y número de sobre. Los informes serán preparados y enviados por correo, una vez por semana, de tal manera que es muy importante que usted llame lo más pronto posible. Gracias por su paciencia.

Grupo de Oración — Se juntan todo los viernes en el Centro Parroquial, Salón B, a las 7:00 de la noche. Todos están bienvenidos.

Anuncio — Grupo de estudio de Biblia. Se reúne todos los martes de 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm en el salón de usos múltiples. Todos son bienvenidos.

Caridades Católicas — Los honorarios dependen de los ingresos de las familia. Para más información, llame al teléfono (805) 965-7045 extensión 114.

Protegiendo a los Niños — Cuartos de charla, sistemas de mensajes instantáneos, incluyendo teléfonos celulares equipados para enviar mensajes de texto son ambientes ricos en abreviaturas, siglas, y otra taquigrafía que ayudan aumentar la comunicación. Hemos creado una lista investigable para ayudar a los padres a familiarizarse con la "jerigonza" más común utilizada en estos ambientes. Usted puede encontrar algunos de estos términos vulgares, degradantes, y ofensivos. Sin embargo, creemos que es nuestra responsabilidad proveer a los padres y educadores este nivel de la comprensión de los peligros que enfrentan nuestros hijos. Para obtener una lista de esta "jerigonza", visite la página de Internet: www.virtus.org/virtus/net_acronyms.cfm.

Para obtener ayuda, llame a la Oficina del Ministerio de Ayuda al (213) 637-7650.

Ash Wednesday Schedule

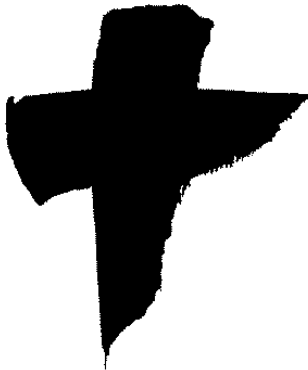
Miércoles de Cenizas

Wednesday, February 25, 2009 (English)

- 8:00 am: Mass, with distribution of Ashes
- 12:05 pm: Mass, with distribution of Ashes
- 5:30 pm: Liturgy of the Word, with distribution of Ashes

Miércoles, 25 de febrero de 2009 (Español)

- 7:00 pm: Liturgia de la Palabra con distribución de cenizas
(en la iglesia)
- 7:15 pm: Liturgia de la Palabra con distribución de cenizas
(en el Salón Parroquial)



On Ash Wednesday we gather to smudge every forehead with ashes, admonish each other to remember that dust returns to dust and that the only way through death to life is Christ.

But this gritty smudge is not a death sentence. It is a reminder of our fragile mortality, and it is shaped in the great sign of salvation: The ashes form a cross, a thumb-printed cross that marks the same heads that were smeared with chrism at baptism.

This ashen sign reminds us that on the way there is soil and toil, sweat and hard work before we come to the oasis in this desert — the Easter bath of baptism. Then, the dusty smudges will be gone and the light of the paschal candle will shine like the moon and the stars, reminding us of our destiny. What begins in ashes ends in water and in fire.