



As many of you have already heard, Stephen E. Blaire, Bishop Emeritus of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Stockton died June 18, 2019, after a prolonged illness. He died at his retirement residence at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Modesto. He was 77 years of age. Funeral arrangements are as follows:

July 1 – Our Lady of Fatima, Modesto

- Reception of Body 2:00 p.m.
- Visitation until 8:00 p.m.

July 2 – Cathedral of the Annunciation

- Reception of Body 2:00 p.m.
- Visitation until 6:30 p.m.
- Funeral Vigil 7:00 p.m.

July 3 – Cathedral of the Annunciation

- Funeral Liturgy 11:00 a.m.
- Interment to immediately follow at San Joaquin Cemetery

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Bishop Emeritus Stephen E. Blaire can be made to the Priest Retirement Fund, c/o The Diocese of Stockton, [212 N. San Joaquin Street, Stockton, CA 95202](https://www.dioceseofstockton.org/212-N-San-Joaquin-Street-Stockton-CA-95202). Please make checks payable to Roman Catholic Bishop of Stockton Priest Retirement Fund.

To make a memorial gift online, visit [Priest Retirement Fund](#).

Expressions of sympathy sent to the diocese will be forwarded to Bishop Blaire's family. Please address sympathy cards to:

Blaire Family

c/o Diocese of Stockton

**Office of the Bishop:**

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

*California Catholic Conference Statement* – Bishop Emeritus Stephen E. Blaire cared deeply about the environment. Within the California Catholic Conference, Bishop Blaire served as the Chairman for the Ad Hoc Committee on Environmental Stewardship. This committee was a driving force behind the California Conference of Catholic Bishops' Pastoral Statement, "God Calls Us All to Care for Our Common Home," June 18, 2019, on the fourth anniversary of Laudato Si': "On Care for Our Common Home."

Please visit this [link](#) to our website to find a complete Pastoral Statement as well as a summary document in both English and Spanish. Bishop Blaire will be remembered for many things. His work and dedication for the care of the environment as expressed in this statement will certainly be among them.

*Launch of new USCCB Prevention. Protection. Accountability. Website* – As I mentioned last week, the USCCB launched their new Prevention. Protection. Accountability website. Many of the resources that you can find on the USCCB website can also be found on our website at this [link](#). These websites serve as a source of information and provide resources regarding

safety of children and vulnerable persons, victim assistance, and answer frequently asked questions.

**Office of Development and Stewardship:**

Seeking Sponsorships! The 18th Annual Bishop's Awards Dinner will be held on Saturday, October 5, 2019 at the Church of the Presentation in Stockton. We look forward to all of our parishes sponsoring the 2019 event and attending this memorable evening hosted by Bishop Myron J. Cotta. This year's event features three new Honoree categories including a Pastor, a Deacon and Deacon's wife, and a Catholic organization! This year, 100% of the net proceeds benefits Catholic Charities of Stockton and SEEDS (Scholarships for Catholic Schools) – two organizations that provide vital services and support to people living within our Diocese. If you know of any individuals, businesses or organizations who may be interested in sponsorship opportunities, please let us know! For additional information and Sponsorship forms, [click here](#)

**Office of Formation for Seminarians:**

The Priestly Ordination of Deacon Adrian Cisneros and Deacon Larry Machado is quickly approaching. We are very proud of these men who have journeyed faithfully toward their call from God. Please join us now in these last weeks as we accompany them with our prayers and our joy. Our celebration will be held on Saturday, July 6, 2019, at the 10:00 am Mass at the Cathedral of the Annunciation in Stockton.

**Vicar for Priests/Clergy Services:**

Save the Date – All Clergy Day will be held Monday, October 28, 2019 at St. Frances of Rome's large hall in Riverbank. This event is for all priests, deacons and their spouses, and religious sisters. More information and registration to follow later this summer.

**Office for Worship**

It is appropriate for each parish to offer at least one memorial Mass for Bishop Blaire, in accord with the norms of the liturgical calendar. The formulary for a Bishop may be found in the Missal, Masses for the Dead IV.2 'For a Diocesan Bishop.' Morning Prayer and/or Evening Prayer of the Office for the Dead (nos. 348-395 of the Order of Christian Funerals) could also be celebrated.

