

**Office of the Bishop:**

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

A Message from Bishop Cotta – I would like to offer my sincere thanks to all who attended and participated in this annual celebration of our Faith and the gift of those who have responded to the call to: the Priesthood, Diaconate, Consecrated Religious Life, and the call of service of God's holy people, the Laity. I would also like to offer a very special thank you to all who helped to organize the Chrism Mass and the dinner. It is through your efforts that we were able to enjoy such a beautiful evening.

I pray that you all have a blessed Holy Week and Glorious Easter!
abuse.

Bishop Cotta's Chrism Mass Homily – If you were not able to attend the Chrism Mass or would like to read Bishop Cotta's Homily, you can do so by clicking on the links below:

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

Office of Development and Stewardship:

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.

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.

Safe Environment:

Child Abuse Prevention Month – Did you know?

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People was established by the USCCB in June 2002. It is a comprehensive set of procedures for addressing allegations of abuse of minors. The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People includes guidelines for reconciliation, healing, accountability, and prevention of future acts of abuse. For more information see the USCCB's webpage on the [Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People](#).

Social Justice/Restorative Justice:

Deacon Fidel Carrillo, a Chaplain at one of our Youth Correction Facilities, invites you to read about a program he has instituted. Please [click here](#) to read more.

Vocations:

Holy Triduum/Vocational Retreat – Join us on April 18-21 for a Holy Triduum/Vocational Retreat for women 21-35. The retreat will take place at the Newman House in Stockton located behind UOP. Donation: \$30.00 per person. Register at <http://portalvocacional.org/>. For questions or more information contact Sr. Rosa at rhernandez@guadalupeusa.org or 209-992-9618.

Vocations to the Priesthood Dinner – Do you know an adult male who might be called to the priesthood? If so, please invite him to our next discernment meeting Sunday, April 28, 2019 at 5:00 pm in the Cathedral of the Annunciation's Parish House. 425 W. Magnolia Street, Stockton. A light meal will be offered. RSVP to Fr. Cesar at: 209-463-1305 or vocations@stocktondiocese.org

Office of Worship:

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).