ADORATION: Thursdays from 12:00 - 8:00 PM
HOLY DAYS: VIGIL MASS 7:00 AM, 7:00 PM
RECONCILIATION: Saturdays from 3:00 to 4:00 PM
**Parish & School Staff**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fr. Anthony Huong Le, Parochial Administrator</td>
<td>(925) 228—2230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon Albert Dizon</td>
<td>Ext. 7 <a href="mailto:dcnadizon@yahoo.com">dcnadizon@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon David Holland</td>
<td>Ext. 7 <a href="mailto:dcndholland@yahoo.com">dcndholland@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sylvia Lloren</td>
<td>Ext 2 <a href="mailto:stcathmtz@yahoo.com">stcathmtz@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Administrator/ Sacramental Coordinator</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stcmtz.org">www.stcmtz.org</a> or Sylvia at Ext 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troy Killorn</td>
<td>Ext 3 <a href="mailto:stkillorn@aol.com">stkillorn@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Music Ministry / Maintenance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Glen</td>
<td>Ext 4 <a href="mailto:bkrpstcath@yahoo.com">bkrpstcath@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Watkins</td>
<td>Ext 5 <a href="mailto:drestcath@yahoo.com">drestcath@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul &amp; Jennifer Holland</td>
<td>Ext 8 <a href="mailto:stcathym@gmail.com">stcathym@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-coordinators, Confirmation Program / Youth Group</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Location: 606 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish Office and 1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone / Fax: 925-228-2230 / 925-228-1318</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish Website: <a href="http://www.stcmtz.org">www.stcmtz.org</a></td>
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<td>Parish Email: <a href="mailto:stcathmtz@yahoo.com">stcathmtz@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Hours:</td>
<td>Mon-Thur. 8:30 AM - 1 PM</td>
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<td>2:00 PM - 5 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday: 8:30 AM - 1 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Griswold, Principal</td>
<td>(925) 228-4140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Catherine Elementary School</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jgriswold@csdo.org">jgriswold@csdo.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mea Auld, Pre-School Director</td>
<td>(925) 229-2255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:sscpreschool@comcast.net">sscpreschool@comcast.net</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:mauld@csdo.org">mauld@csdo.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School K-8:</td>
<td>604 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone / Fax: 925-228-4140 / 925-228-0697</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours:</td>
<td>9AM –2 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Website: <a href="http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com/">http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre School:</td>
<td>1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone / Fax: 925-229-2255 / 925-229-2474</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safe Environment: <a href="http://www.virtusonline.org">www.virtusonline.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bulletin Submissions Deadlines:</td>
<td>All requests must be submitted no later than August 23 by noon for the August 31, 2019 bulletin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Please direct your inquiries to: <a href="mailto:stcathmtz@yahoo.com">stcathmtz@yahoo.com</a></td>
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</table>

**Sacramental Information**

**Baptisms:**
Registration is mandatory two months prior to Baptism month. Please call the office to make an appointment once you have your documents ready. Parents & Godparents are required to attend a mandatory Baptism preparation class one month before reception of the Sacrament. All information regarding requirements and schedules can be found on the website at [www.stcmtz.org](http://www.stcmtz.org) or Sylvia at Ext 2.

**Confirmation:**
The Religious Education Program Registration continues **August 25th** after all masses and classes start in September. The First Holy Communion program is a two year program. All other classes are one year (K-8).

drestcath@yahoo.com or Andrea at Ext 5

**Marriages:**
Arrangements and mandatory preparation need to be arranged at least eight months prior to the wedding. No dates can be set prior to an initial meeting with a priest. No exceptions.

[www.stcmtz.org](http://www.stcmtz.org) or Sylvia at Ext 2

**Reconciliation:**
Confession times are weekly on Saturday’s from 3:00 - 4:00 PM and by appointment.

**Anointing of the Sick:**
The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is the continuation of the Lord’s compassion for the sick. The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is one of two sacraments which heals and saves the baptized person from sin. The other sacrament of healing is Penance. For an anointing during working hours, please call the Parish office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Funerals:</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services at 925-932-0900. A representative will contact the parish office to coordinate your arrangements.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

[www.stcmtz.org](http://www.stcmtz.org) or Sylvia at Ext 2

**RCIA: “Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults”**
Are you interested in becoming Catholic?
Do you need Adult Baptism?
Holy Eucharist (Communion)? Confirmation?
St. Catherine offers a friendly and supportive program. Please call the office (925) 228-2230 ext. 4 or Karen for more information.
FACILITIES
To assure that our Church and facilities testify to the greater honor and glory of God.

There was always something other worldly

There was always something other worldly about St. Catherine’s interior. It is remarkably beautiful with great proportionality. It just swims in your mind before it enters your soul. For years I took it for granted, while attending Mass there nearly every morning before work. By for granted, I mean being a part of something’s essence, yet coming and going nonchalantly. The whole place is a thing of great beauty because the whole place is a big piece of art. We know that is true, yet we use it like a tool. A tool to get us someplace in holiness or to where our faith calls us. Living in a state of grace.

We are all trying to get there but still full of grime. As it turns out, Our Church, the great St. Catherine’s, was no different after all.

It has needed to be cleaned and shined for a long time. I, like most of our Parishioners, resisted that and said, “No, don’t touch it”. Fortunately, Father Anthony Le, our Pastor went ahead anyway. He was right! I will never forget, walking into St. Catherine’s one recent evening and seeing all the pews removed with big heavy industrial scaffolding across the floor and tarps everywhere. Up at the top was Troy our music director replacing our beautiful yellow chandeliers with white ones. I didn’t like it, then I realized he was not replacing them but rather cleaning them. Wiping away sixty years of yellow grime so that the white lights of God’s Glory could be seen as they were meant to be seen. I also realized Father Anthony’s diagnosis of St. Catherine’s was accurate when he first came to our Parish two years ago. He told us that everything needed to be cleaned. Not just our souls but our Church too. Now, I say, “Amen to that!”

Tom Greerty

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Welcome Cross Catholic Outreach
Sunday, 8/25 Twenty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time
Faith Formation and Confirmation
Registration after all Masses

8:00 AM PH Hospitality—Thank you! Young Ladies Institute

Monday, 8/26
7:30 AM CH Rosary
5:00 AM PH Back to School Night
6:45 PM TBD San Lorenzo Ruiz Mtg.

Tuesday, 8/27
7:30 AM CH Rosary
9:00 AM CH STC School Practice
6:00 PM CH Choir Rehearsal
7:00 PM TBD Scripture Reflection with Clergy
7:30 PM CH Spanish Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, 8/28
7:30 AM CH Rosary
8:00 AM PH STC School Pictures—Lifetouch
2:30 PM CH Children’s Choir
6:15 PM CH Ignite Bible Study
6:30 PM CH Legion of Mary
7:00 PM TBD RCIA Class Rm 210

Thursday, 8/29
7:30 AM CH Rosary
12:00 PM CH Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, 8/30
7:30 AM CH Rosary

Saturday, 8/31
7:30 AM CH Rosary
3:00 PM CH Reconciliation
12:00 PM PH Ignite Bible Study

Sunday, 9/1
8:00 AM PH Hospitality - TBD

CH = Church
PH = Parish Hall
RC = Rectory
YD = School Yard
YS: Youth Shack

St Catherine of Siena Cemetery Volunteer Cleanup Day

Saturday Sept 7, 2019
8:30am -12

10 Carquinez Scenic Drive
Martinez

Join in making our cemetery a better place. Opportunities to sweep, prune, weed, paint.

Please bring gloves, drinking water, hat, garden tools, sunscreen

For more information, please contact
Steve Gallo 510 725-2193
17 WAYS TO SHARE THE EUCHARIST
( By Tom Hoopes | Aug 12, 2019)

If each of us told five people about the Eucharist, and they each told five, and so on ...
The news was depressing, to say the least: A Pew Research Center poll generated headlines announcing that only 30% of American Catholics believe what the Church believes about the Eucharist — that it is the Real Presence of Jesus Christ, and not merely a symbol.

Who’s to blame for that? We all have our guesses, I’m sure — but I also know that, in a crisis, assigning blame isn’t the top priority. Stopping the crisis is.
The truth is, if we want to correct the misunderstandings about the Eucharist, the only place we can start is with ourselves and the people we can personally reach.

If each of us told five people about the Eucharist, and they each told five, and so on — well, that would start to register a big difference.

Where to start? Here are 17 suggestions.

Talk about the Eucharist in the news
It may be hard to introduce “the Eucharist” as a topic of conversation. But we all talk about the news.

1: Talk about the poll.
The Pew poll itself made news, so that’s worth talking about.

I, for one, am always wary of secular polls asking about Catholic things. So I read the poll. Pew gave Catholics two choices regarding what they believe about the bread and wine used in communion: “They become actual body and blood of Christ,” and “They are symbols of the body and blood of Christ.”

But Catholics don’t talk about “actual body and blood” — we say “Real Presence.” And Catholics do talk about how sacraments are “symbols that affect what they signify.” I wonder how it would have turned out if Pew used Catholic language in the poll, asking about “Real Presence” vs. “merely symbols”? (Actually, these Catholic researchers had the same thought.)

2: Talk about Satanic Mass stories.
Anyway, talk about the poll. And talk about other news stories about the Eucharist. Satanists, it seems, have real faith in the Eucharist, as the recent Oklahoma City case attests.

Or talk about other recent attacks on the Eucharist.

3: Talk about Eucharistic miracles.

Another great conversation topic is Eucharistic miracles. Astounding stories spotlight Jesus’ Real Presence — both from history and from our own time.

Talk about your personal experience
What is most convincing, however, is your own life.

4: Mention your own Sunday Mass experience.

When a coworker asks “So, what did you do this weekend?” have you ever considered answering something like, “We were crazy busy, but you know what? Mass was amazing. I love Sunday Mass. The homily isn’t always great, but the Eucharist gives me such peace”?

5: Share your personal story.
Or, when conversations turn to swapping life stories, have you ever considered mentioning the most important thing in your life: The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist?

“I loved my first Communion,” begins one story. “I stopped going to Mass for years, and it was great to be back,” goes another. Or maybe you have more dramatic ones. (I do.)

6: Show off your kids’ First Communion photos.
We display graduation pictures, sports pictures, performance pictures — why not show those great pictures of your kids dressed up for First Communion in the pictures on the mantelpiece? Then explain why that day is special.

Post your Eucharistic faith on social media
Social media is a powerful tool that no previous generation had. Use it for Jesus.

7: Post requests for Holy Hour prayer intentions (do it a day in advance!). I always love when people do this. I am also always frustrated when I notice that they posted the request five hours ago and that they’re back home already.

8: Post about your family’s First Communion anniversaries as you do wedding anniversaries.

See No. 6 above. These are great pictures.

9: Post Aleteia stories about the Eucharist.
Everyone has their favorite. I love “She was headed to adoration at 3 a.m. when 6 armed men stopped her,” “Scouts in Adoration,” the dying priest’s first Mass in the hospital, and, of course, “How One Adoration Chapel Touched Countless Lives.”

Invite someone to encounter the Eucharist

There are many non-threatening ways to introduce the Eucharist.

10: Show a Eucharistic movie.
Do you watch movies with people? Watch one of these.

11: Read a Eucharistic novel.
Do you have a book club? Sneak in Brideshead Revisited, The Power and the Glory, or anything by Flannery O’Connor, then quote her saying of the Eucharist “if it’s just a symbol, to hell with it!”

12: Invite someone to Mass!
Back when we lived in a bigger city, we used to invite someone to Mass once a month. You would be surprised how many people say yes. Go to breakfast afterwards to talk about what just happened. (And tell them why you go each week.)

Personally recommit to the Eucharist

Of course, the first person to convince about the Eucharist is yourself.

13: Read up on the Real Presence.
Try Brant Pitre’s book Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist, Scott Hahn’s The Fourth Cup or The Lamb’s Supper, or try the great Vinny Flynn’s 7 Secrets of the Eucharist and 21 Ways to Worship.

14: Get closer to Jesus in the Mass.

Here’s how.

15: Visit Him more often — for a few minutes, or for 60.
I teach my kids what a brief tabernacle visit looks like. Holy hours are also powerful, for the old and the young. Here’s a minute-by-minute guide.

Seek intercession
Seek help! Some powerful saints can aid us.

16: Pray to the martyrs of the Eucharist.
Those who died for the Eucharist will surely want to help.

17: Pray to Eucharistic saints.

Last, seek help from saints of the Eucharist. Well, I guess that’s every saint.

But some have some great stories associating them with the Eucharist.

St. Philip Neri, pray for us! St. Thomas Aquinas, pray for us!
St. Anthony of Padua, pray for us!

Venerable Fulton Sheen, pray for us!
July 19, 2019

St. Catherine Of Siena Church
1125 Ferry Street
Martinez CA 94553-1720

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I have had the honor and privilege of serving on the board of directors of Cross Catholic Outreach for many years, and I urge you to join with us in a new partnership to serve the poor in Latin America through a special relationship with the Populorum Progressio Foundation.

When St. Pope John Paul II founded the Populorum Progressio Foundation more than 25 years ago, its mission was to show the love of God and support of the Holy Father to as many poor communities in Latin America and the Caribbean as possible. Today, Populorum Progressio is part of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, and its objective is to be an institution to show the Pope’s closeness to the people who lack the most essential goods to live and who are often overlooked by society.

At the request of Cardinal Turkson, prefect of the dicastery, Cross Catholic Outreach is forming a long-term collaboration with Populorum Progressio and has committed to fund 17 projects in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Peru.

In the Scriptures, when St. Paul called upon the early churches to support one another, he demonstrated the power of love in action. I am asking you to do the same. "For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works," Ephesians 2:10 records.

God has prepared us for these good works today, just as he did in St. Paul’s day. Please take a look at the enclosed document, where you will read about our combined mission to serve the poor. You can help feed the hungry, heal the sick, empower the powerless and attend to the urgent needs of those who need it most.

In Christ,

+ Thomas J. Rodi

Most Rev. Thomas J. Rodi
Chairman, Cross Catholic Outreach Board of Directors
HOSPITALITY
To form a joyful family community that reaches out and receives one another as Christ reaches out and receives us.

The volunteers for the Hospitality Team of the Five Years of Grace will be meeting soon.
If the Holy Spirit is moving you to volunteer but you need more information and have questions, please contact Debbie Pelizarri at 925-370-3874 and leave a message; or, send an email debpelizzari@comcast.net.
We are still in need of volunteers from the Spanish Community.
Many hands make light work.
Thank you.

Si usted es miembro de la comunidad hispana y desea unirse al equipo de hospitalidad, favor comuníquese con Debbie Pelizzari al 925-370-3874 o debpelizzari@comcast.net.
Si es posible, deje un mensaje en inglés. Gracias.

St. Catherine Youth Team Leaders and Alumni enjoy spending time together at Art in the Park selling soft drinks and water. All proceeds benefit the youth confirmation program. If your high schooler is interested in the 1 year Youth Confirmation program please contact Paul or Jenny Holland at (925) 228-2230 Ext 8 or

StEWARDSHIP
To create a culture in the parish rooted in gratitude and generosity.

August 18, 2019
WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Collection</td>
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<tr>
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</table>

StEWARDSHIP
To create a culture in the parish rooted in gratitude and generosity.

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Gluten-Free Hosts now available
Please inform Fr. Anthony or one of the Deacons of your request before the mass so they can prepare for the communion.

Hospitality Sunday
Are you interested in taking part in the welcoming and hospitality of our parish community?
Hosts are still needed for:
- September 1
- November 3, 10, 24
- December 29

Individuals, organizations, and ministries are invited to host. Please email or call the parish office to sign-up.
INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Mass Intentions for the 2020 Calendar year will be accepted beginning in September 2019. Please fill out the form located on our website www.stcmtz.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAT 8/24</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>James Aaron McWilliams †</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:30</td>
<td>Daniel Villanueva†</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUN 8/25</td>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>Int. People of the Parish</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>McLoughlin &amp; Curtin Families†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>The Costa Family†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1:00</td>
<td>Int. Fr. Ricardo Chavez</td>
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<tr>
<td>MON 8/26</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Cristina Nano</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUE 8/27</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Richard Brouette†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 8/28</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Int. St. Catherine School Children &amp; their Families</td>
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<td>Sheila Grilli†</td>
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<td>THU 8/29</td>
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<td>FRI 8/30</td>
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<td>Int. Leani Lejano</td>
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<td>SAT 8/31</td>
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<td>James John Bill†</td>
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<td>Sheila Grilli†</td>
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<td>SUN 9/1</td>
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<td>Hannibal Mata-Sol†</td>
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<td>Antonio da Conceicaco†</td>
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<td>Tuillio DeSantis†</td>
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<td>1:00</td>
<td>Int. People of the Parish</td>
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</table>

“Lift Up Your Voice and Sing”

Laudate Choir – This Choir provides the young parishioners of Saint Catherine of Siena a fun atmosphere where they can learn to sing and communicate their faith through music. The Laudate Choir will provide the music at the 8:30 Mass as part of the Sunday Family Faith Formation as well as other special “Feast Days” throughout the year. In some instances, they will sing alone as the Laudate Choir, and other times they will be joined by the Adult Choir. This is open to all children from 1st – 8th grade. The only requirement is a desire to sing and share our faith through music. Rehearsals are held Wednesday’s in the Church from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you have a child or children who are interested in joining the Laudate Choir please contact our music director Troy Killorn at 925-289-7792 or see him after mass to obtain an information packet.

RCIA

“Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults” Interest Forms can be found in the Vestibule (entrance of the church)

Preparation for Christians: The means by which those who have already been validly baptized become part of the Church differs considerably from that of the unbaptized. Because they have already been baptized, they are already Christians; they are, therefore, not catechumens. Because of their status as Christians, the Church is concerned that they not be confused with those who are in the process of becoming Christians. “Those who have already been baptized in another church or ecclesial community should not be treated as catechumens or so designated. Their doctrinal and spiritual preparation for reception into full Catholic communion should be determined according to the individual case” (NSC 30). For those who were baptized but who have never been instructed in the Christian faith or lived as Christians, it is appropriate for them to receive much of the same instruction in the faith as catechumens, but they are still not catechumens and are not to be referred to as such (NSC 3). As a result, they are not to participate in the rites intended for catechumens, such as the scrutinies. It can be a time of anxious longing while one waits to experience the warm embrace of membership in the Church and to be immersed into Catholic society. This time of waiting and reflection is necessary, since becoming a Catholic is a momentous event. For those who are already Christians, their baptism itself forms a certain sacramental relationship with the Church (cf. Vatican II, Unitatis Redintegratio 3; Catechism of the Catholic Church 1271). They are also joined to the Church by their intention to enter it, as are the unbaptized who intend to do so: “Catechumens who, moved by the Holy Spirit, desire with an explicit intention to be incorporated into the Church are by that very intention joined to her. With love and solicitude mother Church already embraces them as her own” (Vatican II, Lumen Gentium 14:3; CCC 1249).

Catholic Answers (part 3)

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, meets on Wednesday evenings from 7 pm to 8:30 pm in the Parish Center, Gabriel Room. If you, or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or has been baptized but not received their other sacraments, this is the program for them. Inquiry is the period to learn more about the Catholic Faith in a comfortable and non-committal environment. The team of Parishioners look forward to walking with you in this journey of faith. If you would like more information please contact: Karen Glen at (925) 228-2230 ext. 4 or email scspastoral@gmail.com.
DID YOU KNOW...
St. Catherine School first opened its doors in the fall of 1949, making this the school's 70th year of educating kids in Martinez!

The school celebrated their First School Mass on the First Day of School
St. Catherine of Siena School Mission Statement

Saint Catherine of Siena School answers the call to nurture each child – spirit, mind and body – in a safe, caring environment by providing Christ-centered, challenging curriculum preparing each child for a future as people of faith, service, respect, and responsibility.

St. Catherine of Siena hosted teachers and principals in our Lumen Christi Academy over the course of three days to build community in retreat and learning about implementing Blending Learning in our schools. We are grateful to Father Anthony for providing an inspiring message to all educators to ignite our passion to provide catholic formation and academic excellence to all.

Hello Runners and Parents of Runners,

We are getting near the start of the Cross Country running season and I am excited to see all of the returning runners as well as all of you that are trying the sport for the first time. Unlike track and field, in cross country we run longer distances and on dirt trails in parks rather than on a track. If you think your child might like this sport, please join us and have them try it out. If they do not like it after the first week or two you can drop out and I will refund your fees. One word of caution: if your child does not like distance running (over 1 mile at the beginning of the season and 3 miles toward the middle of the season) this might not be the sport for them. I mention this as we will be running in a park and we must supervise all of the children at all times. We cannot have kids going back to the parking lot and sitting out practice without a coach present. The diocese requires that we have a male and female coach with the kids at all times. As such a child sitting out practice could result in practice stopping for all kids if there are not enough coaches to maintain the minimum staffing requirements.

This is a great transition to my annual plea for coaches. As I mentioned, we are required to have one male and one female coach at all times. Additional coaches are always preferred as this guards against unexpected work conflicts or other events that may impact a coach’s ability to make practice. So if you have a child that is running with us you may want to consider joining us. It is a great way to get in shape or enjoy the nice run with a great group of kids. Don’t worry if you have no coaching experience. Your primary job is to run with the kids and help keep track of them. If you are interested in coaching or have questions, please contact me as soon as possible so that we can get you fingerprinted and cleared to coach. There will be Coaches Certification Workshops in September (5th and/or 10th).

Please contact Coach Mike Moore (cell 925-765-2759) or email mmoore925@gmail.com if interested.

A prayer for teachers:

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for the opportunity to begin this new school year, and we ask that you bless the students, faculty, and student families that make our school a great place. We pray that you will guide us in your ways, and strengthen our school community, so that we will seek your will in everything that we do, and love others as you love us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen
Sunday, Aug 25, 2019
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDIN
Shortcuts take longer
Some friends are famous for their shortcuts—the kind that always take them longer than if they had stuck to the main routes. Cutting corners rarely winds up with satisfying results. Bakers know that if you use inferior ingredients, you can expect inferior outcomes. Thrown-together carpentry work tumbles apart in short order. Failing to warm up before exercise puts us at risk of injury. Doing things right takes more time and care, but it gets the job done. In moral living, the narrow gate is the most direct route to where we’re going. Avoid easy. Choose marvelous.


Monday, Aug 26, 2019
Be steadfast in the face of hypocrisy
Jesus had nothing good to say about hypocrites. He rebuked them often. So does Pope Francis, who recently said it was better to be an atheist than a hypocritical Catholic, calling out those who lead double lives of going to Mass and then exploiting others. It’s easy to look around and see people and institutions doing just that—including the church. It would be easy to turn your back on them altogether. But then wouldn’t you be letting hypocrisy easily win? Make it hard for hypocrites to take away the faith that is, by right of your Baptism, yours.


Tuesday, Aug 27, 2019
MEMORIAL OF MONICA
Persistence pays off
A violent, unfaithful husband, a cranky mother-in-law, an immoral son—all in the same household. Monica could’ve been canonized simply for surviving. Instead, she pursued her unruly son Augustine from Africa to Rome to Milan when he was 29 (helicopter parenting, anyone?), fasted and wept over his lack of faith. Not quite the way young adults today are parented, but a bishop finally told her, “It’s impossible the son of so many tears should perish.” He converted, thrived, wrote brilliantly, and told her story in his Confessions. Today, compliment the efforts of a mother or son.

TODAY’S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 23:23-26 (426). “Our coming to you was not in vain.”

Wednesday, Aug 28, 2019
MEMORIAL OF AUGUSTINE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
Dig deeper
Among the many works that the towering Saint Augustine is remembered for, his work On the Trinity is considered by many to be his masterpiece, his most significant contribution to the Western church. Yet a legend arose that as he struggled with his great work, he took a walk on the seashore and came across a young boy who said he was pouring all the ocean water into a small hole in the sand. Augustine replied that it was impossible to fit the ocean in a small hole, to which the boy replied, “It’s just as impossible that understanding the Trinity would fit in your small mind.” And then the child was gone—an angelic visitor. Approach the mysteries of faith with humility.

TODAY’S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:27-32 (427). “On the outside you appear righteous, but inside you are filled with hypocrisy and evildoing.”

Thursday, Aug 29, 2019
MEMORIAL OF THE PASSION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST
Be careful what you promise
According to the gospel accounts of the beheading of John the Baptist, Herod immediately regretted the promise he made to Salome that led to John’s beheading. Whether John met his death for this reason or simply because Herod regarded him as a threat and wanted him out of the way, the story serves as a cautionary tale to think twice before you promise to fulfill the wishes of another. Would you be willing to violate your internal sense of right or wrong or your conscience in order to fulfill a promise? If not, be slow to make promises without first checking your conscience.

TODAY’S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13 (428); Mark 6:17-29 (634). “When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.”

Friday, Aug 30, 2019
Leave your light on for Christ
A Catholic church is never completely dark—as long as the Blessed Sacrament is present. You’ll always see at least a small red flicker before the tabernacle, while it contains the Eucharist, the Body of Christ. The tradition goes back to the Book of Exodus, when God told Moses to perpetually burn a lamp filled with pure oil in the Tabernacle. Thousands of years later, Christ is always there, burning with a light and love that never goes out. Likewise keep the flame for him in your soul steadfast and bright.


Saturday, Aug 31, 2019
Tame your tongue
Sometimes our daily readings get down to brass tacks. “Don’t be a busybody” seems to be the blunt message in Paul’s advice to the Thessalonians. It’s not an ethereal command to do noble deeds; rather it’s the kind of practical advice that makes life in the Christian community (or any community) work. Pope Francis frequently passes along similar wisdom. Put today’s citation to immediate use by keeping your silence the next time you’re tempted to disparage a neighbor, relative, or coworker.

TODAY’S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11; Matthew 25:14-30 (430). “Nevertheless we urge you, brothers and sisters, to progress even more, and to aspire to live a tranquil life, to mind your own affairs.”
We are currently accepting applications for the 2019-2020 School Year. For more information please contact Jessica Griswold, Principal (925) 228-4140 or jgriswold@csdo.org

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For Questions please contact : Gina Marks 925-817-9429 or Carrie Gadek 925-813-1217

“Spirituality and Conscious Aging: Finding Meaning and Purpose in our Retirement Years”

On September 6-7, join Jim Briggs at San Damiano Retreat as he reflects upon retirement as an opportunity to live life differently and more contemplatively, moving from “doing” to “being.” For more information and to make reservations, please visit www.sandamiano.org or call 925-837-9141 x315.

Magnificat SOTI  
A Ministry for Catholic Women invite all to join them at their Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, September 7, 2019 (9:30-12:30) at the Crowne Plaza  
45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, CA  
Please join us for a morning of Praise, Prayer, and Inspiration from our speaker author Jess Echeverry. Her testimony as a Catholic convert and a survivor of violence who learns to forgive and love is compelling and uplifting! Through God’s grace and healing she has turned her past into loving help for others.  
Men are always welcome to attend! Tickets are $33/$40 after Aug 31st.

For more information: https://magnificat-ministry.net/ca-walnut-creek or Email Magnificatsotirsvp@gmail.com for reservations or call Kim Sullivan at 925-683-8220 for any questions

MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS

Altar Servers  
Jack Watkins…………………………….925-957-0437  
Beneath His Cross Apostolate  
Jessica Preciado………………………….925-354-1656  
Bingo  
Don Brocca…………………………….925-858-7330  
Catholic Youth Organization - CYO  
Gina Marks…………………………….925-817-9429  
Communications  
Sylvia Lloren……………………………Ext 2 925-228-2230  
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion  
TBD……………………………………925-228-2230  
Faith Formation - Religious Education (PreK-8th Grades)  
Andrea Watkins………………………..Ext 5 925-228-2230  
Finance Council  
Don Brocca...925-229-4158 and Dennis Koller...925-335-9395  
Grief/Card Ministry  
Mary Cook………………………………925-229-2665  
Guadalupe Society  
Guadalupe Cruz………………………925-997-2432  
Hospital/Sick/Homebound  
Dave Holland…………………………925-413-9240  
Hospitality  
Debbie Pelizzari………………………925-370-3874  
Ignite  
Cindy Buscaglia……………………….925-787-8396  
Italian Catholic Federation - ICF  
Tom Cook………………………………925-229-2665  
Knights of Columbus - K of C  
Rik Silva………………………………925-334-2429  
La Community Latina  
Lucia Cruz…………………………….925-348-2620  
Lectors  
Crista Melendez……………………….510-385-0506  
Legion of Mary  
Bobby Kiefer…………………………925-658-1442  
Loaves & Fishes  
Denice Silva…………………………925-372-0740  
Maintenance  
Troy Killorn…………………………….925-228-2230  
Mary Help of Christians - MHC  
Margarita Flores………………………925-812-1279  
Music Ministry—Choir  
Troy Killorn Ext 3 925-228-2230  
Pastoral Advisory Council  
Karen Glen……925-788-7716 & Karen Sandri….925-370-7997  
Respect Life  
Linda Easterday……………………….925-372-3845  
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - RCIA  
Karen Glen…………………………….Ext 4 925-228-2230  
Safe Environment for Children Project - SECP  
Karen Glen…………………………….Ext 4 925-228-2230  
San Lorenzo Ruiz Community - SLRC  
Esther Concepcion……………………925-381-1835  
Social Awareness  
Anne Crisp……………………………..925-356-8822  
Stewardship  
Karen Glen…………………………….925-788-7716  
Sociedade Portuguesa Rainha Santa Isabel - SPRSI  
Annette Liberty……………………..925-228-8428  
St. Vincent de Paul Society - Svdp  
Karen Glen…………………………….Ext 4 925-788-7716  
Ushers  
James McLaughlin……………………925-228-1051  
Young Ladies Institute - YLI  
Rori Polvorosa…………………………510-734-4907  
Youth Group/Confirmation (High School 9 to 12 Grades)  
Paul & Jenny Holland………………..Ext 8 925-228-2230

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