



WEEKLY Diocesan Update



PRAY FOR POPE FRANCIS

50th Anniversary of his
Ordination to the Priesthood
December 13, 2019

Photo of the Week:

The Catholic faithful across the United States are being invited to pray for Pope Francis as he celebrates 50 years as a priest on December 13, 2019.

Office of the Bishop:

Bishop Cotta's Monthly Reflection – Please [click here](#) to read Bishop Cotta's Monthly Reflection for the month of December.

Catholic Rural Life – This month's Catholic Rural blessing is the blessing of night. As the daylight hours give way during the month of December, the night calls our attention. Darkness invites us into its mystery, to gaze into its star-filled sky with wonder. As we watch and wait for the Light during the season of Advent, the darkness of a particular night can be a powerful setting for prayer. To read the blessing for the month of December please [click here](#). For more information about Catholic Rural Life please visit our [website](#).

Office of Development and Stewardship:

#iGiveCatholic Fundraising Initiative – Thank you to our donors and friends who supported this year's iGiveCatholic Giving Day on December 3! This year, the Diocese of Stockton's Office of Development partnered with #iGiveCatholic and offered this online fundraising initiative to our parishes, schools, and nonprofit ministries. We are pleased to report the following (tentative) results: • \$3,561.00 total raised • 31 donors • 5 ministries of the Diocese of Stockton. For more information, please visit this [link](#).

Office of Human Resources

Robert Poncini – We are excited to announce that we have hired Robert Poncini as the Coordinator of Life and Dignity ministry in the Office of Family and Respect Life, effective Monday, December 2, 2019.

Upcoming Events:

October 1-December 10:
Adult Bible Study (St. Michaels)

December 9, & 16: Advent
Retreat of Matthew's Gospel
(Presentation Church)

December 10-13: Advent
Mission with Fr. Wade
Menezes

December 12: Las Mananitas
(St. Michael Church)

December 14: Advent
Reflection with St. Dominic
(St. Joseph's Church,
Modesto)

December 14: Christian
Parenting and Family Life in
Today's World (Church of the
Presentation)

December 14: Formación
Liderazgo Pastoral

December 14: Tribunal Aide
Training (St. Bernadette
Church)

December 16-24: Simbang
Gabi (Misa de Gallo) (Our
Lady of Guadalupe Church)

December 24: A Vigil Prelude
Service for Christmas Midnight
Mass (Annunciation)

March 11: Reboot! Turlock
with Chris Stefanick

Robert will be working part-time in collaboration with Deacon Steve Budnik, the Coordinator of Marriage and Family. Please join us in welcoming him. To read Robert's full biography please [click here](#).

Vocations

Do you know a Catholic adult male who is interested in learning about the priesthood? Invite him to our December Discernment dinner meeting on December 15, 2019 at 5:00 pm at the St. John Vianney House of Formation in Stockton. A light dinner will be offered. For questions or more information please contact Fr. Cesar Martinez, Director of Vocations: vocations@stocktondiocese.org or call 209-466-0636.

Office of Worship

Guidelines and resources for celebrating the liturgies of Advent and Christmas can be found in the [Liturgy & Worship](#) section of the diocesan website.

Visit our [website's calendar](#) for full details about upcoming events

***All events are Pastoral Center events unless specified.**