

Message from Bishop Cotta

Solidarity with our Brothers and Sisters in Venezuela

As we continue to pray for peace and justice in the world, I would like to share a news release from the USCCB on the situation in Venezuela. ([Click here to read the news release](#)). In your intentions this week, please include a prayer for our Brothers and Sisters in Venezuela. To help support Venezuela visit: <https://support.crs.org/donate/crisis-venezuela>.

Diocesan Events

- 1. Rachel's Vineyard Retreat** – March 1-3, 2019 (Spanish). Please help us to advertise this powerful healing experience in the Spanish community. Download the Spanish flyer [here](#). A Rachel's Vineyard retreat offers a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. There is a supportive and non-judgmental environment to transform the pain of the past into love and hope. We encourage women, men and couples to attend. Questions call the Life & Dignity Ministry at (209) 465-5433.
- 2. Office of Youth and Young Adults Ministry** – Bilingual Diocesan Conference, will be held on March 16-17, 2019. Modesto Centre Plaza (1000 K. Street, Modesto), 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. **JUVENTUD, NUESTRO TIEMPO ES HOY/OUR TIME IS NOW**. There will be music, rallies, great speakers, prayer. Mass on Sunday will be presided over by Bishop Cotta. The three tracks include: adolescents, young adults, and Quinceañeras. For more information call the Office of Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry at: (209) 466-0636 or email José López jlopez@stocktondiocese.org or visit [here](#).
- 3. Hundredfold Workshop** – March 23, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 3 PM at the Cathedral of the Annunciation Gym. This is the *VOCATION MINISTRY* training workshop for all parishes and will be done in English and Spanish. For more information and to register, visit: <https://bit.ly/2RzZict>.
- 4. Discernment Dinner** – March 24, 2019 at 5:00 pm. This is a meeting for those young men who are considering the priesthood as their vocation. To be held at the Cathedral Parish House, 425 W. Magnolia St. in Stockton. A light meal will be offered. RSVP to Fr. Cesar at: vocations@stocktondiocese.org or (209) 463-1305.
- 5. Office of Religious Education** –Take the First Step! *Da el Primer Paso!* Ministry Day Conference is April 6, 2019. Is there a group of people attending from your parish? With any 10 registrants from your Parish, the 11th person will attend free (lunch not included for free person). Include payment and registrations for all 11 registrants. Mail your registration forms before February 22 and save money. Time is running out! For more information contact Stephanie Rodriguez (209) 546-7652 or visit our website and download the registration form [here](#).



Informational Items

1. **Office of Worship** – Please visit this [link](#) to find resources for parishes to assist in the observance of Lent.
2. **Office of Development** – Bishop Cotta’s 2019 BMA Video Link is now available for download. Spanish and English versions are available. Also available are audio versions for you to share during Mass, in your parish bulletin/website, and on your favorite social media channels. To access the video please click [here](#).
3. **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.
4. **SAVE THE DATE – Annual Priests’ Retreat:** May 6 – 10, 2019 at San Juan Bautista. More information to come.
5. **SAVE THE DATE – Office of Formation for Seminarians:** 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 10:00am. Please join us in celebrating the holiday weekend by your presence at this wonderful event. More information to follow.