



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

## *Catholic Church*

### AUGUST 22, 2021



## 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." - Jn 6:67-69

## Sacraments

### Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil	5:00 pm
Sunday	7:30 am
	9:00 am
	11:30 am
	6:00 pm

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Spanish 1:30 pm

### Daily Mass Times

Mon. - Fri.	6:30 am
	8:15 am

### Holy Day Mass Times

6:30 am
8:15 am
12:00 pm
7:00 pm

### Reconciliation / Confession

Saturday 3 - 4:30 pm  
& by appointment

### All Other Sacraments

Please call the office for information.

## Clergy

Fr. Renier Siva

### Pastor

Fr. Cleetus Karakkat

### Parochial Vicar

William Goeke

Jim McFadden

### Deacons

Fr. Ignatius Haran

### Pastor Emeritus

## Parish Office

Mon.- Fri. 8:30 am- 4:30 pm  
307 Montrose Drive, Folsom  
Phone: 916-985-2065

### Website:

FolsomCatholic.org

### Social Media:

@FolsomCatholic

## Bulletin

FolsomCatholic.org/bulletin

Bulletin Date	Ads Due by 5pm
August 29	August 19
September 5	August 26
September 12	August 31

# Welcome to

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

We are a community where we welcome all as members of the Body of Christ.

We are welcoming, faithful, passionate, joyful, authentic,  
sacramental, loving and charitable.

## Today's Readings

Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b / Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a] /  
Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32 / Jn 6:60-69

*"Taste and see the goodness of the Lord."*  
(Ps 34)

## Gospel Meditation

"Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods." We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these "gods" because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with "who is God" and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment.

The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised him more. We are promised "more." But in pursuing the more and the satisfying we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great.

We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only "feels" true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God's kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods.

But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to him, then where else will we find this gift?

But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say.

It's a choice we all have to make.

## Scripture Reflections

### First Reading

Joshua, who helped settle the Israelites into the Promised Land, knew the struggle ahead lay in Israel's fidelity to God. How does anyone best show fidelity to God?

### Second Reading

Toward the end of his letter, Paul takes up the topic of husbands and wives. He speaks of the importance of mutual subordination and love. What do you see as secret to a successful marriage?

### Gospel

Jesus' bread of life discourse ends with the report that "many of Jesus' disciples" no longer followed Jesus. How should we respond to family or friends who choose to walk away from Jesus?

## Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Contact: Aaron Santos  
209-627-8621  
asantos@folsomcatholic.org

We are currently looking for volunteers to help with our youth ministry groups, Edge on Tuesdays and Lifeteen on Sundays.

If you are interested in our Young Adult Ministry, please contact Aaron.

## Knights of Columbus

### Recognize the Family of the Month

For July, the Knights of Columbus would like to recognize the Morales Family for their contribution to the Parish with their involvement in the 6:00 PM Choir. Father/Daughter have been actively involved in the choir for a long time and we appreciate them for it.

For August, the Knights of Columbus would like to recognize the Thomas Family for their contribution to the Parish with their consistent help around the Parish. They are valued members of our Community and we appreciate them for it.

### Soccer Challenge Competition

September 11, Saturday, 9:00am  
St John the Baptist Soccer Field  
Contact: Knights Dick Phelan 916-221-0596  
or Percy Park, 916-936-6145

This Knights of Columbus Youth Program is "open" to the public and all boys and girls, ages 9-14 performing the "penalty kick" competition. Each contestant receives 3 practice kicks followed by 15 consecutive kicks from the penalty line. All age groups kick from the same distance.

Please contact Knights Dick Phelan or Percy Park for Soccer Challenge Application/ Score Sheets Form #4578. These forms will also be available the day of registration. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate to verify their age group for the competition. Eligibility determined by age as of September 1.

Registration begins at 9am. Competition ends at 1pm with the Awards Ceremony.

## New to the Parish?

Contact: Joyce Starosciak  
jastaros@gmail.com  
916-740-4628

The St. John the Baptist Welcoming Ministry is holding two orientation sessions for new parishioners:

- September 11, 3:45 pm
- September 12, 10:15 am

You will get to meet other new parishioners, learn about our ministries, and take a guided tour of the parish facilities. The orientation will end before Mass. Attendance via zoom is an option, if you cannot attend in person. Please contact Joyce to register.

## Submission as Stewardship

We aren't comfortable with the idea of submission. Our society champions equality, and rightly so — but it's a mistake to think that submission is at odds with equality. To submit ourselves fully, we must first be free. We must first be our own masters. God has granted us that freedom with the salvation He offers. We are no longer the slaves of sin. Now He asks us to be subordinate to one another, in the name of Christ.

What a completely uncomfortable task! What He's asking is for us to be subordinate to the person who irritates us the most. The person we really can't stand. The person who doesn't respect us or appreciate what we have to offer. The person we think we're smarter than, more talented than. The person we envy.

That's the real challenge of stewardship, isn't it? Subordination. Inconveniencing myself by giving of time, of money, of relationship. Putting the needs or wants of another above my own when they haven't done anything special to earn it.

I invite you to consider the cross — the most radical expression of submission, and of stewardship, that ever existed. If there was ever someone who deserved superiority, isn't it the God who let Himself be nailed to a tree, who gave so freely of His life, His body, His blood, His everything?

To look at him in his agony is to truly understand the beauty of submission — of laying down what you have for the good of the other.

~ Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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At St. John the Baptist Parish,  
we welcome all  
as members of  
the Body of Christ.

# P R A Y E R

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, August 22nd

7:30am People of the Parish  
 9:00am Billy Halloran+  
 11:30am Bob Miranda+  
 6:00pm Chris Ely

### Monday, August 23rd

6:30am John Uy+  
 8:15am Andrew Bower+

### Tuesday, August 24th

6:30am Aiden Malone+  
 8:15am Jean Melberg+

### Wednesday, August 25th

6:30am Special Intention  
 8:15am Jacklyn Joseph+

### Thursday, August 26th

6:30am Dennis Knight+  
 8:15am Cynthia Gonzalez

### Friday, August 27th

6:30am  
 8:15am Joseph Rico (birthday)

### Saturday, August 28th

5:00pm Agnes Roces (birthday)

## Observances

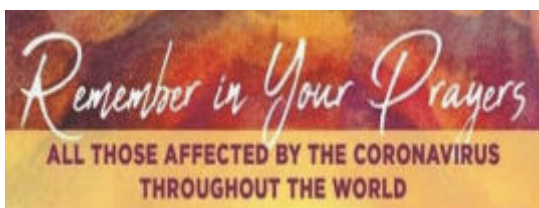
### We Celebrate This Week

**Mon:** St. Rose of Lima  
**Tue:** St. Bartholomew  
**Wed:** St. Louis, St. Joseph Calasanz  
**Fri:** St. Monica  
**Sat:** St. Augustine

### August is Dedicated to: The Immaculate Heart of Mary

### Pope Francis' Monthly Intention for August The Church

Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.



## Intercessory Prayers

### Prayers for the Sick

*We pray for our sick parishioners, family and friends, and those in need of healing of the body and soul.*

Arlis Himmelmann	Kimanh Davis
Baby Terran Smith	Larry Boushey
Bonnie O'Dell	Leopoldo Martinez
Chris Cordova	Lora Iliff
Chris Ely	Lucy Tran
Christopher Kovarik	Margaret Kimball
Colleen Barler	Marelou Montemayor
David Allingham	Melvin Solie
Dennis Barler	Minh Davis
Eberado Madueno	Monica Heffel
Geraldine Giacobazzi	Pierre Lavapie
Gloria Bladel & Family	Roger Boushey
John Bothelio	Sheila Montemayor
Joseph Cardenas	Tom Rawson
Joshua Weidinger	Vickie Lustan
Karen Bookey	

### Prayers for Our Troops

*We pray for our military personnel abroad and at home, and for their families.*

Michael Dalupan

### Prayers for the Recently Deceased

*We pray for the souls of all who have died, our family members, friends, and parishioners. May they rest in peace.*



Alfonso Cruz	Maria Di Costanzo
Andrew Bower	Maria Novello
Bob McIntyre	Marjorie Cutone
Bob Miranda	Martha Ritchey
Bud Geisner	Oliver Deegan
Catherine Squires	Puspa Banka
David Fredericks	Raul Edward Martin
Esperanza Olson Garcia	Robert Coughlin
Fabian Generao	Sister Mary Virginia, RSM
Francisco Henriquiz	Soledad De Maria Urdaneta
Hilarion Aspera	Theresa Ann Collins
Janina Fry	Therese Brelivet
Jong Nam Han	Victorino Vargas
Karen Norris	William Heffel
Luella Heney	
Maria M. Acosta	

### Prayer Requests

Prayer requests for the sick, military or recently deceased may be made by calling our Parish Office. Names will appear for four months.

St. John the Baptist,  
 May we be strengthened by your prayers and good example as we prepare the way for the healing power of Jesus.



At St. John the Baptist Parish, time in conversation with our Lord is at the center of our lives.



## The Adoration Chapel

Chapel hours are: Mon-Fri 9am - 8pm,  
Sat 9am - 5pm and Sun 7am -11am

First Friday of every month Eucharistic Adoration:  
9am to 7pm in the church

The Adoration Ministry has immediate need for dedicated adorers for these hours

Monday:	10 - 11 am	4 - 5 pm	5 - 6 pm	6 - 7 pm			
Tuesday:	4 - 5 pm	6 - 7 pm					
Wednesday:	1 - 2 pm	4 - 5 pm	6 - 7 pm	7 - 8 pm			
Thursday:	9 - 10 am	1 - 2 pm	3 - 4 pm	4 - 5 pm	5 - 6 pm	6 - 7 pm	
Friday:	10 - 11 am	11-12 pm	12 - 1 pm	1 - 2 pm	5 - 6 pm	6 - 7 pm	7 - 8 pm
1st Saturday:	11 - 12 pm	12 - 1 pm	1 - 2 pm	3 - 4 pm	4 - 5 pm		
3rd Saturday:	10 - 11 am	12 - 1 pm	2 - 3 pm	3 - 4 pm			
Sunday	8 - 9 am	9 - 10 am					

To sign up please contact Veronica Thomas at [thomas\\_vera@yahoo.com](mailto:thomas_vera@yahoo.com)

## 40DaysforLife"365"

Contact: Wynette Sills, 916-955-1577  
2322 Butano Drive, Sacramento Contact  
[40DaysForLife.com/Sacramento](http://40DaysForLife.com/Sacramento)

May the Holy Spirit open eyes and hearts to the humanity of children in the womb. Help Save Lives in Sacramento! Come and see what miracles God has planned for you. Our focus is Tuesdays, 8am-4pm, busy surgical abortion days. Carpool from St. John's on Tuesdays, 1pm -3pm. Contact Joanne Dudgeon, 916-607-2228.

## Live Stream Mass

[scd.org/coronavirus/livestream-mass](http://scd.org/coronavirus/livestream-mass)

Please visit the Diocesan page. It lists Parishes which are currently live streaming Sunday and Daily Masses.

## Church Hours

The church is no longer open all day. It will be open according to the scheduled Mass and Confession hours.

## Confession

Saturdays: 3 - 4:30 pm  
and by appointment

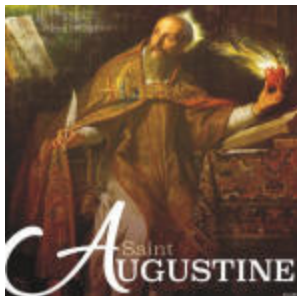
Confessions at this time are offered outside of the confessional. We will continue a face to face format in a larger setting.



## Holiness Runs in the Family

Raising faithful children is no easy task. For St. Monica, it seemed nearly impossible. Her husband wasn't Christian and often mocked her faith. Their son, Augustine, fell quickly into wild

ways. He and his friends drank, stole, and caroused throughout town. Monica never stopped praying for Augustine, no matter how far he strayed. Augustine became swept up in heresy, a false form of Christianity. He lived with a mistress and had a child out of wedlock. All the while, Monica kept praying. Conversion came slowly to Augustine, but at age 32, he was finally baptized. Augustine would go on to become a priest, then bishop, then world-renowned theologian whose works have stood the test of time.



"Faith is to believe what you do not see. The reward of faith is to see what you believe."

August 28

May St. Monica and St. Augustine inspire us to never stop praying for our loved ones.



At St. John the Baptist Parish, time in conversation with our Lord is at the center of our lives.



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At St. John the Baptist Parish,  
we foster a  
commitment to lifelong  
spiritual growth.

### Join The Knights Of Columbus Join Today - Free Membership\*

For new online membership applications submitted the entire month of August. Visit [kofc.org/joinus](http://kofc.org/joinus) enter code: MCGIVNEY2020

\*for 1-year of online membership, regular dues are \$30/year thereafter.



### Inspiration for the Week

Many people give their allegiance to something until it asks them to do something challenging or radical. Then, they find themselves rethinking whether they want to be associated with it. The same holds for God. Either we serve God, or we don't. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God's kingdom, love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, and trust that the Eucharist is in fact Jesus' very Body and Blood. For some, buying into these things may prove too difficult and a return to a life without them is preferred. But truth is truth and it can only be found in God. If we find it hard to accept it from the mouth of Christ, where else can we go to find it? The task before us is to commit to the truth even when it may be easier to pursue something else. Truth is always worth obtaining even when it is difficult. Jesus offers us the truth of life, a life that is found in his own flesh and blood and a life of discipleship.

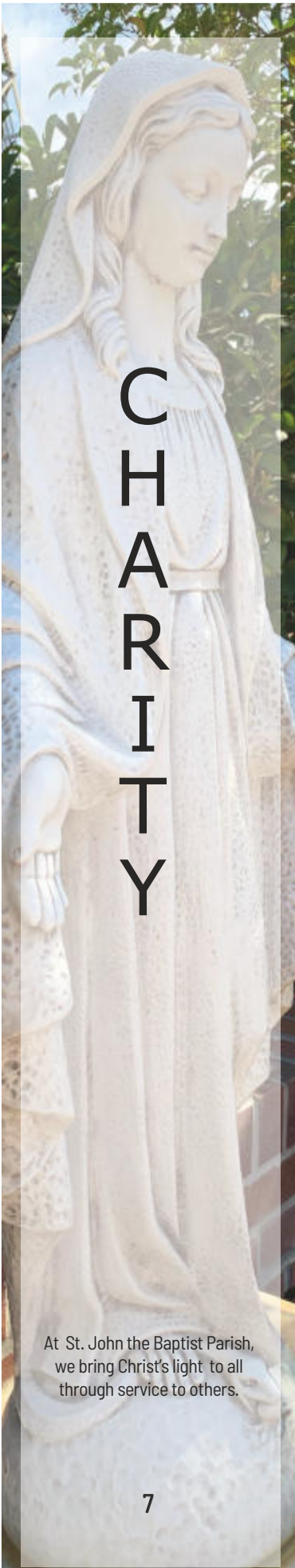


King Louis and Queen Margaret had 11 children. Louis was a strong-willed and strong-minded man with a powerful faith. His word was trusted throughout the kingdom, and his courage in taking action against wrongs was remarkable. King Louis built churches, libraries, hospitals, and orphanages. He treated both princes and commoners equally. His wishes were to be treated the same by the real King of Kings, to whom he pledged to give his life, his family, and his country. To sneak a peek into the heart of this saintly king, one might just read the quote from a letter he gave to his oldest son: "If God send thee adversity, receive it in patience and give thanks to our Savior and bethink thee that thou hast deserved it, and that He will make it turn to thine advantage. If He send thee prosperity, then thank Him humbly, so that thou becomest not worse from pride or any other cause when thou oughtest to be better. For we should not fight against God with his own gifts." *aleteia.org*

Seek to strengthen your relationship with your children by adapting this prayer by St. Louis!

#### St. Louis' Prayer of Blessing for His Son Philip

*May the three Persons of the Holy Trinity and all the saints protect you from every evil. And may the Lord give you the grace to do his will so that he may be served and honored through you, that in the next life we may together come to see him, love him and praise him unceasingly.  
Amen.*



At St. John the Baptist Parish, we bring Christ's light to all through service to others.

## Stewardship of Treasure the Lord Has Entrusted to Us

Weekly goal: \$25,529.00  
Weekly Offerings:  
August 14/15 \$15,830

### Online donations for the month of July

Weekly collection	\$28,942
SVDP	\$1,084
RE/SJND	\$2,291
Maintenance	\$1,788

### 2nd Collection

Thank you for your contribution to last weekend's second collection for the Church in Latin America! Together we collected \$1527.

Many people in Latin America and the Caribbean do not have access to church programs and ministries because of a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers. Your generosity makes it possible for our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean to share in the life of the Church and grow closer to Christ. To learn more, please visit [www.usccb.org/latin-america](http://www.usccb.org/latin-america).

### St. Vincent de Paul

Next weekend the fifth Sunday of the month our second collection will be for St. Vincent de Paul. Donations are used to assist families in our community with rent and utilities, and if needed, to purchase food to restock the pantry. Envelopes will be in the vestibule.

We thank you in advance for your ongoing support. Your donations - financial, food, clothing and household items - have made it possible for us to address the needs of our families. If you have any questions or need information, we are open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon or you can call us at 916-985-4630. May God bless you and your families.



## Loaves and Fishes

August 25, Wednesday

Contact: Cathy Kovarik, 916-353-0688 or Greta Tecson, 916-337-2014

Please consider sharing food again with the homeless at Friendship Park. The Divine Mercy Ministry thanks you for all of your past donations and will appreciate your sharing once again. Most requested are cup-of-soups, peanut butter and cheese crackers, drink boxes and bottled water, breakfast and Nutria-bars, raisins and fruit cups. The large designated cart remains in the vestibule for collecting donations during open church hours. All will be taken down to share August 25. Are you interested in driving or helping serve? Call Greta or Cathy for details.

### Fundraising Dinner

#### 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Bishop Gallegos Maternity Home

September 12, 2021, Sunday

Armaans Palace Event Hall

2301 Longport Ct., Elk Grove, CA 95758

[bgmhsacramento.org/events](http://bgmhsacramento.org/events)

\$85/ per person

5pm Social Hour • 6pm Dinner Service

7pm Program

Three Dinner Entree Choices:

Marinated Tri Tip

Grilled Garlic Herb Chicken

Vegetarian Pasta

(each served with grilled seasonal veggies, roasted Yukon potatoes, & caprese salad)

Space is limited. Reservations will be required and need to be in by August 31, 2021. Questions call (916) 395-3962 ext.105. Please leave a message and a volunteer will return your call.

Send reservations to:

BGMH Dinner:

PO Box 221155. Sacramento, Ca 95822

Please include your telephone number, & dinner selections with your payment.

Buy your Raffle tickets too!

\$10 each or 5 for \$45

Download raffle tickets at [bgmhsacramento.org/events](http://bgmhsacramento.org/events)

# KID'S CORNER

## Sharing the Gospel

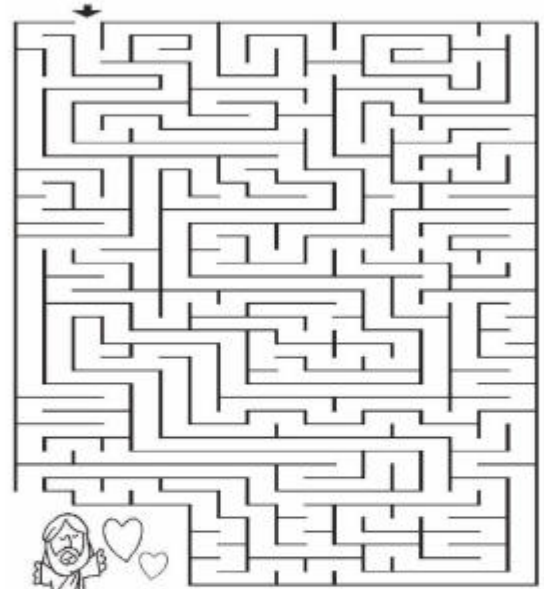
After Jesus compared himself to manna, and said that he was sent from heaven, many of his followers turned away from him. They just could not accept what Jesus was saying. It was too hard for them to understand. We have something they did not have. We have the Holy Spirit to help us. Sometimes what we learn might be hard for us to understand, too, but we never need to walk away. We can have faith in Jesus. We can ask him to help us.

## Mission for the Week

Have you ever learned something about God that was hard to understand? Talk about it with your family, and together pray for each other. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you learn what God wants you to.

## Puzzle

Find your way through the maze to Jesus



## Prayer

Dear God, give me the faith to trust Jesus always. Amen.

## Read the Gospel and Color

Jn 6:60-69



"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."



Our parish is enriched with many ministries, please consider learning about and engaging in one or more of our ministries. Call the contact listed or see a Minister of Hospitality after Mass.

## Welcoming Ministries

### Communications Ministry

Parish Office, 916-985-2065

### Ministers of Hospitality

Shannon Bleeker, 916-200-8059

### New Parishioner Welcoming Ministry

Joyce Starosciak, 916-740-4628

### Ushers

Stanley Posis, 916-705-9192

## Prayer Ministries

### Companioned Prayer

Dcn. Bill Goeke, 916-673-7996

### Divine Mercy Devotion/Cenacle

Zoanne Tafolla, 707-333-7359

-*Chaplet/Rosary/Morning Prayer*

-*Divine Mercy Chaplet/Mass*

-*Cenacle* - Zoanne Tafolla, 707-333-7359

-*Cenacle-Spanish* - Ana Haid, 916-956-1177

### Eucharistic Adoration

Veronica Thomas, thomas\_vera@yahoo.com

*1st Friday of the Month - 9am - 7pm (church),*

*Sign Up for adorers is in the vestibule*

### Marian Cenacle (Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle)

-*English* - 1st Saturday of the month

Sally Gomez, 916-693-2411

-*Spanish* - 2nd Wednesday of the month

Ana Haid, 916-956-1177

### Our Lady of Fatima

Henry Altamirano, 925-899-7769

## Spiritual Growth Ministries

### Adult Scripture Study

Lee & Teresa Weider, 916-983-8065

### Couples for Christ

Myrah Empleo, 661-993-4721

### Praise & Worship

David Brauer, dabrauer@hotmail.com

### Religious Education

Shannon Langer, 916-985-7338

### Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Shannon Langer, 916-985-7338

### Theology on Tap

Aaron Santos, 916-985-2065

### WINGS (Women in Growth Spiritually)

Parish Office, 916-985-2065

### Youth/Young Adults Ministries

Aaron Santos, asantos@folsomcatholic.org

## Parish Committees/Councils

### Finance Council

Joyce Starosciak, 916-740-4628

### Liturgy Committee

Barbara Bowden, 916-984-9476

### Pastoral Council

Shannon Frazier, 916-761-2912

## Outreach/Charity Ministries

### Bereavement Hospitality/Receptions

Nina Pucci, 916-947-6386

### Catholics for Life

Kathy Baxter, 916-337-6824

### Gabriel Project

Debbie Sultan, 916-337-5786

### Grace Quilters Ministry

Catherine Scott, 831-402-4681

### Grupo Pastoral Hispano

Rommel Hernández, 530-387-1009

### Knights of Columbus

Hugo Schmidt, 916-817-4541

### Pastoral Care Ministry

Dan Dunne, 916-817-1675; Sunday

Candice Ralston, 916-806-8090; Tuesday

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

Catherine Scott, 831-402-4681

### Prison/Restorative Justice Ministry

-Folsom Prison - Fr. H. Gomez, 916-985-2561 x 4206

-CSP Sacramento - Greg Mellor,  
Catholic Chaplain, 916-985-8610 x6425

### School Ministry (St. John Notre Dame)

Keith Martin, Principal, 916-985-4129

### Senior Visitation

Charlene Agles, 916-984-9602

### St. Vincent de Paul (Helping Hands)

Mercy Knight, 916-985-4630

## Liturgical Ministries

### Altar Servers

Hugo Schmidt, 916-817-4541

### Children's Liturgy during Mass

Shannon Langer, 916-985-7338

### Extraord. Ministers of Holy Communion

Steve & Maryanne Ashley, 916-479-2214

### Lectors

Patti Midtlyng, 916-837-8322

### Liturgical Environment

Arlette Peterson, 916-220-5968

**Music** - See choir director after Mass.

## Additional Ministries

### Children's Babysitting at Mass

Georgia Oatmeyer, 916-201-3193

### Family Fellowship

Carol Stephenson, 916-952-6744

### Gift Shop

Connie Aley, 916-984-9284

### Women's Game Day

Roberta Puzio, 916-933-2561

# MINISTRIES

"Here am I, Lord;  
I come to do your will."



*“Taking an active part in society belongs to the baptismal mission of every Christian in accordance with his or her state in life, but the permanent deacon has a special witness to give.”*

—Pope John Paul II

### What is a transitional deacon?

There are two types of deacons in the church. Both are members of the clergy. Both have the same liturgical role. Both have the service of the community as their primary work.

One is called a permanent deacon, usually a married man ordained as a deacon with no intention of becoming a priest. They preach, baptize, witness marriages, conduct funeral services, and look after the needs of the poor. They also visit the sick and take Communion to them, although they cannot celebrate the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. They might also assist the pastor in his administrative duties. Permanent deacons are usually well known and respected in their communities and have roots there.

A transitional deacon is one who functions as a deacon for a period of time prior to ordination as a priest. His diaconate assignment serves as a kind of internship of ordained ministry. During his year or two as a deacon, he will learn the practical aspects of parish life, getting a firsthand look at the life of a priest. His work has a different focus than a permanent deacon in that he is looking forward to ordination as a priest.

### Becoming a deacons is something I am considering. How do I know if I have a vocation? What steps should I take next?

Any and all gifts that the Holy Spirit gives to the church are for the good of the community. As members of the Body of Christ, what one member does affects all. What the body does also affects each member. A vocation or call to ministry is tested and verified by the church. Through prayer, instruction, and service, a vocation is tested, and then acknowledged by the official call to orders or to service.

If you are considering becoming a deacon, the first step would be to talk to your pastor. He will be able to give you more specific information on the program in your diocese, what is expected of you, and how you apply. You might also begin to see a spiritual director, someone who can help you with your faith journey and vocation discernment. They do so by focusing on prayer, your relationship with God, and spiritual practices. Finally, you'll need to see the diocesan vocation director in charge of deacons to apply. Best wishes!

Funeral • Mortuary • Cremation • Cemetery



**916-452-4831**

**Stephen Ruch**  
Family Service Advisor



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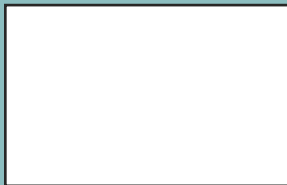
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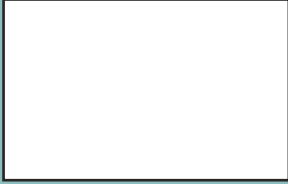


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