



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

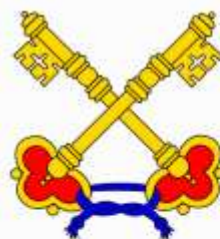
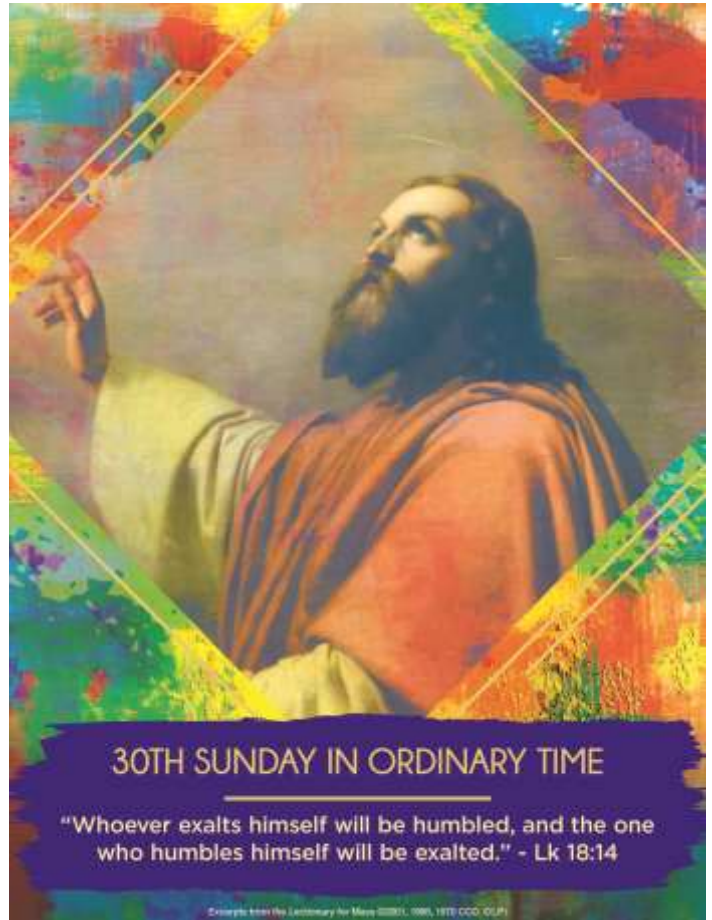
Sunday

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

info@stpolycarp.org

BULLETIN: editor@stpolycarp.org



Pope's Intention - October

*For Collaboration between different religious
traditions*

Let us pray that believers in different
religious traditions might work together to
defend and promote peace, justice, and
human fraternity.

OCTOBER 26, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS/INTENCIONES DE MISA/**XIN Ý LỄ CẦU NGUYỆN****Saturday, October 25, 2025**

5:00 PM Angelito† & Bernadette†
 7:00 PM Dominic Tom Vu Nguyen†; Phero† & Maria†;
 Thanksgiving

Sunday, October 26, 2025

7:30 AM Irene Cantrell†; Peter Trap Mai† &
 All Ancestors†
 9:00 AM Sonia Valencia (health)
 11:00 AM Josephine Rabot†; Kheo Thi Hoang†
 1:00 PM Raquel Matos Marguez† &
 Regina Velasco Jimenes
 4:00 PM Thanksgiving & Maria†
 6:00 PM Cynthia Ramirez (health) &
 All Souls in Purgatory†;
 Pablo Andres Puntriano†

Monday, October 27, 2025

6:30 AM Rosa Maria Sepulveda & Finador Fernandez
 8:30 AM Catholic Religion, America & World Peace
 6:30 PM Francisco Zaragoza; Fr. Luis Segura (birthday);
 Conversion and receiving the sacrament of
 marriage

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

6:30 AM Family Intentions; All Souls†
 8:30 AM Maria Ines Sedano Rubio†;
 Susan Cantrell Wolske†

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

6:30 AM Jose Manuel Nares Lemus† &
 Jose Lemus Cortez
 8:30 AM Efrain Pulido†; Isabel Banuelos†

Thursday, October 30, 2025

6:30 AM Lorenzo Yanez Jimenez (birthday) &
 the Flores Ramirez family
 8:30 AM Martha Canseco† & Angel Escalante†

Friday, October 31, 2025

6:30 AM Mario Angel Escalante†; Reynaldo Calibara†
 8:30 AM Lourdes Carrera†; Catarina Hong Pham†
 6:30 PM Thanksgiving; All Souls†
 8:00 PM All Souls†

Saturday, November 1, 2025

8:30 AM Peter Trap Mai† & All Ancestors†
 10:00 AM
 12:00 PM Rosa Chavez de Sanchez†

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19,
 23 (7a)/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14
Monday: Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21/
 Lk 13:10-17
Tuesday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 6:12-16
Wednesday: Rom 8:26-30/Ps 13:4-5, 6/Lk 13:22-30
Thursday: Rom 8:31b-39/Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31/
 Lk 13:31-35
Friday: Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/
 Lk 14:1-6
Saturday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/
 1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
Sunday: Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
 Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40



SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE



Oct 18/19 Masses \$ 20,830.00
 Oct 18/19 Online Giving \$ 2,949.70
Total collection: \$ 23,779.70

World Mission Sunday—\$9,279.00

*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/Wednesday 1 PM—5:30 PM
 Friday 1 PM—5 PM
 Sunday 8 AM—3 PM

Vietnamese Religious Education**(714) 620-7895**

Monday/Wednesday/Friday 2 PM—5:30 PM
 Saturday 10 AM—1 PM

Las lecturas de la semana del 26 de octubre

Domingo: Eclo 35, 12-14, 16-18/Sal 33, 2-3. 17-18. 19. 23 (7)/2 Tim 4, 6-8. 16-18/Lc 18, 9-14
Lunes: Rom 8, 12-17/Sal 67, 2 y 4. 6-7. 20-21/Lc 13, 10-17
Martes: Ef 2, 19-22/Sal 18, 2-3. 4-5/Lc 6, 12-19
Miércoles: Rom 8, 26-30/Sal 12, 4-5. 6/Lc 13, 22-30
Jueves: Rom 8, 31-39/Sal 108, 21-22. 26-27. 30-31/Lc 13, 31-35
Viernes: Rom 9, 1-5/Sal 147, 12-13. 14-15. 19-20/Lc 14, 1-6
Sábado: Ap 7, 2-4. 9-14/Sal 23, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/1 Jn 3, 1-3/Mt 5, 1-12
Domingo: Sab 3, 1-9/Sal 22, 1-3. 3-4. 5. 6/Rom 5, 5-11 o Rom 6, 3-9/Jn 6, 37-40

Las conmemoraciones de la semana del 26 de octubre

Domingo: 30º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario
Martes: San Simón y San Judas, apóstoles
Viernes: Víspera de Todos los Santos (EEUU)
Sábado: Día de Todos los Santos
Domingo: Conmemoración de Todos los Fieles Difuntos; Día de los Muertos; Fin del horario de verano

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

Por Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini Reflexión: El fariseo hizo lo correcto a veces.

Ayunó. Diezmó. Pero contempló durante tanto tiempo su propia santidad que quedó cegado por ella. Estaba delante de Dios y solo podía pensar en lo que había hecho bien.

Visión de Túnel

Hay algunos padres en el área de juegos que realmente no soporto.

Los conoces, probablemente, si eres padre, o si no lo eres, conoces una versión diferente de ellos. Te contarán cómo su pequeño Brayden es un prodigio del violín, bilingüe, que duerme toda la noche y solo pide comer verduras. Pero tan pronto como Brayden comienza a perseguir con un palo a tu hijo que va gritando, convenientemente se desplazan en su teléfono, sin darse cuenta.

No te irrita que su hijo sea más inteligente que el tuyo y le gusten las verduras (bueno, tal vez si lo estes un poco). Te irrita que tengan visión de túnel. Al esforzarse por alcanzar la perfección, se han vuelto incapaces de reconocer las imperfecciones.

Si estás leyendo esto, probablemente estés en la iglesia. Si estás en la iglesia, probablemente eres alguien que se preocupa por lo que está bien y lo que está mal. Tengo noticias para ti: eso podría hacer que tú (y yo) corramos más riesgo de ser como la madre de Brayden que las personas que se

quedaron en casa hoy.

¡Desgarra tus perlas! Ha sido bueno de tu parte venir a Misa, definitivamente sigue haciéndolo. Esa es la elección correcta. Simplemente no olvides que, al tomar la decisión correcta, no nos volvemos *justos*.

Mira, no te voy a mentir. A veces, son mis hijos los que persiguen con el palo. Son niños, y los niños hacen cosas tontas, como todos los demás. Y tal vez sea porque odian las verduras y duermen terriblemente que soy menos reacia que la madre de Brayden a admitir sus errores. Es una dura caída del pedestal.

Si somos seguidores de Cristo que vamos a la iglesia, esperamos que seamos personas que realmente quieren hacer lo correcto. Quizás, a veces, hacemos exactamente eso. El fariseo a veces hizo lo correcto. Ayunó. Diezmó. Pero contempló durante tanto tiempo su propia santidad que quedó cegado por ella. Estaba delante de Dios y solo podía pensar en lo que había hecho bien.

Tenemos que estar atentos, amigos. Justo cuando miras hacia otro lado, es cuando Brayden agarra el palo.

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

Ante Dios no podemos fingir ni aparentar: Él nos conoce profundamente. Por más cara de buenos que pongamos, Él ve más allá: ve nuestro corazón. Tampoco podemos decirle cuán buenos somos, porque nos conoce y sabe perfectamente nuestras acciones. Hoy, Jesús nos cuenta otra parábola: la de los dos hombres que fueron al templo a orar. Cada uno lo hace a su manera, y al escuchar el relato, nos damos cuenta de que uno lo hace mejor que el otro. Pero lo más importante es que los dos hablan con Dios. Con este ejemplo podemos aprender a orar y a presentarnos ante Dios tal como somos.

“Efectivamente, el fariseo, a pesar de las obras, perdió la justicia; el publicano, en cambio, se granjeó la justicia por la humildad de sus palabras. Aunque, a decir verdad, la del publicano no era propiamente humildad: de hecho, la humildad se da cuando uno que es grande se humilla a sí mismo. La actitud del publicano no fue humildad, sino verdad: sus palabras eran verdaderas, pues él era un pecador”- San Juan Crisóstomo (350–407), Homilía 2 sobre la Penitencia.

“Pero, aunque somos pecadores, no debemos desalentarnos, porque el Señor está con nosotros, quien nos ha dado todo y nos hará vencer también este pequeño paso de hoy, con la gracia de la fuerza, de la valentía, de la oración, de la vigilancia y de la alegría” (Papa Francisco). En conclusión: puede ser que en cada uno de nosotros vivan un fariseo y un publicano. Ambos necesitan de Dios para ser liberados y perdonados. Ante Dios, oremos con verdad y con sinceridad de corazón.

©LPi

SỔ HẰNG SỐNG .

Kính mời Quý Cộng Đoàn ghi danh các linh hồn vào Sổ Cầu Nguyện cho Thánh Lễ Các Tín Hữu Đã Qua Đời (ngày 2/11).

Việc ghi danh diễn ra sau các Thánh Lễ:

ngày **25 và 26 /10/2025** tại cuối Thánh Đường.

Xin Quý Cộng Đoàn tham gia như một nghĩa cử thiêng liêng để tưởng nhớ và cầu nguyện cho những người thân yêu đã ra đi, sớm hưởng vinh phúc Thiên Đàng - thể hiện niềm tin vào sự sống đời đời và lòng thương xót vô biên của Thiên Chúa.



LỄ CÁC THÁNH NAM NỮ .

Thứ Bảy - 01/11/2025 - 10:00AM

LỄ CẦU CHO CÁC TÍN HỮU ĐÃ QUA ĐỜI

Thứ Bảy - 01/11/2025 - lúc 7:00 PM

Chúa Nhật - 02/11/2025 - lúc 4:00 PM

LỄ TƯỞNG NHỚ CÁC LINH HỒN ĐÃ QUA ĐỜI TRONG NĂM QUA CỦA GIÁO XỨ - LỄ BA NGÔN NGỮ

Thứ Bảy - 08/11/2025 - lúc 8:30 AM



HƯỚNG DẪN LÃNH ƠN TOÀN XÁ TRONG THÁNG 11

Từ trưa 01/11 đến nửa đêm 02/11: Viếng nhà thờ hoặc nhà nguyện, đọc một kinh Lạy Cha và một kinh Tin Kính, kèm theo các điều kiện thông thường (xưng tội, rước lễ, cầu nguyện theo ý Đức Giáo Hoàng) sẽ được Một Ơn Toàn Xá, nhường lại cho các linh hồn. Nếu có trở ngại, có thể thực hiện vào Chúa Nhật ngày 08/11. Một ngày được hưởng một ơn mà thôi.

Từ ngày 01 đến 08/11: Viếng nghĩa trang (hoặc nhà hải cốt giáo xứ) và cầu nguyện cho các tín hữu đã qua đời, với các điều kiện thông thường, cũng được hưởng Một Ơn Toàn Xá mỗi ngày, nhường lại cho các linh hồn.

GIỚI THIỆU

ĐOÀN THIẾU NHI THÁNH THỂ

GIÁO XỨ THÁNH POLYCARP



Cúng con xin trân trọng giới thiệu Phong trào Thiếu Nhi Thánh Thể (TNTT) - Đoàn Saint Polycarp. Sứ mệnh của TNTT là đào tạo thanh thiếu nhi trở thành những Kitô hữu ưu tú và những công dân gương mẫu, mời gọi đoàn sinh rút lấy sức sống thiêng liêng từ sự hiện diện đích thực của Chúa Kitô trong Bí tích Thánh Thể. Giúp các em trở thành người kiện toàn và là Kitô hữu hoàn hảo, hướng dẫn các em loan truyền Tin Mừng và tích cực dẫn thân làm việc tông đồ, phục vụ xã hội.

Với tâm nguyện thực hiện bốn việc làm thiết yếu trong ngày là Cầu Nguyện, Rước Lễ, Hy Sinh, và Làm Việc Tông Đồ. Các phương pháp định hướng cho các em là:

1. Sống Lời Chúa và hiệp nhất với Chúa Giêsu Thánh Thể.
2. Yêu Mến và Tôn Kính Đức Trinh Nữ Maria.
3. Tôn Kính và noi gương Các Thánh Tử Đạo trở nên chứng nhân can đảm cho Chúa Kitô.
4. Yêu Mến và Vâng Phục ý chỉ của vị đại diện Chúa Kitô là Đức Giáo Hoàng.
5. Bảo Tồn và Phát Huy truyền thống tốt đẹp văn hóa Việt Nam.

THÔNG TIN SINH HOẠT

Sinh hoạt **Thứ Bảy hàng tuần từ 5:00pm - 6:30pm** tại **Khuôn Viên Trường Học**

Với các buổi học hỏi giáo lý và hoạt động tập thể theo từng ngành tùy theo độ tuổi tương ứng:

- Ngành Ấu Nhi : Tuổi từ 6 - 9 / Lớp K-3 - Khẩu hiệu : Ngoan
- Ngành Thiếu Nhi : Tuổi từ 10 - 12 / Lớp 4-6 - Khẩu hiệu : Hy Sinh
- Ngành Nghĩa Sĩ : Tuổi từ 13 - 15 / Lớp 7-9 - Khẩu hiệu : Chinh Phục
- Ngành Hiệp Sĩ : Tuổi từ 16 - 18 / Lớp 10-12 - Khẩu hiệu : Dẫn Thân
- Huynh Trưởng : Là những bạn trẻ sống đức tin, lãnh đạo và phục vụ, hướng dẫn các em đoàn sinh. Họ tiếp tục huấn luyện và góp phần phát triển Đoàn TNTT bằng tinh thần dẫn thân và hiệp nhất.

THÔNG TIN LIÊN LẠC

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Ban Chấp Hành Đoàn | www.tnttsp.org | Email: tnttsp@tnttsp.org |
| Đoàn trưởng: Phêrô Nguyễn Minh Tùng | 714-553-4651 | Email: TungNguyen@tnttsp.org |



Chúng con hân hoan chào đón các đoàn sinh mới sẽ ghi danh vào Tháng Giêng 2026

Wedding Banns

October 25

Jesus & Briana Valdivia

November 8

Mary Nguyen & Ronald Tran

Funerals

October 31

Leonel Bautista

November 3

Teresa Alberto

November 8

Tina Crawford

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

Each October the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is observed as Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect deeply on the dignity and gift of every human life.

This week we pray for the following intentions:

- May pregnant and parenting moms find life-affirming help for themselves and their children
- May people with disabilities be treated with respect and their lives protected.
- May all who are ill or nearing death receive care that meets all their needs and upholds the gift of their lives.

ALL SAINTS MASSES

Friday, 10/31/2025

8 PM Spanish

Saturday 11/1/2025

8:30 PM English

10 PM Vietnamese

12 PM Spanish

ALL SOULS MASSES

Normal weekend Mass schedule



SAINT POLYCARP
CATHOLIC CHURCH
www.stpoly.org

LABYRINTH WALK

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

in the Parish Hall

We invite you to join us at the next *Labyrinth Walk*.

Enter the labyrinth with an open mind and heart so that you are able to receive whatever awaits you on this prayerful journey.

The candlelit, meditative Labyrinth environment will calm your thoughts and offer a quiet respite from stress and burdens.

Looking forward to seeing you!



Health Ministry

ST IRENAEUS CATHOLIC CHURCH
5201 Evergreen Ave., Cypress CA
sticypress.org



PSA 2025 REPORT

AS OF 10/01/2025

PLEDGES RECEIVED: 466

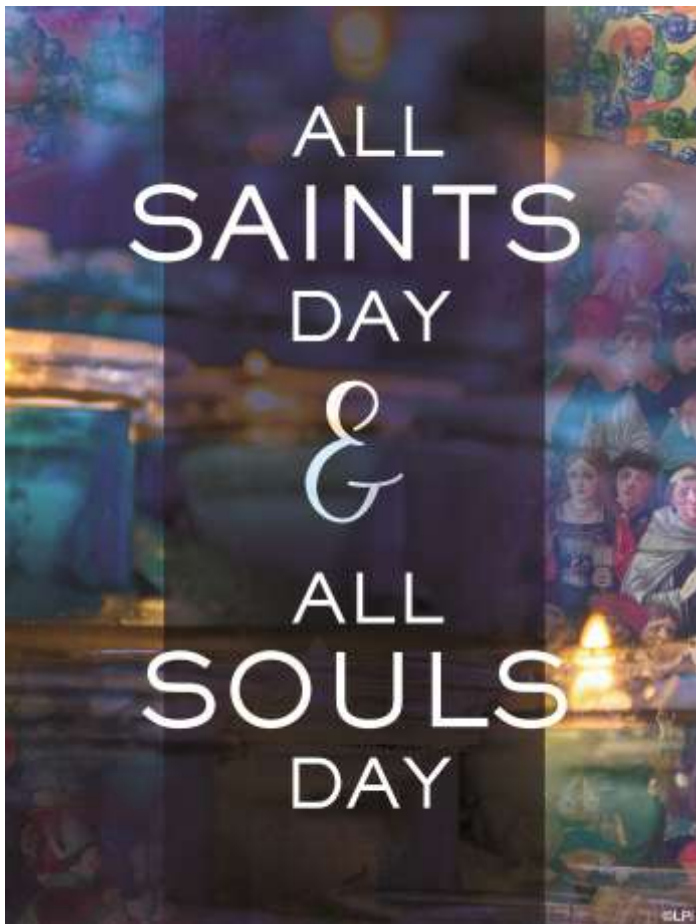
AMOUNT PLEDGED: \$203,122.00

TOTAL PAID: \$197,145.00

OUR 2025 PSA GOAL: \$98,000.00

Thank You!

SAINT POLYCARP
CATHOLIC CHURCH
www.stpoly.org




HOPE & HEALING

Post-Abortion Pastoral Care

We are here to listen.

📞 1.800.722.4356
All calls are **CONFIDENTIAL**.

✉️ hopeandhealing@rcbo.org



For more information,
scan the QR code.





Mother - Daughter Retreat

Saturday, November 1st, 2025
8:15am-3:00pm
Registration open now



✝ Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange

INCLUSIVE ICONS

Art Exhibition



NOVEMBER 2025

Dates: 3rd, 7th, 10th, 12th, 17th, 21st, 24th, 26th

Viewing Hours: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

You are invited to visit Sacred Heart Chapel at the St. Joseph Center this November. Immerse yourself in the lives of holy men and women from around the world. Uncover the deeper meanings and subtle nuances woven into each painting. Let the stories of these saints invite you into reflection on the universal spiritual themes of compassion, courage, justice, and love.

St. Joseph Center, Sacred Heart Chapel
480 E. BATAVIA ST. ORANGE CA 92668

*Please park in the south lot and enter the chapel through the main patio entrance.





About the Artist
Born and raised in Haiti, Patricia Brinitz's style reflects her native culture and land, infusing her work with complex symbolism and bright, vivid colors that explore the universality of human emotions. Her commission "The Inclusive Icons of the Church of St. Francis Xavier" won the Faith and Form 2022 International Award for Visual Arts. Pat is the founder of a non-profit charity "From Here to Haiti", whose mission is to repair Catholic churches in Haiti.



Pope's Intention - November

For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Please bring **NON-PERISHABLE** and **NON-REFRIGERATED** food items to Thanksgiving Day Mass. All donated items will go to the OC Food Bank to help feed the most vulnerable in our community.

Food donations can also be dropped off at the parish office during office hours between Saturday, 11/22/25 and Sunday, 11/30/25.



ST. MICHAEL'S ABBEY
RETREATS

The Fourth Quarter of Life

Every quarter of life has its own challenges, joys, and crosses...but it is in the fourth quarter that final victory is won or lost! This retreat is open to all, but aimed especially at those who are 60yrs and older.

Whereas many view the last quarter of life in terms of physical decline, it is ripe for spiritual ascent. Starting with a Biblical (Catholic) world view, we will consider how each quarter of life has its own specific moral challenges meant to build up and perfect the Christian. Join Fr. Thomas as he reveals how to live the last quarter of life so as to bring healing to our past, joy to our present, and hope for our future...as we prepare to enter the fullness of life in the kingdom of heaven.

REGISTER ONLINE
COST: \$50
LUNCH NOT INCLUDED

NOVEMBER 22, 2025
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
ST. MICHAEL'S ABBEY
CONFERENCE CENTER



Fr. Thomas Nelson, O.Praem.

27977 SILVERADO CANYON RD
SILVERADO, CA 92676 • (657) 314-9071
stmichaelsabbey.com/retreats



Prayer for Jubilee 2025

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and
the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

The one who serves God willingly is heard;
his petition reaches the heavens. (Sir 35:20)

Psalm:

The Lord hears the cry of the poor. (Ps 34)

Second Reading:

The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat
and will bring me safe to his heavenly kingdom.
To him be glory forever and ever. Amen. (2 Tm 4:18)

Gospel:

"For whoever exalts himself will be humbled,
and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."
(Lk 18:14)

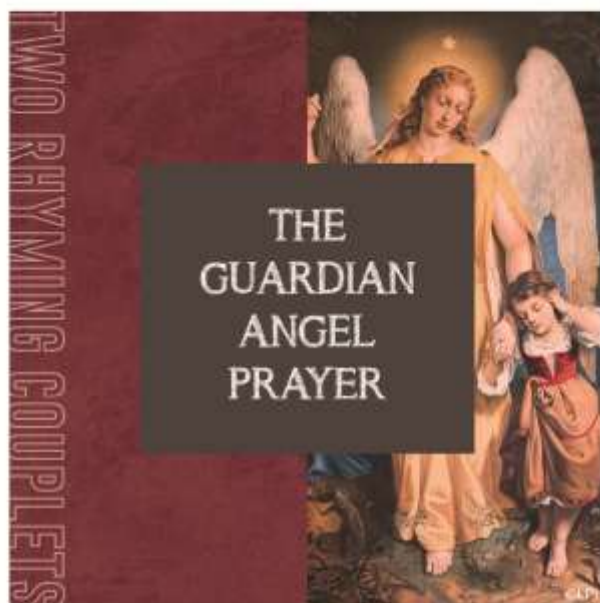
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International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The Pharisee took such pride in his good deeds that he forgot to ask God for forgiveness; the tax collector acknowledged his many sins, and went home justified. Remember that we are saved not by our own merit, but by the mercy of God.

Observances for the week of October 26, 2025

Sunday:	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday:	Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles
Friday:	All Hallows' Eve
Saturday:	All Saints
Next Sunday:	The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day); Daylight Saving Time Ends



Devotions, *Explained!*

Often one of the first prayers taught to children, the Guardian Angel Prayer consists of two rhyming couplets invoking the protection of one's guardian angel. Its exact authorship is unknown, but it originated in the medieval period.

Prayer of Praise

Dear God,
As we look to the week ahead,
help us to remember that You will
accompany us at every moment
— You who greet us with mercy
anew every morning, and grace in
abundance each night.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: The Pharisee did the right thing sometimes. He fasted. He tithed. But he gazed so long at his own holiness that he became blinded by it. He stood before God, and he could only think of what he had done right.

Tunnel Vision

There are some parents on the playground I really can't stand.

You know them, probably, if you're a parent, or if you're not, you know a different version of them. They'll tell you about how their little Brayden is a bilingual violin prodigy who sleeps through the night and only ever asks to snack on vegetables. But as soon as Brayden starts to chase your screaming kid with a stick, they're conveniently scrolling on their phone, unaware.

You're not irritated that their kid is smarter than yours and likes veggies (well, maybe you are, a little). You're irritated that they have tunnel vision. In striving for perfection, they have become unable to acknowledge imperfections.

If you're reading this, you're probably in church. If you're in church, you're probably someone who is concerned with what is right and what is wrong. I've got news for you: that might just make you (and me) more at risk of being like Brayden's parent than the people who stayed home today.

Unclutch your pearls! It was good of you to come to Mass. Definitely keep doing that. That's the right choice. Just don't forget that in making the right choice, we don't *become righteous*.

Look, I'm not going to lie to you. Sometimes, it's my kids who are doing the chasing with the stick. They're kids, and kids do dumb things, just like everyone else. And maybe it's because they hate vegetables and sleep terribly that I'm less reluctant than Brayden's mom to admit their mistakes. It's a hard fall from the pedestal.

If we're churchgoing followers of Christ, we are hopefully people who earnestly want to do the right thing. Maybe, sometimes, we do exactly that. The Pharisee did the right thing sometimes. He fasted. He tithed. But he gazed so long at his own holiness that he became blinded by it. He stood before God, and he could only think of what he had done right.

We need to stay vigilant, folks. Just when you look away, that's when Brayden grabs the stick.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Why do we kneel at Mass?

Answer:

Since the beginnings of the Church, kneeling has been a key posture of prayer. We see Sts. Peter and Paul in the Acts of the Apostles kneeling in prayer. Early in the 4th century, the Council of Nicea prohibited kneeling on Sundays and special feasts. Kneeling began more as a posture of penance for our sins, but in the history of the Church, it has become more a posture of reverence and solemn prayer.

You will notice that the times we kneel at Mass are tied to the consecration of the holy Eucharist. We kneel in both anticipation of what will occur and then in awe of what has taken place: Jesus Christ becomes truly present to us under the guise of bread and wine. The profoundness of this event has over time led the Church to mandate in the current General Instruction of the Roman Missal that kneeling is the only posture allowed during this time. The sheer awesomeness of the holy Eucharist leads us to fall to our knees in wonder and thanksgiving.



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