



SAINT POLYCARP CATHOLIC CHURCH

8100 Chapman Avenue, Stanton CA 90680 | (714) 893-2766 | www.stpolycarp.org

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a faith-based Catholic community whose members are enriched by the celebration of the Sacraments and opportunities to deepen our prayer lives. Guided by the Word of God and family values, we strive always to be a beacon of light for the lost, the lonely, the marginalized, and all those seeking the truth as we walk in the footsteps of those first disciples of Jesus and our patron St. Polycarp.

CLERGY

PASTOR

Rev. Viet Peter Ho

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Nicolaus Duy Thai

Rev. Luis Segura

DEACONS

Dcn. Ramiro Lopez

Dcn. Larry Leone

Dcn. Davis Tri Do

Dcn. Juan Ochoa

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday

5:00 PM English

7:00 PM Vietnamese

Sunday

7:30 AM English

9:00 AM Spanish

11:00 AM English

1:00 PM Spanish

4:00 PM Vietnamese

6:00 PM Spanish

WEEKDAY MASSES

6:30 AM English (Mon-Fri)

8:30 AM English (Mon-Sat)

6:30 PM Spanish (Mon)

6:30 PM Vietnamese (Fri)

SUPPORT STAFF

BUSINESS MANAGER

Tom H. Ma

FAITH FORMATION (ENGLISH/SPANISH)

Sister Jessica Corral

FAITH FORMATION (VIETNAMESE)

Sister Mary Anne

Thiên Hương Nguyễn

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Sister Anna Anh Trâm Trần

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Kara Ford

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Joseph Do

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

9:00 AM - 10 AM (Fri)

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (Sat)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

7:15 PM (Monday)

9:00 AM (Friday)

3:30 PM (Saturday)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

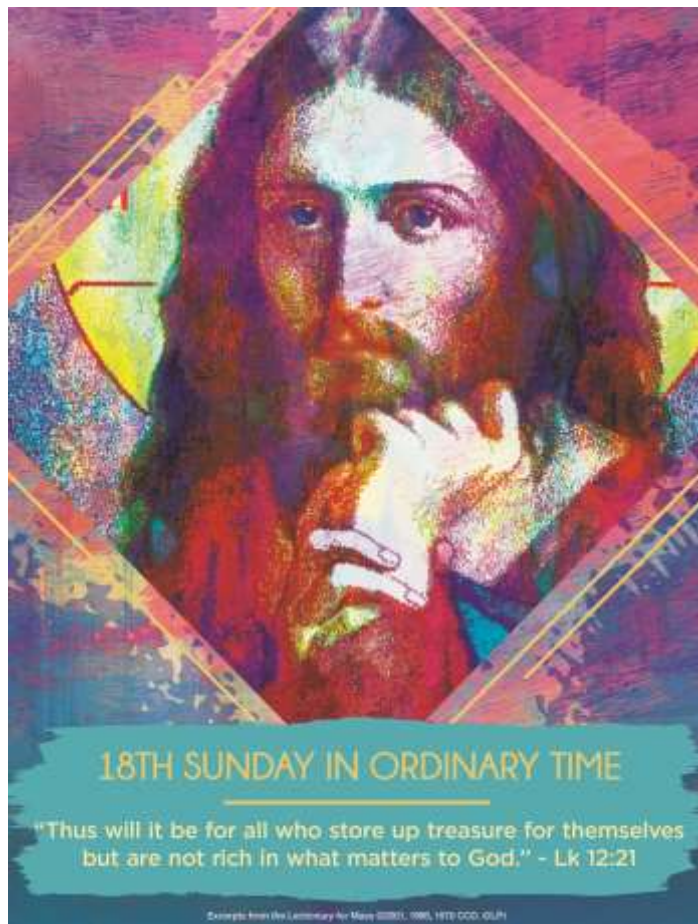
1:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Sunday

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

info@stpolycarp.org
BULLETIN: editor@stpolycarp.org



Pope's Intention - August

For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where
coexistence seems more difficult might not
succumb to the temptation of
confrontation for ethnic, political, religious,
or ideological reasons.

AUGUST 3, 2025

**MASS INTENTIONS/INTENCIONES DE MISA/
XIN Ý LỄ CẦU NGUYỆN**

Saturday, August 2, 2025

5:00 PM James Quenin† & Jeanne Quenin†
7:00 PM Thomas Lai Pham† & Joseph Tien Pham;
Joseph Francis Chi-Hieu Lam†

Sunday, August 3, 2025

7:30 AM Peter Mai†, Sixta Santos† & All Ancestors
9:00 AM Alejo Villegas†; Luis Chacon Lima† &
Imelda Mavares†
11:00 AM Crispin Pacificar†; Nick Pham (peace)
1:00 PM Alicia Tapia†; Candelario Salinas Teran† &
Marrio Salinas Neri†
4:00 PM Joseph Huong Nguyen†; Peter† & Teresa†
6:00 PM Juana Rodriguez†; Abundio Santos Perez†

Monday, August 4, 2025

6:30 AM Special Family Intention; All Souls†
8:30 AM All Souls from natural disasters†; Thanksgiving
6:30 PM

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

6:30 AM Nieves Posadas†; World Peace
8:30 AM Deliz Amador (birthday); Catarina† & Paul†

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

6:30 AM Barbara and David Winkel (healing)
8:30 AM All souls from natural disasters†;
Anna Ngan Pham† & Augustino Than Nguyen

Thursday, August 7, 2025

6:30 AM All souls from natural disasters†;
Francis Xavier Ninh Tran†
8:30 AM

Friday, August 8, 2025

6:30 AM All souls from natural disasters†
8:30 AM Maria Nguyen & Thi Hong Nhung
6:30 PM All Souls†

Saturday, August 2, 2025

8:30 AM John Casey† & All Souls†;
Quang Hien Nguyen† & All Ancestors†

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13,
14, 17 (1)/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21
Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/
Mt 14:13-21
Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13/
Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/
2 Pt 1:16-19/Lk 9:28b-36
Thursday: Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 16:13-23
Friday: Dt 4:32-40/Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21/
Mt 16:24-28
Saturday: Dt 6:4-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51/
Mt 17:14-20
Next: Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 (12b)/
Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12/
Lk 12:32-48 or 12:35-40



SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE



Jul 26/27 Masses	\$ 18,740.00
Jul 26/27 Online Giving	\$ 1,984.52
Total collection:	\$ 20,724.52

*Thank you for your support! ¡Gracias por su apoyo!
Cảm ơn tấm lòng quảng đại của mọi người.*

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE HOURS

English/Spanish Religious Education

(714) 892-3158

Monday/Thursday	2 PM—6 PM
Saturday	9 AM—1 PM

Confirmation Programs

(714) 890-5200

Tuesday/Friday	1 PM—7 PM
Sunday	8 AM—3 PM

Vietnamese Religious Education

(714) 620-7895

Tuesday/Wednesday	1 PM—4 PM
Friday	1 PM—5 PM



Dear Parishioners of Saint Polycarp,

Greetings in the Lord Jesus. It has been a while since my last pastoral letter in June. Time flies by quickly, and it is now August. We love to hold on to time, but time does not wait for us. This is the message that the First Reading of Ecclesiastes and the Gospel of Matthew are conveying to us.

The First Reading of Ecclesiastes is also known as Qoheleth. Therefore, do not be confused if you see that some bibles indicate the name Qoheleth in place of Ecclesiastes. The main intention of the Book of Ecclesiastes is to call us to embrace wisdom, a wisdom to live a life in conformity to the will of God. An article on Bible Study Tools which says this about the Book of Ecclesiastes, "The author of Ecclesiastes puts his powers of wisdom to work to examine the human experience and assess the human situation. His perspective is limited to what happens 'under the sun' (as is that of all the wisdom teachers). He considers life as he has experienced and observed it between the horizons of birth and death -- life within the boundaries of this visible world" (<https://www.biblestudytools.com/ecclesiastes/> - consulted on May 10, 2025).

According to the author of Ecclesiastes, everything that the human person has will come and go, as if everything is of vanity, "Vanity of vanities...All things are vanity!" Though the message may sound negative, it is the reality of life. We are born into this world, and from this world we return. We are born into time, but with time we diminished. Time does not wait for us. There is something philosophical here that we can learn.

The Gospel of Matthew also conveys a similar thought, when Jesus explained to the man who approached him about the issue of family inheritance: "Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me." Taking on the man's question, Jesus responded with a story of a rich man who throughout his life stores so many possessions, and He countered his lifelong investments to this "every night" that God is calling Him. In other words, his lifelong of possessing materials is now being faced with a short time to live.

The message of scriptural readings this weekend does not mean to deter us from working or fulfilling our earthly duties. Rather, it is calling us to reflect on our earthly life or time and remember God.

Joining my brother priests, I thank God for you and may you have a wonderful August.

Father Viet Peter Ho
Pastor

Las lecturas de la semana del 3 de agosto de 2025

Domingo: Ecl 1, 2; 2, 21-23/Sal 89, 3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 14. 17 (1)/Col 3, 1-5. 9-11/Lc 12, 13-21
Lunes: Nm 11, 4-15/Sal 80, 12-13. 14-15. 16-17/
Mt 14, 13-21
Martes: Nm 12, 1-13/Sal 50, 3-4. 5-6. 6-7. 12-13/
Mt 14, 22-36 o Mt 15, 1-2. 10-14
Miércoles: Dn 7, 9-10. 13-14/Sal 96, 1-2. 5-6. 9/2 Pe 1, 16-19/
Lc 9, 28-36
Jueves: Nm 20, 1-13/Sal 94, 1-2. 6-7. 8-9/Mt 16, 13-23
Viernes: Dt 4, 32-40/Sal 76, 12-13. 14-15. 16 y 21/
Mt 16, 24-28
Sábado: Dt 6, 4-13/Sal 17, 2-3. 3-4. 47 y 51/Mt 17, 14-20
Domingo: Sab 18, 6-9/Sal 32, 1. 12. 18-19. 20-22 (12)/
Heb 11, 1-2. 8-19 o 11, 1-2. 8-12/
Lc 12, 32-48 o 12, 35-40

Las conmemoraciones de la semana del 3 de agosto de 2025

Domingo: 18º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario
Lunes: San Juan María Vianney, sacerdote
Martes: La dedicación de la basílica de
Santa María la Mayor
Miércoles: La transfiguración de Jesús
Jueves: San Sixto II, papa, y compañeros, mártires;
San Cayetano, sacerdote
Viernes: San Domingo, sacerdote
Sábado: Santa Teresa Benedicta de la Cruz, virgen y mártir
Domingo: 19º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

(PRACTICANDO) CATÓLICA: RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

Por Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini Reflexión: Si muero esta noche, los plazos no se cumplirán y nadie se dará cuenta. Pero Dios, cuando se encuentre conmigo en el mundo venidero, seguramente me preguntará por qué no pude tomarme 45 minutos para aceptar un regalo que Él trató de darme una y otra vez.

El Granero

Son las 9:08 de un sábado por la mañana y estoy demasiado ocupada para confesarme.

Probablemente he escrito antes sobre lo difícil que me resulta llegar a la confesión, digo "probablemente" porque realmente no puedo recordar. Me quejo de ello con tanta frecuencia que es difícil saber si lo he convertido en el tema de una pieza escrita o si es simplemente un estribillo recitado a menudo de la Letanía de las Quejas Perpetuas de Colleen.

Durante la semana, es difícil confesarme porque tengo niños pequeños que están pegados a mí como Velcro, y no necesito que escuchen (y eventualmente repitan a todos) mis pecados. Los fines de semana es un poco más fácil, pero nuestra parroquia no lo ofrece antes o después de la misa dominical,

solo los sábados. El sábado es cuando termino la mayor parte de mi trabajo, por lo que obtener la absolución generalmente se produce a expensas de la productividad.

Y eso, amigos, aquí mismo, es mi granero. La productividad. Ese es el proverbial almacén de mi cosecha terrenal. Para el hombre rico de la parábola, es un granero literal, lleno a reventar de cosechas vendibles. Para ti, puede ser el dinero, el título de tu trabajo o cómo se ve tu vida para otras personas en las redes sociales. Para mí, es hacer cosas. Ese es mi granero, el depósito que contiene todas mis preocupaciones mundanas.

Y está tan lleno que quiero derribarlo y construir uno nuevo. Uno más grande. Uno que pueda contener más preocupaciones, más tiempo para el trabajo, más enfoque en la producción y en tachar cosas de una lista de tareas pendientes. Vanidad de vanidades, en efecto.

Si muero esta noche, los plazos no se cumplirán y nadie se dará cuenta. Pero Dios, cuando se encuentre conmigo en el mundo venidero, seguramente me preguntará por qué no pude tomarme 45 minutos para aceptar un regalo que Él trató de darme una y otra vez.

Tengo que quemar el granero, amigos. No quiero, pero tengo que hacerlo. Cierro mi laptop y me voy a la iglesia.

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – ALENTAR UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

A todos nos gusta hacer planes, tener metas y llegar a ellas. Eso nos pone contentos porque nos va bien en la vida y pensamos: "Qué bien, he luchado tanto que ya puedo disfrutar de lo que tengo". Pero nos olvidamos de lo más importante: en las metas nunca contamos contigo. Nos olvidamos de que sólo Tú, Señor, nos darás la auténtica libertad y felicidad. No está la vida en poseer bienes. *"Eviten con gran cuidado toda clase de codicia, porque, aunque uno tenga todo, no son sus posesiones las que le dan vida"* (Lucas 12:15).

Vale preguntarnos: ¿Cuál es el centro de tu vida? ¿Cuál es la meta en tu vida? ¿Está tu felicidad en lo que posees, en tu estatus social, en lo que dirá la gente de ti? Cuidado, nos advierte Jesús: *"Esta misma noche vas a morir. ¿Quién se quedará con lo que has preparado?"* (Lucas 12:20).

"Jesús percibe nuestros problemas, nuestras debilidades, nuestras necesidades; invita a convertirnos a la fe en la Providencia, saber compartir lo poco que somos y tenemos, y no cerrarnos nunca en nosotros mismos" (Papa Francisco). El tener muchos bienes y prestigio no es malo, lo que Dios desea es que aprendamos a ser desprendidos, es decir, generosos. No equivoquemos el proyecto de nuestra vida; la abundancia es pasajera, todo se queda al morir. Solo las riquezas espirituales serán eternas. *"Esto vale para toda persona que amontona para sí misma en vez de acumular para Dios"* (Lucas 12:21).

©LPi

THÔNG BÁO

1. **Cộng Đoàn có bán vé số cho Hội Chợ - FIESTA của Giáo Xứ.** Mỗi vé số là \$2. Vé được bán từ các Hội Đoàn và cuối Thánh Đường. Trước ngày 15/8/2025 nếu ai mua 10 vé sẽ được tặng thêm 5 vé. Giải độc đắc \$2500 và nhiều giải khác. Xin Cộng Đoàn nhiệt tình ủng hộ Hội Chợ - FIESTA của Giáo Xứ.

2. **Tháng 8:** Các phòng ốc trong Giáo Xứ cần được tu sửa trong suốt tháng 8. Do đó các Hội Đoàn sẽ không sử dụng phòng ốc để sinh hoạt trong tháng này.

3. **Giáo Xứ sẽ tổ chức đêm Trình Diễn Tài Năng hay còn gọi là St Polycarp Talent Show vào Thứ Sáu ngày 22 tháng 8 năm 2025 lúc 6PM tại khu trường học.**

Ban Tổ Chức rất hân hạnh được mời gọi mọi người đến tham dự. Vào cửa hoàn toàn miễn phí. Xin đăng ký qua QR dưới đây hoặc liên lạc cô Kara Ford qua email:

karaford@stpolycarp.org.

Xin scan QR code để ghi danh và biết thêm chi tiết.



4. **Thứ Ba ngày 12 tháng 8 năm 2025 sẽ có buổi họp FIESTA lần 2 tại Hội Trường Giáo Xứ lúc 6:30PM.** Xin đại diện của các Hội Đoàn có mặt đông đủ và đúng giờ.

5. **Thánh Lễ Đức Mẹ Hồn Xác Lên Trời**

Thứ Năm 14 tháng 8 năm 2025 lúc 5 PM 2 ngôn ngữ (Anh & Việt)

Thứ Sáu 15 tháng 8 năm 2025 (tiếng Việt)

Thánh Lễ lúc 4 PM

Thánh Lễ lúc 6 PM

6. "Vào các ngày cuối tuần 19, 20, và 21 tháng 9 Giáo Xứ sẽ tổ chức hội chợ FIESTA 2025 với chủ đề "Gia Đình Hiệp Nhất Trong Đức Tin". Có bán các loại thức ăn, nước uống, có văn nghệ ngoài trời và trò chơi cho các em trong Hội Trường Giáo Xứ. Đặc biệt tối ngày Thứ Sáu Cộng Đoàn Việt Nam sẽ có phần giúp vui văn nghệ từ 6:30PM đến 10PM với nhiều ca sĩ khách mời. Giáo Xứ cần sự bảo trợ của các cơ sở thương mại, cùng với các vật dụng sau đây để dùng trong ba ngày hội chợ như: nước ngọt (can only), bình nước lọc (16.9oz-no glass), đĩa giấy (8.5"), muỗng, nĩa, dao (nhựa), hộp đựng thức ăn (togo), napkins.v.v. Xin mang đến văn phòng Giáo Xứ. Mong mọi người rộng tay hỗ trợ cho chương trình gây quỹ hằng năm được thành công tốt đẹp.



PHÂN ƯU



Cộng Đoàn vô cùng thương tiếc được tin **Cụ Bà Quả Phụ Nguyễn Ngọc Tuyên, Nhũ Danh ANNA CHU THỊ NIÊN** đã được Chúa gọi về ngày 18 tháng 7 năm 2025 tại UCI Health Fountain Valley thuộc Thành phố Fountain Valley, California hưởng thọ 92 tuổi.

Cộng Đoàn xin gửi lời chia buồn đến gia đình **Cụ Bà ANNA CHU THỊ NIÊN**. Nguyên xin Thiên Chúa, qua lời chuyển cầu của Mẹ Maria, đón nhận linh hồn ANNA về hưởng Nhan Thánh Chúa trên Quê Trời, và cầu cho gia đình luôn được bình an.



CÁO PHÓ

Chúng con vừa được tin **Cụ Ông Anton Vũ Văn Thuận**, là Thân Phụ và Nhạc Phụ của anh chị Hellen Hiền Vũ và Đại Trần, đã được Chúa gọi về ngày 26 tháng 7 năm 2025 tại Garden Grove, California, hưởng thọ 92 tuổi. Chị Hellen Hiền Vũ là Phó Nội Vụ của Nhóm Linh Thao và là giảng viên giáo lý kỳ cựu của Cộng Đoàn. Xin mọi người cùng hiệp ý cầu nguyện cho linh hồn Anton.

Thay mặt Cộng Đoàn, xin thành kính Phân Ưu cùng anh chị và đại gia đình tang quyến. Nguyên xin Chúa là Đấng Giàu Lòng Xót Thương, đón nhận linh hồn Anton vào Nước Ngài. Xin Mẹ Maria luôn an ủi và nâng đỡ đại gia đình tang quyến về sự ra đi của người thân yêu.

Ý Cầu Nguyện Của Đức Thánh Cha

Cho Tháng Tám Năm 2025

Cầu cho việc cùng nhau chung sống

Chúng ta hãy cầu nguyện cho những xã hội nơi mà sự chung sống dường như khó khăn hơn sẽ không khuất phục trước sự căm dỗ đối đầu bởi lý do sắc tộc, chính trị, tôn giáo hoặc ý thức hệ.



CỘNG ĐOÀN ĐỨC MARIA MẸ THIÊN CHÚA
GIÁO XỨ SAINT POLYCARP
8100 Chapman Ave, Stanton CA 90680

PICNIC CỘNG ĐOÀN
SUNDAY AUGUST 17, 2025



Công Viên Twila Reid Park
Địa Điểm Picnic: 3100 W Orange Ave, Anaheim, CA 92804

7AM-8AM	Xin các đoàn thể có mặt để giúp thu xếp và chuẩn bị các công việc.
8:30AM-9AM	Chuẩn bị Thánh Lễ và tập hát cộng đồng.
9AM-10AM	Thánh Lễ Chúa Nhật
10AM	Khai mạc chương trình sinh hoạt cộng đoàn. * Mở đầu bằng lời chào đón cộng đoàn. * Cha Quản Nhiệm sẽ ban phép lành và chính thức khai mạc buổi sinh hoạt của cộng đoàn. * Các Điều Hợp Viên bắt đầu làm việc theo chỉ định
10:30AM-12PM	Các chương trình sinh hoạt:
	Thi đấu bóng chuyền
	Đố vui có thưởng, trò chơi vui nhộn
	Chương trình xổ số, lô tô và ăn trưa miễn phí.
12PM-1PM	Giờ Kết Thân và dùng cơm trưa. Cha sẽ ban phép lành trước khi dùng. * Phần giải trí lô tô.
1PM-2:30PM	Đấu thể thao chung kết/tiếp tục các trò chơi.
2:30PM-3PM	Đúc Kết Sinh Hoạt/Trao Giải Thưởng. Lô Độc Đắc.
3PM-3:30PM	Tổng vệ sinh dọn dẹp mọi việc. Xin mỗi hội đoàn/đoàn thể giúp một tay.





The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

THURSDAY- AUGUST 14, 2025 - VIGIL MASS

5 PM MASS IN ENGLISH/VIETNAMESE 7:30 PM MASS IN SPANISH

FRIDAY- AUGUST 15, 2025

6:30 AM & 8:30 AM MASSES IN ENGLISH
4 PM & 6 PM MASSES IN VIETNAMESE
7:30 PM MASS IN SPANISH

"NO CONFESSION OR ADORATION ON FRIDAY, AUG 15, 2025"

St. Polycarp Catholic Church, 8000 Chapparral Ave., Stockton, CA 95260
www.stpolycarp.org

ST. POLYCARP TALENT SHOW PRESENTS:

SAINT POLYCARP ON BROADWAY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

6:00 PM

ST. POLYCARP SCHOOL COURTYARD

FREE FOOD! RAFFLE PRIZES! SPECIAL GUESTS!



SCAN ME

Auditions are July 20th & 27th

For more info, scan the QR code or contact karafor@stpolycarp.org

2025 ST. POLYCARP FIESTA RAFFLE TICKET SALE

GO TO THE PARISH OFFICE OR GO TO YOUR MINISTRY/GROUP COORDINATORS TO BUY TICKETS

GRAND PRIZE:
\$2,500.00

2ND PRIZE:
\$1,000.00

THIRD PRIZE
(5 WINNERS EACH WILL WIN \$100.00)

PROMOTION SALE
7/1/25-8/15/25
\$2.00 A TICKET
BUY A BOOK OF 10 TICKETS, GET FIVE FREE



THE FINAL DRAWING WILL BE ON THE LAST DAY OF THE FIESTA
SUNDAY SEPT 21, 2025 @ 8 P.M.

A Eucharistic Congress on the Promises of Christ

I AM

A BEACON of HOPE

God, present in the crashing waves — this is the gift of the Incarnation.

Not distant or abstract, but the Maker of the universe, dwelling among the broken, shining light into darkness. Through His Cross, Resurrection, and Altar, hope is more than a sentiment — it changes how we live.

The light of hope is calling — let it in.

Join us for the 2025 I AM Eucharistic Congress.

WITH A WORD, HE CALMS THE SEA.

 **October 17-18, 2025**
Christ Cathedral
Garden Grove, CA

 **DR. EDWARD SHI**

 **FR. GREGORY PINE, O.P.**

 **NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL**
BIDDING BY GRACE

 **FR. RICKY MANALLO, C.S.P.**

 **TIMMERIE HILLINGTON**

RCBO.ORG/CONGRESS



THAI BINH DOMINICAN SISTERS CONGREGATION OF THAI BINH DIOCESE

8/16/2025 & 8/17/2025

DIOCESAN MISSION APPEAL

The Diocesan Missionary Appeal is the main source of income for many missionary groups/projects worldwide. This year, we are supporting the Vietnamese Thai Binh Dominican Sisters congregation as selected by the Diocese. The Sisters are hoping to build an Asian Medicine Clinic in Thai Binh Diocese, to serve and support the poor and disadvantaged patients with exceptional circumstances, especially in areas of the countryside, and allow them to receive the necessary medical care.

Your generous financial support is appreciated.

St. Polycarp Catholic Church www.stpolycarp.org

CREATION Camino



YOUR ADVENTURE WITH GOD AWAITS
Throughout the Season of Creation
(until October 4th ...)

Reconnect to faith & family **OR** Participate on your own
with wellness in the wilderness & join the
of our "Common Home" through #CreationCamino Challenge
hike experiences on Register & learn more at:
rcbo.org/common-home

SEPTEMBER 13
OR
SEPTEMBER 27
*SPOTS ARE LIMITED



 **OFFICE FOR FAMILY LIFE**
DIOCESE OF ORANGE

 Questions?
contact: familylife@rcbo.org

**IF TODAY YOU
HEAR HIS VOICE,
HARDEN NOT
YOUR HEARTS.**



PSALM 95

SACRAMENTAL ADVENTURES IN MARRIAGE

A MARRIAGE WORKSHOP FOR COUPLES OF
ALL AGES AND STAGES IN LIFE

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Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

For what profit comes to man from all the toil
and anxiety of heart
with which he has labored under the sun? (Eccl 2:22)

Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 90)

Second Reading:

If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above,
where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. (Col 3:1)

Gospel:

Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves
but are not rich in what matters to God." (Lk 12:21)

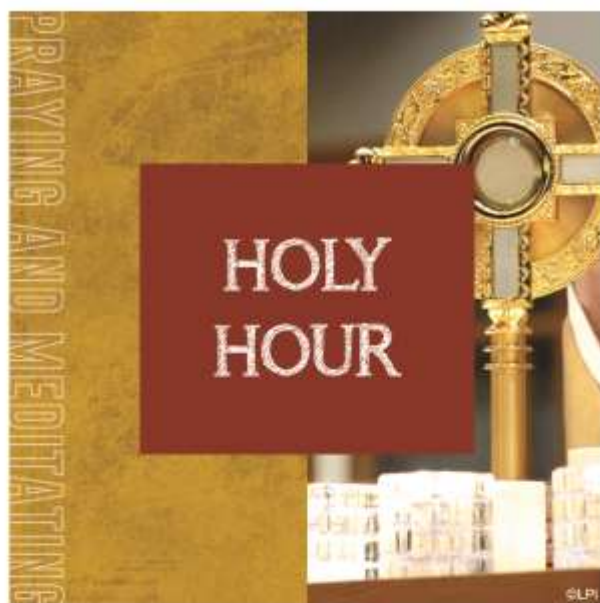
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus warns us that at any moment we can be called before God to face judgment. When we are, our life will be measured not in dollars or accomplishments, but in what matters to God. What do we have to show for our time spent on earth?

Observances for the week of August 3, 2025

Sunday:	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. John Vianney, Priest
Tuesday:	The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major
Wednesday:	The Transfiguration of the Lord
Thursday:	St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; St. Cajetan, Priest
Friday:	St. Dominic, Priest
Saturday:	St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr
Next Sunday:	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, *Explained!*

A holy hour is the practice of spending one hour's time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, praying and meditating on the agony of Jesus Christ.

Prayer for Open Hands

Lord, I do not know what any day holds,
I cannot take for granted any of the gifts You have given.
Help me to use them, then, as You would have me.
Help me to live according to Your invitations.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: If I die tonight, the deadlines will go unmet, and no one will even notice. But God, when He meets me in the world to come, will surely ask me why I couldn't take 45 minutes to accept a gift He tried again and again to give me.

The Barn

It's 9:08 on a Saturday morning, and I am too darn busy for confession.

I've probably written before about how hard I find it to get to confession — I say 'probably' because I really can't remember. I whine about it so frequently that it's hard to tell if I've made it the subject of a written piece or if it is simply an oft-recited refrain from the Litany of Colleen's Perpetual Complaints.

During the week, it's tough to get to confession because I have little kids who are attached to me like Velcro, and I don't need them listening in on (and eventually repeating to everyone) my sins. On the weekend it's a little easier, but our parish doesn't offer it before or after Sunday Mass, just on Saturdays. Saturday is when I get most of my work done, so getting absolution usually comes at the expense of productivity.

And that, friends, right here, is my barn. Productivity. That's the proverbial storehouse of my earthly harvest. For the rich man in the parable, it's a literal barn, filled to bursting with sellable crops. For you it might be money or your job title or what your life looks like to other people on social media. For me, it's Getting Things Done. That's my barn, the repository that holds the whole of my worldly preoccupations.

And it's so full I want to tear it down and build a new one. A bigger one. One that can hold more worry, more time for work, more focus on output and crossing things off a to-do list. Vanity of vanities, indeed.

If I die tonight, the deadlines will go unmet, and no one will even notice. But God, when He meets me in the world to come, will surely ask me why I couldn't take 45 minutes to accept a gift He tried again and again to give me.

I have to burn the barn, friends. I don't want to, but I have to. I'm closing my laptop and going to church.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Does watching Mass on TV fulfill my Sunday obligation?

Answer:

In the age of instant communication, email, voice mail and teleconferencing, many people wonder if these media of communication can be used for sacraments. Many priests, I am sure, have had people ask about going to confession on the phone. While it may seem like a convenient way to do things, there are many reasons why we don't.

Watching the Mass on television can be a good thing, especially for those who are shut-in. But it really doesn't fulfill our obligation. The obligation to attend Mass is more than just simply listening to the Mass or following the prayers and the readings. Gathering together as a community of faith is important. Sacraments are community events where we encounter God and one another. When we gather together, we are most visibly the Church, the Body of Christ. Besides, television is a one-way medium. It allows us to watch without really being able to give a response. In faith, our response is as important as anything that we hear. We need to take an active part in the religious expression of our community.



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