



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. Francis Ang

Rev. Jaime Hernandez

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 OCIA/SPANISH RCIA)

Sister Silvia Frias

(VIET OCIA/ Giáo Lý Tân Tòng)

Sister Maria Trang Nguyen

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



POPE'S INTENTION - OCTOBER

For Mental Health Ministry

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

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

October 4, 2026

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

Saturday, October 3, 2026

5:00 PM Mary Chau Ha✠

7:00 PM Ana Truong Thu Van✠

Sunday, October 4, 2026

7:30 AM Marcelino Carrera✠;

Paul Lucia Quang Hien✠ & Ancestors

9:00 AM Alejo Villegas✠; Alberto & Paula Gomez

11:00 AM Angelica Madrid✠; Josephine Saragosa &
Ronald Acosta & Edward Acosta, Sr.

1:00 PM Gloria Esperanza Rodrigues de Aquino✠;
Adalberto & Saul Godoy

4:00 PM Joseph✠ & Mary✠

6:00 PM Maria Simona Salgado✠ &
Nasario Acuna Finado

Monday, October 5, 2026

6:30 AM Fongutan Souls✠

8:30 AM Francisco Castillo✠; Pablo Martinez✠

6:30 PM Joana Benites✠; Irene Vega✠

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

6:30 AM Elisa L. Hernandez✠ & Ramon Hernandez✠

8:30 AM John Casey✠; Augustino Than Nguyen✠ &
Anna Ngan Pham✠

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

6:30 AM All Souls; Andy Kiet Ha

8:30 AM Jose Maria Alonso✠ & Arnulfo Topete✠

Thursday, October 8, 2026

6:30 AM Ancestors of a Family;
Special Family Intentions for Stacy Seo

8:30 AM Jacqueline Tran Mai (Birthday)

Friday, October 9, 2026

6:30 AM Thelma Arzaga✠;
Bimba & all those deceased

8:30 AM Teresa Zuniga✠; Catarina Hong Pham✠

6:30 PM Anton Tong Nguyen✠ & Teresa Nguyen✠ &
Thi Hong Van Family;
Yen Nguyen Family gives thanks to the
Lord & prayer for family ancestors

Saturday, October 10, 2026

8:30 AM Alfonso Juny Carrillo✠

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9 and 12, 13-14, 15-16,
19-20/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

Monday: Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9 and
10c/Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab,
14c-15/Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/
Lk 11:5-13

Friday: Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/
Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Lk 11:27-28

Sunday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10



SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE



September 26/27 Masses \$ 20,947.50
September 26/27 Online \$ 1,715.61
Total collection: \$ 22,663.11

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



Las lecturas de la semana del 4 de octubre

Domingo: Is 5, 1-7/Sal 79, 9 y 12. 13-14. 15-16.
19-20/Flp 4, 6-9/Mt 21, 33-43
Lunes: Gal 1, 6-12/Sal 110, 1-2. 7-8. 9 y 10/Lc 10,
25-37
Martes: Gal 1, 13-24/Sal 138, 1-3. 13-14. 14-15/
Lc 10, 38-42
Miércoles: Gal 2, 1-2. 7-14/Sal 116, 1. 2/Lc 11, 1-4
Jueves: Gal 3, 1-5/Lc 1, 69-70. 71-72. 73-75/Lc 11,
5-13
Viernes: Gal 3, 7-14/Sal 110, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/Lc 11, 15-26
Sábado: Gal 3, 22-29/Sal 104, 2-3. 4-5. 6-7/
Lc 11, 27-28
Domingo: Is 25, 6-10/Sal 22, 1-3. 3-4. 5. 6/Flp 4, 12-14.
19-20/Mt 22, 1-14 o 22, 1-10

Las conmemoraciones de la semana del 4 de octubre

Domingo: 27º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario;
Domingo de Respeto a la Vida
Lunes: Beato Francisco Javier Seelos, sacerdote
Martes: San Bruno, sacerdote;
Beata María Rosa Durocher, virgen
Miércoles: Nuestra Señora del Rosario
Viernes: San Dionisio de París, obispos, y
compañeros, mártires; San Juan Leonardi,
sacerdote
Domingo: 28º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

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

Por Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Acaparando la Cosecha

Siempre he pensado que la Parábola de los viñadores infieles podría ser una trama en una de esas series de "los criminales más tontos del mundo".

El asesinato en serie parece una acción absolutamente absurda simplemente para acaparar los beneficios de una cosecha que no posees legalmente. ¿En qué mundo pensaban los arrendatarios que se saldrían con la suya? Además, debían tener un contrato con su propietario que garantizara el pago por su trabajo. ¿Por qué, de repente, este pago no es suficiente?

Es fácil categorizar a los inquilinos como paranoicos. Egoístas. Codiciosos.

Pero entonces pienso en mi alma — mi propio pequeño viñedo. ¿Quién es el dueño? ¿Quién la compró a un precio muy alto?

Verás, La Parábola de los viñadores infieles no es una historia sobre la codicia. Es una historia sobre la confianza. Los arrendatarios no confían en que el propietario les pague su dinero, que cumpla sus promesas. Tienen miedo. Están resentidos. Están enfadados.

Y lo entiendo.

Alrededor de mi viñedo hay un cerco, una barrera protectora de gracia que protege la fruta de los vapores tóxicos de un mundo caído. Hay un prensador de vino, para que la cosecha de mi viñedo cumpla su propósito final en lugar de marchitarse, olvidada, en la rama. Y hay una torre, alta y robusta, construida por manos capaces. Desde su cima, puedo ver depredadores — animales, ladrones — mucho tiempo antes de que lleguen a mí.

Pero también puedo ver algo más desde la torre. Veo al hijo del terrateniente, dirigiéndose a las puertas de mi viñedo. Viene a reclamar la cosecha. Viene a darme lo prometido.

¿Confío en él? ¿Le dejo entrar? LPi

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

"La piedra que los constructores desecharon llegó a ser la piedra angular; esa fue la obra del Señor y nos dejó maravillados". Ahora yo les digo a ustedes: se les quitará el Reino de los Cielos y será entregado a un pueblo que le hará producir sus frutos (Mateo 21:42-43). Trabajar para el Reino de Dios implica compromiso. Actualmente, como bautizados y miembros de la Iglesia, somos los nuevos contratados para trabajar en el Reino de Dios. Por lo tanto, se espera que seamos cuidadores responsables y llevemos a cabo la labor encomendada para que así abunden la justicia y la paz. Decía el papa Francisco: *"La viña es del Señor, no nuestra"*. No olvidemos esta frase cuando se nos encomiende trabajar en la Iglesia del Señor. Depende de nosotros continuar haciéndolo bien.

San Pablo, en su carta a los filipenses, y a nosotros hoy en día, da pautas seguras para no vivir angustiados en situaciones ordinarias que nos apartan del camino que nos conduce a Dios: *"Antes bien, en toda ocasión presenten sus peticiones a Dios y junten la acción de gracias a la súplica. Y la paz de Dios, que es mayor de lo que se puede imaginar, guardará sus corazones y sus pensamientos en Cristo Jesús"* (Filipenses 4:6-7). Y sigue añadiendo: esto es lo que todo cristiano debería hacer para encontrar lo verdadero y lo justo. La esperanza está puesta en dar frutos en el servicio hasta dar la vida. ¿Lo crees posible?

LPi

KINH MÂN CÔI LIÊN KẾT

Cùng nhau hướng về Mẹ, xin mỗi người chọn **1 ngắm đọc 10 kinh Kính Mừng** mỗi ngày trong tháng 10 và tháng 11, cùng nhau cầu nguyện cho những người thân yêu và cho các linh hồn. Tài liệu có sẵn tại Sảnh Thánh Đường.



CHẦU THÁNH THỂ 48 GIỜ

Giáo Xứ có phiên Chầu Minh Thánh Chúa suốt 48 giờ: **bắt đầu sau Thánh Lễ 7 PM Thứ Sáu, 2 /10/ 2026.** và **kết thúc sau Thánh Lễ 4 PM Chúa Nhật, 4/10/2026.**

Kính mời quý ông bà và anh chị em sắp xếp thời giờ đến thờ lạy Chúa Giêsu Thánh Thể, cầu nguyện cho gia đình, Cộng Đoàn và các nhu cầu của Giáo Hội.

Xin Chúa ban muôn ơn lành cho quý vị và gia đình.



Mời Lăn Hạt Mân Côi - ROSARY RALLY

Để đáp lại lời mời gọi của Đức Mẹ Fatima năm 1917 về việc siêng năng lăn hạt Mân Côi cầu nguyện cho hòa bình thế giới. Các hội đoàn:

- Hội Đền Tạ Trái Tim Mẹ; - Hội Legio Mariae; - Hiệp Sĩ Columbus (Knights of Columbus)

Trân trọng kính mời quý cộng đoàn dân Chúa tham dự Giờ Lăn Hạt Mân Côi tại:

Khuôn viên Giáo Xứ Thánh Polycarp (Bãi đậu xe phía Văn phòng Giáo Xứ)

Lúc 12:00 trưa - Thứ Bảy, ngày 10 tháng 10 năm 2026.

Cùng hiệp ý cầu nguyện:

- Cho hòa bình thế giới.
- Cho nước Mỹ biết ăn năn và trở về với Chúa.
- Cho các nhà lãnh đạo biết tôn trọng luật Chúa và phẩm giá con người.
- Ngăn chặn làn sóng hận thù và những cuộc bách hại tôn giáo.
- Cho mọi gia đình và tín hữu trong giáo xứ được bình an và hiệp nhất.

Trân trọng kính mời quý cộng đoàn cùng tham dự.





CỘNG ĐOÀN ĐỨC MARIA MẸ THIÊN CHÚA

Thánh Lễ TạƠn

Mừng 35 Năm Thành Lập

Trong tâm tình cảm tạ Thiên Chúa, vì muôn hồng ân Ngài đã tuôn đổ trên Cộng Đoàn suốt hành trình 35 năm qua, Cộng Đoàn cử hành **Thánh Lễ TạƠn Kỷ Niệm 35 Năm Thành Lập** vào lúc:

4PM | CHÚA NHẬT | 11/10/2026

Thánh Lễ sẽ do **Đức Cha Tôma Nguyễn Thái Thành chủ tế**, cùng với sự hiện diện quý báu của **quý Cha cựu quản nhiệm, quý Sơ** đã từng đồng hành và góp phần xây dựng Cộng Đoàn.

Kính mời toàn thể quý Cộng Đoàn hiện diện hiệp dâng Thánh Lễ TạƠn để cùng dâng lời cảm tạ Thiên Chúa vì tình yêu và sự quan phòng của Ngài, đồng thời cầu xin Chúa tiếp tục chúc lành và hướng dẫn Cộng Đoàn trên những chặng đường phía trước.

Sau Thánh Lễ, kính mời quý ông bà và anh chị em ở lại dự Tiệc tại hội trường Giáo Xứ.

Chương trình gồm có: - Tiệc liên hoan do Ban Ẩm Thực chuẩn bị.

- Nghi thức cắt bánh mừng kỷ niệm 35 năm thành lập Cộng Đoàn.

- Chương trình văn nghệ karaoke do các ca đoàn phụ trách.

Ước mong sự hiện diện của quý vị sẽ là niềm khích lệ lớn lao và góp phần làm cho ngày kỷ niệm thêm ý nghĩa, trang trọng và tràn đầy tình hiệp thông trong đại gia đình Cộng Đoàn.

"Tình thương Chúa đời đời con ca tụng" (To 89,2)

THỐNG KÊ SỐ NGƯỜI DỰ THÁNH LỄ

Theo chương trình thống kê hằng năm của Giáo Phận, trong suốt tháng 10, Cộng Đoàn sẽ thực hiện việc đếm số người tham dự tại tất cả các Thánh Lễ trong bốn tuần liên tiếp.

Kính nhờ quý thiện nguyện viên ban hướng dẫn sử dụng máy đếm và ghi số tham dự vào phiếu thống kê sau mỗi Thánh Lễ. Xin chân thành cảm ơn sự cộng tác của quý anh chị em.

ẨM THỰC GÂY QUỸ

Chương trình Bán Phở gây quỹ hỗ trợ các sinh hoạt mục vụ của Cộng Đoàn sẽ được bắt đầu vào

Thứ Bảy, 31/10/26 và Chúa Nhật, 1/11/26

tại hội trường Giáo Xứ

Vé Phở đang được bán sau các Thánh Lễ và các hội đoàn với giá **\$12/một phần** - có bán thêm Chả Giò.

Kính mời quý vị tích cực ủng hộ. Chân thành cảm ơn sự quảng đại của quý vị.



ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

The Filipino Community of St. Polycarp invites everyone to come to the church every Wednesday at 4 PM to help celebrate a perpetual novena to Our Mother Mary.

Please join us!



SAINT POLYCARP
CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Pray for the Sick

Maximus Pedraza (10 years old)
Robert "Bob" Henning
Vincent Anthony
Jennifer Cornejo
Teresa Cortes
Aileen Solorio
Leslie Correa,
Jose Guadalupe Alvarez
Fr. Peter's Father
Lien Phan
Pam Byars
Maria Luisa C. Jimenez
Jose San Pedro
Lilia Martinez
Jonathan Alvarez

Annual Marian Celebration

Don't forget, the 48 hours of Adoration is in the parish hall, and it concludes on Sunday, at 5:15 p.m.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make our parish's Annual Marian Celebration a success. A special thank you to the sisters from our Faith Formation programs, the Parish Council, and especially the Hispanic and Vietnamese Communities for beautifully decorating the Marian statues, providing security throughout the night, and supporting the procession.

We also sincerely thank our Youth Ministry for their valuable contributions and support. May our Blessed Mother continue to bless you always.

OUR LADY *of the Rosary*

Faith Formation Office Hours

English/Spanish Faith Formation

Sister Silvia Frias (714) 892-3158

Monday, Thursday & Friday 2 PM—6 PM

Vietnamese Faith Formation (Giáo Lý Việt Ngữ)

Sister MaryAnne Thiên Hương Nguyễn (714) 620-7895

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 1 PM—5 PM

Confirmation 1/2 (English/Español/Tiếng Việt)

Sister Anh Tram Tran (714) 890-5200

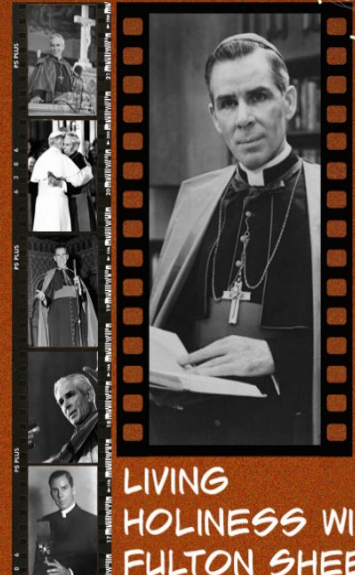
Sunday 8 AM—3 PM Wednesday & Friday 1 PM—5 PM

Pro Sanctity Movement

Join our 8 week
faith-sharing
series on
Thursdays:

- September 24
- October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
- November 5, 12

Refreshments &
Fellowship
following the
8:30 am Mass
Cost: Donation



LIVING
HOLINESS WITH
FULTON SHEEN

St. Polycarp Room
St. Polycarp Catholic Church
8100 Chapman Ave.
Stanton, CA 90680

Register:

Text/Call Cathy
714-496-9597
cathy@prosantcity.org

Pro Sanctity is an international Catholic lay movement founded by the Servant of God, Guglielmo Giamontani, in 1947. Its mission is to lead our brothers and sisters on the path of holiness and to elicit in everyone a total response of love to God's infinite love. Pro Sanctity offers people specific spiritual opportunities to help them respond to this universal call in three ways: personal holiness, communal holiness, and societal holiness. The Apostolic Oblates are consecrated women who support and spread the message of Pro Sanctity, assisting in bringing about a "world of saints, a world of brothers and sisters."

Front Desk Receptionist Part-Time position open.

We are looking for a dependable and punctual bilingual (Spanish/English) individual to join our parish office team.

Requirements:

- Bilingual in Spanish and English preferred
- Available to work weekends
- Basic administrative and office skills
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Dependable and punctual
- Comfortable interacting with customers and the public

How to Apply:

Please send your resume with your contact information to info@stpolycarp.org

Walking with Moms Collection

Formerly "Pennies from Heaven"



All your donations support women, children, and families in shelters, clinics and centers throughout the Diocese of Orange.



For more information, scan the QR code or visit rcbo.org/walking-with-moms/



NOCHE DE ALTARES



SATURDAY OCT 24

5:30-9:30PM

CHRIST CATHEDRAL

COME AND BE PART OF THIS VIBRANT CELEBRATION OF HERITAGE & REMEMBRANCE!

Hosted by the Office of Hispanic Ministry, Catholic Cemeteries and the Office of Youth & Young Adults at the Diocese of Orange.

This event celebrates Día de Los Muertos, honoring our loved ones who have died through art, culture and community. Ministries from across Orange County will create altars to remember their parents, siblings and friends.

Enjoy cultural performances, live music, pop-up vendors and children's activities.



GET YOUR FREE TICKETS HERE:
rcbo.org/noche-de-altares

World Mission Sunday October 18, 2026

Join us as we come together as a diocese to support this global effort—a call from our Holy Father, Pope Leo—to pray for and provide financial assistance to mission territories around the world. Please consider contributing to the Diocese of Orange's collection for this important cause with your financial gift.

Save the Date for the

Mission Rosary Event

The Diocese of Orange, together with The Pontifical Mission Society and the faithful around the world, will join in prayer:

Tuesday, October 27 | 12 noon | Christ Cathedral



Your gift makes a difference! **DONATE TODAY** scan the QR code below.



100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY



Last year your gift helped:



14,000 people



14,000 churches



14,000 dioceses



14,000 countries



14,000 people



14,000 people



14,000 people



14,000 people



14,000 people



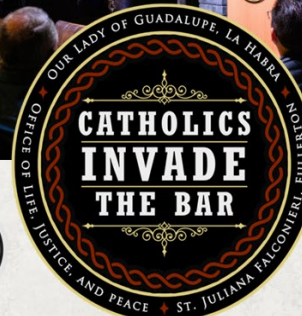
100th ANNIVERSARY

Parking Lot Notice

The east side of the front parking lot is temporarily closed for repairs due to a leak in an old water pipe. Please avoid entering this section of the parking lot until further notice.

When driving through the parish parking areas, please proceed slowly and use caution, especially around pedestrians.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.



FOOD + FRIENDS + THEOLOGY

WEDNESDAYS AT 6:00 PM

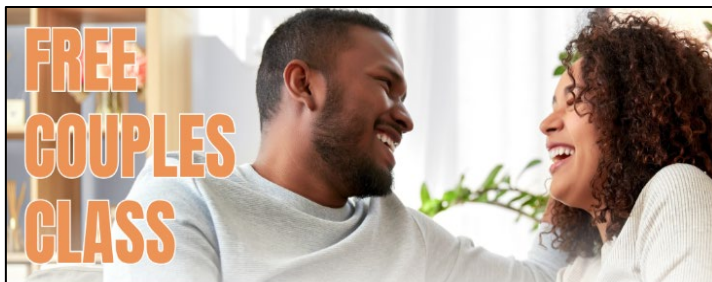
SEPTEMBER 30TH - NOVEMBER 25TH

THE ELIOT LOCATED AT THE CHARLESTON
110 E COMMONWEALTH AVE, FULLERTON



OLGLAHABRA.ORG/CIB
REGISTER TODAY!





FREE COUPLES CLASS

coupletalk
cracking the code to an amazing relationship

Learn **communication & conflict resolution skills** in 6 fun interactive sessions!

- INCLUDES WORKBOOKS
- FREE CHILDCARE
- **& \$100 GIFT CARD**

**per qualifying couple when you complete the class*

THURSDAYS 10/29-12/10*
6:30-8:30PM **No Class Nov. 26*

Class Location:  **OFFICE FOR FAMILY LIFE**
DIOCESE OF ORANGE

 <https://usrelationships.org/dioceseoc>

50 YEARS
ORANGE DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
SPIRITUALITY • LEADERSHIP • SERVICE • 1976 - 2026

You're Invited!
TO A SPECIAL MEETING FEATURING

VERY REV. FR. BAO THAI

TOPIC:
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fr. Bao will share the theology and logistics of the new Christ Cathedral Perpetual Adoration Chapel.

DATE: October 20, 2026
TIME: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
LOCATION: Christ Cathedral Pastoral Center
13280 Chapman Ave., Garden Grove, 92840
COST: \$30, includes lunch

QUESTIONS? Call Kathy at 562-706-5481

PLEASE MAIL CHECKS TO:
Kathy Kent
13430 St. Andrews Dr., Unit 72L
Seal Beach, 90740

RSVP BY 10/16/2026
SCAN THE QR CODE TO RSVP





Fall in love with your spouse all over again this fall.


worldwide
marriage encounter

Nov 7-8, 2026
Heart of Jesus Retreat Center
Santa Ana, CA

WWME.ORG
714-873-5136






2026 WHITE MASS for
Healthcare & Mental Health Providers

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 3 PM
at Christ Cathedral Arboretum

The Diocese of Orange welcomes all those who work in the healthcare and mental health fields to attend and receive a special blessing. All are encouraged to attend in uniform. Family and friends welcome.

Sponsored by the Providence, Catholic Medical Association, Mission Doctors Association and Magnificare.

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the Parable of the Tenants and reveals himself as the "cornerstone the builders rejected."

Hoarding the Harvest

I've always thought the Parable of the Tenants could be a storyline on one of those "world's dumbest criminals" shows.

Serial murder seems like an absolutely insane course of action simply to hoard the profits of a harvest you don't legally own. In what world did the tenants think they would get away with that? Furthermore, they must have had a contract with their landowner ensuring payment for their labor. Why, all of a sudden, is this payment not enough?

It's easy to dismiss the tenants as paranoid. Selfish. Greedy.

But then I think of my soul — my own little vineyard. Who owns it? Who bought it at great cost?

You see, the Parable of the Tenants isn't a story about greed. It's a story about trust. The tenants don't trust the landowner to give them their payment, to honor his promises. They're scared. They're resentful. They're angry.

And I get it.

Around my vineyard, there is a hedge, a protective barrier of grace shielding the fruit within from the toxic fumes of a fallen world. There is a wine press, so that the harvest of my vineyard can fulfill its ultimate purpose instead of withering, forgotten, on the branch. And there is a tower, tall and sturdy, built by capable hands. From its summit, I can see predators — animals, thieves — a long time before they reach me.

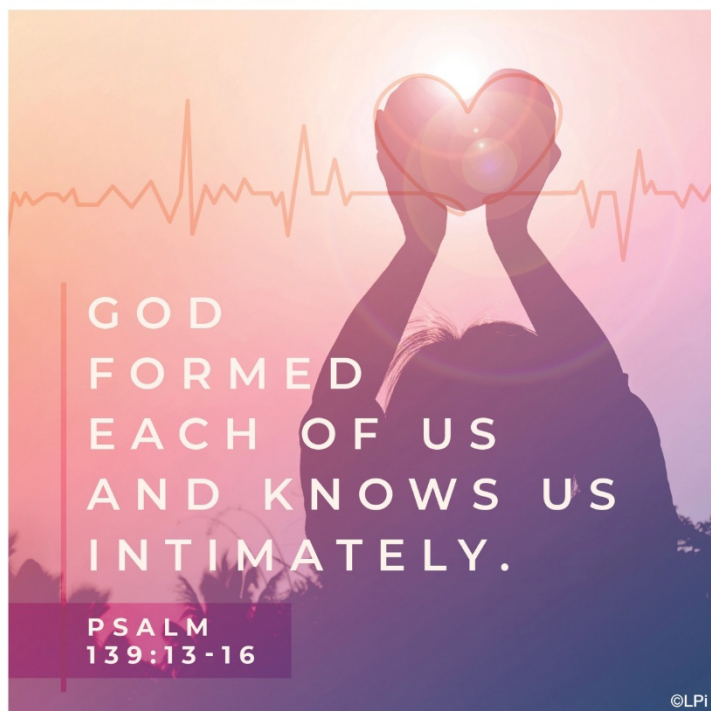
But I can see something else from the tower, too. I can see the landowner's Son, making his way to the gates of my vineyard. He is coming to claim the harvest. He is coming to give me what is promised.

Do I trust him? Do I let him in?

-Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



Liturgical Life



Why Do We Do That?

Catholic Life Explained

Question

Why do Catholics give the sign of peace to one another at Mass?

Answer

The sign of peace is a part of the Mass that takes place immediately after we offer the Lord's Prayer. Inspired by the Jesus' words to his first followers, we stand together in a spirit of communion to pray as Jesus taught us: "Our Father who art in heaven..." In this prayer, we call for the coming of God's kingdom in all its fullness and ask that God provides for our needs — "Give us, this day, our daily bread" — to forgive our sins and to bring us to the joy of heaven.

It is almost natural, then, that the rite of peace would follow. As the celebrant prays that Christ's peace will fill our hearts, our communities, the Church, and the whole world, we extend to those around us a sign of peace (usually a hug or a handshake) as a symbol of the communion that we experience now and will experience forever in the fullness of the reign of God.

We are also reminded of Jesus' teachings that if we are at prayer and remember that a brother or sister is holding something against us, then we are to go and seek reconciliation with them before we continue our prayer (see Matthew 5:23). And so, the sign of peace also reminds us of the need to truly be in communion — united in love and peace — with God and one another before we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist.

So, the next time you're at Mass and the time comes for the sign of peace, remember that this is a moment to celebrate the gift of Christ's peace that each of us has received from God and to pass that peace along to those around us. We need this moment to practice, because this is also the same peace of Christ that we are instructed to carry out into the world at the end of Mass when the priest or deacon says to us, "Go, in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life."

Catholic Trivia

What does a Eucharistic Minister say before giving the Eucharist to a communicant?

Answer: The Body/The Blood of Christ

"But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" – Mt 21:38-40

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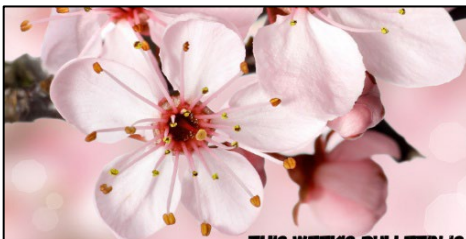
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