



Office of the Bishop:

Child Abuse Prevention Month takes place in April. It is important to promote awareness about the dangers of child abuse and steps that can be taken to prevent it in your community. During Child Abuse Prevention Month it is also important to spread the message of protecting children, focusing on positive parenting and keeping kids safe. There will be more to come throughout the month. Together, let us support Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Catholic Charities:

Free Citizenship Workshop – Are you at least 18 years old? Have you been a resident for 5 years or 3 years if married to a U.S. Citizen? Become a citizen with our help! Join us for our two-step workshop.

Stage 1: Naturalization Information Session:

Date and Time: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 - 5:30 PM- 7:00 PM

Location: Kennedy Community Center, 2800 South D St, Stockton, CA 95206.

At the event, attorneys and accredited representatives will go over all the requirements needed to become a citizen, and they will tell you what to bring to your appointment. Appointments will be given at this event.

Stage 2: Application Completion

Date and Time: Saturday, April 13, 2019 - By Appointment Only.

Location: Kennedy Community Center, 2800 South D St, Stockton, CA 95206

For more information, please call (209) 444-5910 OR (209) 840-2445

PRESENTED BY: Catholic Charities Diocese of Stockton, California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation (CRLAF) and Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

Office of Development and Stewardship:

2019 Bishop's Ministry Appeal (BMA) Update – Thank you to our Pastors, Priests, Parish Staff, and BMA Chairpersons who have been leading the efforts of the 2019 Campaign to reach this year's goal of \$2.5 million. We are truly grateful for our donors (3,869 to date) who have generously supported this year's Campaign with gifts of \$823,043 (cash collected), and total pledges promised of \$612,665. Thank you everyone, for your great work!

Reminder to Pastors, Priests, & Parish Offertory Leaders – Your monthly Offertory Program report for February is now due. Please send your monthly report of February's Offertory to Bob Bannon at BannonPR@earthlink.net as soon as possible. The Parish Offertory Report will be requested monthly. Your Offertory report for March will be due on April 8, 2019. To access the February report form please visit this [link](#). The password is Offer2018. If you have any questions, please contact Bob at BannonPR@earthlink.net or at (310) 360-0506. Thank you for your help in evaluating this program.

Save The Date – 2019 Bishop's Awards Dinner, Saturday, October 5, 2019 at Church of the Presentation in Stockton. Details to come!

Office of Formation for Seminarians:

Save the Date – The Office of Formation for Seminarians proudly announces the Priestly Ordination of two of our seminarians: Deacon Ace Cisneros and Deacon Larry Machado. These men are finishing their studies that have brought them to this point in their journey. The Ordination will take place at the Cathedral of the Annunciation, Saturday, July 6, 2019, at 10:00 am. Please join us in celebrating the holiday weekend by your presence at this wonderful event. More information to follow.

Life and Dignity Ministry:

40 Days for Life, Modesto – March 6-April 14, 2019. The Respect Life Ministry at St. Joseph's Parish in Modesto is sponsoring this peaceful prayer vigil. It will be held Monday thru Saturday at Family Planning Associates, 2030 Coffee Road, Modesto. You can sign up for Vigil Hours at <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/modesto/>. If you have questions contact Roger & Karen Salstrom at (408) 309-6378 or fortydaysmodesto@aol.com.

Ministry to Priests:

Annual Priests Retreat – This year's priests retreat will be held at St. Francis Retreat Center in San Juan Bautista from May 6–10, 2019. The cost is \$650.00 per person. Click [here](#) for the registration form. Deadline for submission is April 25, 2019.

Office of Religious Education:

Take the First Step! Da el Primer Paso! Only one more week until Ministry Day 2019! There is still time. Mail in your registration forms this week. Don't miss out on this wonderful and unforgettable experience. For more information contact Stephanie Rodriguez (209) 546-7652 or visit our website and download the registration form [here](#).

Vocations:

As we continue to cultivate vocations in our diocese, we offer this Called & Chosen Conference put on by World Ablaze, Inc. and Teams of Our Lady. The Conference is March 29-30 at Our Lady of Assumption Parish in Turlock. John Sablan will be the presenter. For more information and to register, visit this [link](#).

Office of Worship:

Chrism Mass – The Chrism Mass will be on April 11 at 6:00 pm at the Cathedral of the Annunciation. Please join us for this celebration of the priesthood and of the Holy Oils which are used in our liturgies and sacraments!

Liturgical Reminders – “The Easter Vigil must take place during the night, so that it begins after nightfall and ends before daybreak.” (Roman Missal, Easter Vigil, 3). This year, for our diocese, the Easter Vigil may not begin before 8:30 pm.

While the option exists to read fewer than the nine readings provided for the Easter Vigil, it is instructive to read what the Missal says about exercising this option: “In this Vigil, the mother of all Vigils, nine readings are provided, namely seven from the Old Testament and two from the New (the Epistle and the Gospel), all of which should be read whenever this can be done, so that the character of the Vigil, which demands an extended period of time, may be preserved. Nevertheless where more serious pastoral circumstances demand it, the number of readings from the Old Testament may be reduced.” (Roman Missal, Easter Vigil, 21).

