



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Catholic Church

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:32-34

Sacraments

Weekend Mass Times

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

1st 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

September 12	August 31
September 19	September 9
September 26	September 16

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

Is 35:4-7a / Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b] / Jas 2:1-5 / Mk 7:31-37

"Praise the Lord, my soul! "

(Ps 146)

Gospel Meditation

From the time we are born into this world until we die, our human radar picks up signals about how to respond to life. What we picked up on when we were very young carries an even greater power. The messages we receive and process tell us what we are "supposed" to do with our feelings, how to understand and cope with disappointment, anxiety, failure, death, illness, and what to expect out of life. As life unfolds for us, these radar messages kick in and resonate in us at very deep levels. Sometimes what we have learned is helpful and sometimes it is not. The stories we have been told, especially when we are young, about how life is best lived and how to negotiate its pain carry a heavy weight.

Life can be challenging and frightening. Sometimes, it really hurts to be a human being. It also can be quite unpredictable and, at times, unfair. We face our vulnerability and brokenness of all kinds: physical, emotional, and spiritual. It doesn't take much for life to quickly fall apart. What we knew to be familiar and true is gone and something we relied upon, physically, emotionally, or spiritually, can be taken away. It is hard to confront our limitations and sit with our incompleteness. Often, life hurts us so much that we find ourselves sitting in a pool of sadness, not sure what we are supposed to do. It is particularly hard when the signals we have inherited tell us that we need to be successful in what we do, and we have to avoid life's unfairness. We can feel like a failure, wondering what precisely we did to deserve this fate, or ruminate about what we did not do correctly. But it's really not about us.

We are part of a bigger picture and a much more fascinating story!

If we cease doing battle with life's incompleteness and see ourselves, as God does, on a journey toward wholeness and completeness we can better accept our disappointments and stand firm. The prophets told us, and Jesus reassured us: Be strong! Fear not! Sometimes we have to update our stories and replace them with newer, more accurate ones. When we make God's story our own and tune our radar into His voice, what we hear is all about restoration, healing, and rejuvenation! This is true even when we think we have hit rock bottom and can go no further. There is always hope. Remember the words of Julian of Norwich: God made us, God loves us, and God keeps us. Now, listen to God when He says, "be opened!"

Be healed and allow your stories to change.

Scripture Reflections

First Reading

The prophet Isaiah spoke of the importance of being strong of heart when it comes the ways of God. Why do you think this is such an important virtue?

Second Reading

James encouraged believers to view the rich and poor from God's perspective.

Why do you think people struggle with this divine point of view?

Gospel

In today's reading, we hear how Jesus healed the deaf man with a speech impediment at the request of the "people" close to this man. Who do you know in your life who needs healing from Jesus?



Knights of Columbus

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 EM / Lector Recruitments

Contact: Steve Ashley
norcalashley@gmail.com

St. John's is looking for prayerful, practicing members of our parish that would like to participate more fully in the Mass through ministry as Eucharistic Ministers or Lectors. Now that we are back to full participation in Masses and with the holidays approaching, we need your help.

One-Day Training for EMs is planned for

- Sunday 9/26 (1pm-2:30pm) or
- Tuesday 9/28 (6pm-7:30pm)

One-Day Training for LECTORS is scheduled for

- Sunday 10/10 (1pm-3pm) or
- Wednesday 10/13 (6pm-8pm)

Sign-ups for either EM or LECTOR are on a table in the back, located in the Narthex in front of the sacristy window. We urge you to consider joining either of these spiritually fulfilling ministries in service to our parish and the Lord.

Parish Office Closed for Labor Day

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 6.

Senior Visitation Ministry

Who We Are

Contact: Charlene Agles
charleneagles@gmail.com, 916-984-9602

We are a group of dedicated compassionate individuals, from St. John's Parish, who volunteer their time in visiting the homebound and elderly in our community who live alone or in an assisted living facility. During their visits they may offer Spiritual and Emotional Support, Companionship and Socialization. Men, women, and couples are welcome to have visits from our Ministry.

If you are interested in having someone visit you, a relative, friend, acquaintance or may be aware of anyone that would benefit from our Ministry, please contact the Parish Office, go to the Parish website, or contact Charlene. There are brochures in the church vestibule. We are hoping to be able to start visiting again in the very near future.

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.



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



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

Mass Intentions

Sunday, September 5th

7:30am Dave Vuylsteke
 9:00am Jordyn Pagan (birthday)
 11:30am Bill Valentine (birthday)
 1:30pm Trinidad Gaytan†
 6:00pm Cathy Kovarik (healing)

Monday, September 6th

10:00am

Tuesday, September 7th

6:30am
 8:15am Denise Peterson

Wednesday, September 8th

6:30am Eddie Campos†
 8:15am Sumarni Basuel

Thursday, September 9th

6:30am Theresa Montemayor (healing)
 8:15am Judith Fukushima (birthday)

Friday, September 10th

6:30am Lorenza Mejia†
 8:15am Nicolas Gomez†

Saturday, September 11th

5:00pm Mary Baker†

Observances

We Celebrate This Week

Wed: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thu: St. Peter Claver

Sat: Patriot Day

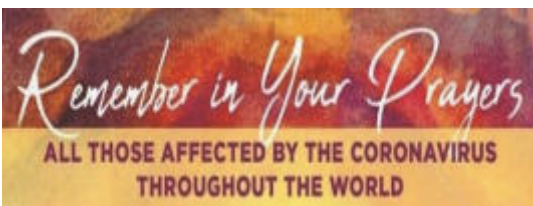
September is Dedicated to: The Seven Sorrows (or Dolours) of Mary

Pope Francis'

Monthly Intention for September

An environmentally sustainable lifestyle

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



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	Karen Bookey
Baby Terran Smith	Kimanh Davis
Bonnie O'Dell	Larry Boushey
Cathy Kovarik	Leopoldo Martinez
Chris Cordova	Lora Iliff
Chris Ely	Lucy Tran
Colleen Barler	Margaret Kimball
Dave Asmus	Marelou Montemayor
Dave Loveall	Melvin Solie
David Allingham	Michael Sullivan
Dennis Barler	Minh Davis
Dorothy Wilhite	Monica Heffel
Eberado Madueno	Pierre Lavapie
Geraldine Giacomazzi	Roger Boushey
Hardip Dosangh	Snyder Family
John Bothelio	Tom Rawson
Joseph Cardenas	Vickie Lustan
Joshua Weidinger	

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.



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

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.



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

40DaysforLife"365"

Contact: Wynette Sills, 916-955-1577
2322 Butano Drive, Sacramento Contact
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

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.



Labor Day Blessing

This day has its foundation in the union organizing history of our country and the rise of the workers to strive for a better life. Let us remember today all those who labored to obtain for us the right to work in a safe environment with decent wages.

Let us pray...

*Lord of work and play, we pray to you today.
You worked for six days,
creating all that we see and sense around us.
On the seventh day you rested
and saw that everything you had made
was good.*

*Today on our national day of rest from labor,
we thank you for the gift of leisure,
and remember all who have gone before us,
working hard, long hours without break and
good pay so that we can appreciate the gifts
of family and friends
and enjoy safety and prosperity in the work
of our hands.*

Amen.



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.

Praise and Worship

September 8, Wednesday, 6:30 pm

Contact: David Brauer
dabrauer@hotmail.com

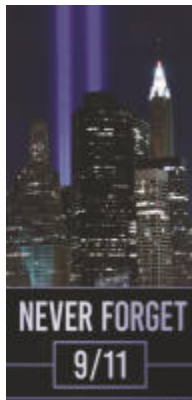
Join us for an evening of inspiring music and powerful prayer with Praise and Worship! Praise and Worship will be in person in the Church. We hope you join us!

NorCal ON FiRE Jam

September 18, Saturday, 9:00 – 8:30pm

Contact: Aaron Santos
asantos@folsomcatholic.org or
916-985-2065

ON FIRE 2021 will be live and in-person at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom. We will be together again with youth and young adults from the 9 Northern California and Nevada dioceses for a day of fellowship, prayer, and fun! We will start with a Mass with bishops from the sponsoring diocese, have an all you can eat lunch, time to go on rides, and be inspired by our speakers Fr. Radmar Jao, SJ and Sr. Josephine Garrett. Please contact Aaron if you are interested in purchasing tickets.



Blessing for the Fallen of 9-11

God of mercy,
in your word of Scripture,
you instruct us to “Do to
others as you would have
them do to you.”

Give us today the courage to
assist those around us who
may need our assistance.
Give us patience when we
become impatient.

Remind us to pray for all those who
perished on United Airlines 93,
American Airlines 11, United Airlines 175,
American Airlines 77, and those in the
Twin Towers and Pentagon.

Give us a heart thankful for those who gave
their lives as first responders, as did the
men and women who ran into danger to
be of aid.

We ask all this in the name of the One
who first responded to our need for a
savior, Jesus the Christ.

Amen.

THE GOSPEL OF MARK

A 10-Week on line series by

Deacon Jim McFadden

9/14/21-11/16/21 , 7:00 pm-8:30pm

Via Zoom

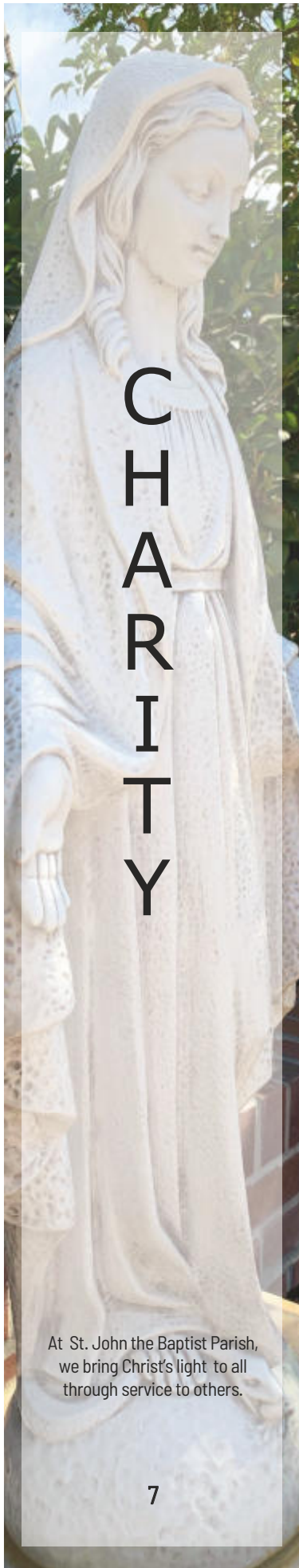
Contact: Theresa Grant
tgrant@talkpathlive.com

- Sept 14: *Mark Among the Gospels*
- Sept 21: *Preparing for Christ's Ministry*
- Sept 28: *The Ministry Begins*
- Oct 5: *Understanding the Kingdom via Parables*
- Oct 12: *Sea Crossings and Picnics*
- Oct 19: *Legalism and Genuine Faith*
- Oct 26: *The Mystery Begins to be Revealed*
- Nov 2: *The Full Revelation of the Mystery*
- Nov 9: *Speaking the Truth*
- Nov 16: *The Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus*

To register for the series, please email Theresa Grant. You will receive an email prior to the scheduled session with the Zoom link & instructions. Please check your spam/junk mail in case you do not receive the email in your inbox.

Inspiration for the Week

Life can be challenging and frightening. Sometimes, it really hurts to be a human being. We face brokenness of all kinds: physical, emotional, and spiritual. For no apparent reason, life can quickly fall apart. What we knew to be familiar is gone and something we relied upon is taken away. We are left sitting with our incompleteness and swimming in the pools of our sadness. Be strong! Fear not! These admonitions flow from the mouths of prophets and are echoed by Jesus. It is difficult to trust that restoration, healing, and rejuvenation will one day come, and remain steadfast in our faith. But we are here because of a God who loves us, not as the result of a random occurrence. When we reach for that truth about who we are and who God is, life changes for us. We are healed from our old distorted way of seeing things. Our eyes, heart, and soul are opened to the beauty and magnificence of life. The pulse of our loving Creator is felt in all things and we can't wait for God to come and touch us again. God made us, God loves us, and God keeps us. He has done all things well.



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

2nd Collection

Thank you for your supporting last weekend's second collection for St. Vincent de Paul. Together we collected \$2669.

This weekend our second collection will be for our RE Program and SJND.

Loaves and Fishes

"The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor."
Proverbs 22:9

The Divine Mercy Ministry would like to thank all of our St. John community for sharing in their abundance with those less fortunate and helping to support our Feeding the Homeless Ministry with Loaves and Fishes. We loaded up two vans full of packaged and fresh food and delivered them to Loaves and Fishes on August 25th. Thank you to our coordinators, Greta Tecson and Cathy Kovarik for their tireless work in helping those at Friendship Park. Thank you Queenie Halog and Christine Pham for delivering our gift. What a blessing and witness you are to all those around us.

Your Corporal Works of Mercy will not go unnoticed! Our next food drive to benefit the needs at Loaves and Fishes Friendship Park will be September 22nd. The large designated cart remains in the vestibule for collecting donations during church's open hours. Thank you for your generosity.

"Only humility will lead us to unity, and unity will lead to peace."

September 5

St. Teresa of Kolkata

Stewardship of Treasure the Lord Has Entrusted to Us

Weekly goal: \$25,529.00

Weekly Offerings:

August 28/29 \$12,046

Our Sincere Gratitude

Thank you to those who have been so generous to the parish with their contributions.

If you are unable to attend Mass, please use online giving or your weekly envelopes can be mailed to the parish office. Again "Thank You" for your continued support.

Choosing Deafness

If you're a parent, you know that hearing evaluations are usually done at a child's annual physical exam starting around age four. The little person gets hoisted up onto the exam table, fitted with a pair of special headphones, and then they need raise their hand when they hear a sound.

I bet all of us parents who have sat through one of these tests with a preschooler — especially a particularly strong-willed one — have experienced a moment where we ask ourselves: I wonder if there's something wrong with her hearing. Is that why she doesn't listen to me? 'Come here, put on your shoes, pick up your toys, finish your carrots, don't touch that' — she isn't being naughty, she just can't hear it!

And then that moment, for those of us whose kids passed the hearing test with flying colors, comes crashing down into a realization that, yep, they can hear just fine. They're just choosing deafness.

But how can we really get mad when we remember that we do the same thing to God day in and day out? I often wonder if God, sitting in His Heaven, tires of calling to us in the same way young parents tire of calling out unheeded directions to their small children. Help that person. Hear My voice. Open your heart. Give of yourself here. Talk to Me.

What is the call He wishes you to hear today? Can you hear it? Are you listening?

~ Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Sharing the Gospel

Imagine what it would be like to be deaf-unable to hear music, voices or anything. In today's Gospel reading, Jesus did something amazing. Jesus healed a deaf man, so that for the first time he could hear and talk clearly. What would you listen to? What would you say?



Puzzle

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel

GALILEE
DEAF
TALK

TOUCH
FINGERS
EARS

SPIT
TONGUE
AMAZED

O	D	L	A	D	H	M	A	C	D
F	T	O	N	G	U	E	R	O	G
N	A	D	W	A	B	G	I	S	N
H	L	I	N	L	M	D	E	A	F
J	K	S	P	I	T	S	A	U	I
L	E	O	H	L	V	I	R	E	N
A	M	A	Z	E	D	K	S	O	G
W	H	F	B	E	O	B	T	I	E
E	L	T	O	U	C	H	M	L	R
T	M	N	G	S	W	I	E	K	S

Mission for the Week

Go to the library and find out how to say "Jesus loves you" in sign language. On the way home, pretend you cannot hear or speak.



Prayer

Dear God, you are so amazing. Thank you for healing the deaf man. Help me to use my ears and my voice to praise you.

Read the Gospel and Color

Mk 7:31-37



"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

Parish Office, 916-985-2065

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

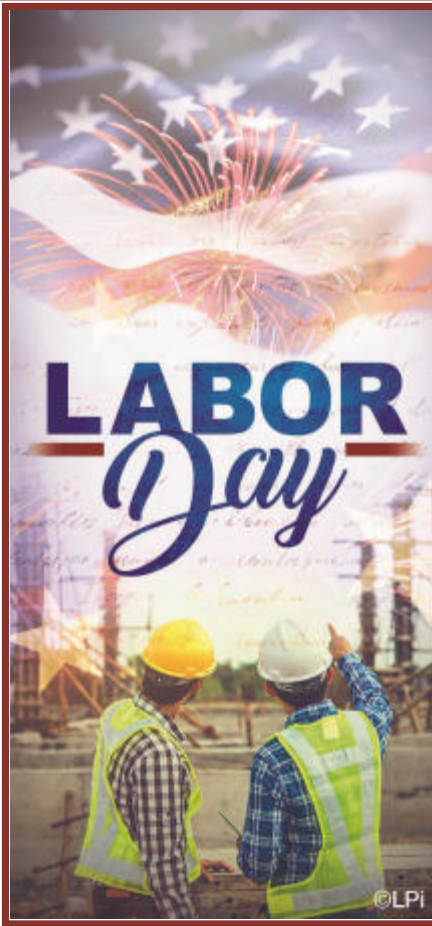
Connie Aley, 916-984-9284

Women's Game Day

Roberta Puzio, 916-933-2561

MINISTRIES

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



As we celebrate Labor Day, can you tell me about Catholic teaching regarding labor?

One of the most important principles of Catholic social teaching is the dignity of work and the rights of workers. Four encyclicals address this foundational social teaching: *Rerum Novarum* (1891) by Leo XIII, *Quadragesimo Anno* (1931) by Pius XI, *Laborem Exercens* (1981), and *Centesimus Annus* (1991) by John Paul II. They address both the theology and dignity of work. In Genesis, God takes the initiative in creating the world, calling forth human beings to be faithful stewards of creation. We are thus formed to share in God's continuing creative activity by partnering with God in finishing the world and helping bring it to completion and fulfillment. From this perspective, work can be spiritually understood in terms of sharing in God's ongoing activity to build, create, and transform the world. Human beings are co-creators with God. This vocation demands self-discipline.

Besides an exercise in self-discipline, work is also the means by which we develop and fulfill ourselves. In work, we shape the world and our environment. Through work, we also shape ourselves. Pope John Paul II summarized this point in *Laborem Exercens* #6, "the value of work is not primarily the kind of work being done, but the fact that the one who is doing it is a person."

Labor Day offers an excellent opportunity to reflect on how we view work in light of our Catholic social teaching.

Funeral • Mortuary • Cremation • Cemetery



916-452-4831

Stephen Ruch
Family Service Advisor

 CATHOLIC FUNERAL & CEMETERY SERVICES OF THE DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

St. Mary Cemetery & Funeral Center (916) 452-4831
Sacramento, CA
Calvary Cemetery & Funeral Center (916) 452-4831
Citrus Heights, CA



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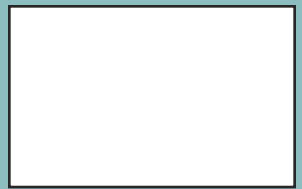
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