

**Office of the Bishop:**

A Message from Bishop Cotta

On behalf of our Catholic community Bishop Cotta expresses our sorrow and grief over the recent tragic events in Christchurch, New Zealand. Please see the Bishop's letter of prayer and support to our Muslim brothers and sisters [here](#).

A Message from Bishop Cotta

My Dear People of God,

I would like to sincerely thank you all for your kindness and generosity for our recent second collection to benefit our Sisters and Brothers affected by the recent Camp Fire. Together as a Diocese we were able to collect and to send aid totaling \$157,110.62 to our friends in the Diocese of Sacramento. Your generosity will bring much comfort to them, and assure them that they are not alone.

I ask that you continue to pray for those affected communities and families, and thank you again for graciously contributing to the relief efforts.

May the Lord reward you for your goodness!

Bishop Cotta

**Office of Development and Stewardship:**

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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!* Don’t forget to register for Ministry Day 2019! For RCIA members this year we are offering two workshops given by our new Director Michael Schmitz. Be sure to sign up for both sessions on your registration program. For more information contact Stephanie Rodriguez at (209) 546-7652. Visit our website and download the registration book and form [here](#).

## **Vocations:**

Parish Vocation Committee Training is taking place Saturday, March 23, 2019 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Annunciation Cathedral Gym in Stockton. This training is in conjunction with last month’s workshop on Vocation Ministry for all clergy. Pastors, please send 3-5 representatives to this training. If you haven’t yet registered, please visit: <https://bit.ly/2RzZict>. There is no fee, and lunch will be served. Contact Fr. Cesar Martinez with questions and for more information [cmartinez@annunciationstockton.org](mailto:cmartinez@annunciationstockton.org).

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](mailto:vocations@stocktondiocese.org) or (209) 463-1305.

## **Office of Worship:**

Liturgical Reminder- At any Masses where the Scrutinies for the Elect are celebrated, the Year A readings for that Sunday of Lent *must* be used, as well as the proper Ritual Mass, found in the Missal under “Christian Initiation: The Scrutinies”. The Year A readings *may* be used at other Masses that day, but the current year readings can always be used at Masses where the Scrutinies are not celebrated.