

The Price of Christianity

In the First Reading we find Abraham's call to be the father of the Jewish people. This call demanded a response of faith. Abraham had to leave all that was familiar to him and set off to a land he had never seen, believing God would make good on His promises. Abraham was faithful to God throughout his life to the very end. Upon his death very little of God's promises was fulfilled, yet he believed. • The Responsorial is a psalm of praise and trust in God, always faithful to His promises. In a world of confusion and empty promises, God offers the one hope that never results in disillusionment. Filled with kindness, loving justice and right, He is the only hope of deliverance from our enemies. Deliverance will come, especially in the next life. • In the Second Reading, we see that it was always part of God's plan of gratuitous love that we share in His life for all eternity. His plan is enacted by His cross and resurrection and His call for us to live a life of grace. Our response means living a true Christian lifestyle, ready to suffer for the Gospel. True Christianity comes with such a price and Jesus has set the example. • Whenever something important happens in the Gospels, Peter, James and John are always there. This Sunday's Gospel prefigures the resurrection, i.e., the *Transfiguration*. Peter, James and John accompany Jesus up the mountain. The appearance of Moses and Elijah confirms Jesus as the fulfillment of the law and the prophets regarding the Messiah. The prophecy that both Moses and Elijah would appear again at the *dawning of the Lord's Day*, is fulfilled. When the Father proclaims Jesus as His beloved Son, the Apostles fall prostrate in God's presence. This foreknowledge of the Resurrection of the Son of Man was to be kept secret, as a preparation for the disillusionment they would experience at Jesus' suffering and death, as well as preparation for their wonderment at His glorious resurrection.

Prayer of the Week

Let us pray in this season of Lent for the gift of integrity. • Father of light, in you is found no shadow

Faith First

of change but only the fullness of life and limitless truth. Open our hearts to the voice of your Word and free us from the original darkness that shadows our vision. Restore our sight that we may look upon your Son who calls us to repentance and a change of heart, for he lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Transfiguration

The Transfiguration represents a breakthrough moment in the lives of Peter, James, and John. On that mountain, they saw and experienced more in Jesus than had previously been the case. The experience caught them by surprise, and they did not know what to do. • In his book *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, Stephen Covey tells of riding the subway one morning when a man and his children got on. Soon all was in chaos. The children were screaming and running all about. One of them even grabbed a newspaper out of one man's hands. Through it all, the father sat passively unaware of the havoc being wrought by his children. Finally, in exasperation, Covey went over to the man and said, "Sir, your children are really disturbing a lot of people. I wonder if you couldn't control them a bit more?" The man snapped out of his trance and said, "Oh, you're right. I guess I should do something about it. We just came from the hospital where their mother died about an hour ago. I don't know what to think, and I guess they don't know how to handle it either." Suddenly Covey saw more in the man, more in the children, and more in the situation. Nothing had changed in the subway car, but now there was understanding and everything was different. • Perhaps we all need to take another look at the things that upset us and see what we might be missing. • *Lord, we need your help if we are to see more in others and more in ourselves. Please, give faith to our seeing that we might more fully celebrate the many gifts that already enrich our lives.* • Action: I will work to really see the suffering in someone else's life and reach out to that person.

In Our Prayers

**Daily Mass Intentions
March 8 - March 15**

Sun	8:00am	For the People of the Parish
	9:30am	Ed Humphrey (+)
	11:00am	Mark Zane (+)
Mon	8:00am	William Charles Mitchell (+)
Tue	8:00am	Int...Grogan Family
Wed	8:00am	Int...to Senor Santo Nino
Thu	8:00am	Tersilla Varesio Garcia (+)
Fri	8:00am	Genevieve Sarchiapone (+)
	5:30pm	Lawrence & Carol Bandacarri (+)
Sat	9:00am	Int...Isabela Pereira
	5:30pm	For the People of the Parish
Sun	8:00am	Don & Anita Cerqui (+)
	9:30am	Efren Santiago Andres (+)
	11:00am	Patricia & Maurice Spillane

In Memoriam

Sr. Elizabeth Chambers, FDCC • February 24, 2020

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon her.

Please Pray for the Sick

Dick Gutzmacher, Gene Yeager, Charles French, Adria Laubacher, Margarita Enriquez, Marjorie Green, Robert McAleese, Helena Enright, John Vostrez, Robin Aurelius, Diana Zuniga, Suzy Riehl, Isabel Harper, Richard Honey, Dale Wooldridge, Donald Anderson, Nancy McGarry, Patrick Valenzuela, Michael Fletcher, Gary Pepe, William Daniel Reed, Stephanie Merenda, Victoria Generoso, Jim Collins, Robert Arkebauer, Libby Basurto, Dena Foster-Cook, Marie Schumacher, Ralph Goodall, Josephine Haddock, G.R. Gurley, Darren Stewart, Marge Mugartegui, Angel Curiel, Phillip Worth, Sonia Damiano, Ava Grace Arnold, Karen Amnon, Mary Terese Henricksen, Pamela Saenz, Stan Boyd, David Hunn, Addison Parker, Brett Stover, Norma Clark, Robert Clark, Jr.

Meetings & Events

Lenten Soup Suppers

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Lenten Soup Suppers, Fridays March 20, March 27, and April 3. The dinners will immediately follow the 5:30 pm Mass in the Parish Hall. Please come enjoy a soup dinner with fellow parishioners and contribute to the charities that will be presenting. This year the soup suppers will benefit the Sacramento Newman Center food closet, the Loaves & Fishes Brown Lunch Program, and Boys for Bikes. • We hope you will join us.

Youth Group Update

During the month of March, the Sacred Heart Youth Group will be working on its annual "Blessing Bags" Project. This Lenten Service project involves putting together bags of toiletries, non-perishable snacks, and other essentials to distribute to the homeless in our community. The bags will be distributed to Loaves and Fishes to support their work with the homeless in the Sacramento area. • Parishioners who would like to support the project are welcome to drop items by the school office between now and March 31. Members of the group will be making a shopping trip to purchase necessary items, so if you would prefer to make a small donation, we are happy to purchase items on your behalf! • Our two meetings this month will be held on March 11 and March 28. • Our meeting on March 11 will be a Charity Movie Night to raise funds for the Blessing Bags Project. If you are a student in grades 8 through 12, please consider joining us for one of our upcoming meetings. All meetings are held in St. Anthony's Hall from 6:30-7:30 p.m. • If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Sunderman at psunderman@sacredheartschool.net

MOMS Monthly Gathering

All moms are invited to our next MOMS monthly gathering on Wednesday, March 18 at 7:00 pm in St. Anthony Hall. • Please join us for prayer, reflection, and fellowship.

Verdi Requiem Concert

The Verdi Requiem will be performed by Sacred Heart's Schola Cantorum and the Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra on Saturday, March 21 at 8:00 pm in the Memorial Auditorium in honor the late longtime Sacramento chef Biba Caggiano. The program will also feature four outstanding soloists from the Metropolitan Opera and will be given in place of Schola's annual Lenten Choral Mysteries concert. • For tickets please visit sacramentochoral.com or call 916-808-5181.

Irish Night Dinner

The Knights of Columbus Council 953 is offering a traditional dinner of corned beef, cabbage, carrots, red potatoes, salad, and ice cream on Saturday March 14 at 5961 Newman Court, across the street from Sac State Newman Center. The cost is \$20 per person with social hour beginning at 6:00 pm, followed by dinner at 7:00 pm. • For reservations call Matt Herman at 916-549-5232. We hope you can join us.

40 Days for Life

You are invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life - 40 days of prayer, vigil and fasting for an end to abortion. A flyer in the vestibule provides complete details on this pro-life activity. For additional information, please contact: Susan Money via email at susanalive@gmail.com or by phone at 530-320-1614.

Adult Faith Formation

The U.S. Bishops 2018 document "Open Wide Our Hearts, The Enduring Call to Love," is a Pastoral letter against Racism. The Bishops encourage us to meet and discuss the many manifestation of racism still in our midst. Session Two is scheduled for Monday, March 9th, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 pm in the school cafeteria. On that night we will discuss what the phrase "white privilege" means and how it is used. Issues of immigration and the recent Sacramento Bee article on the legacy of Racial "redlining" in neighborhoods will also be discussed. Our evening will involve prayer, listening, patience, kindness and sincere dialogue with one another. Please RSVP to Adult Faith Formation Director Rita Spillane at ritaspillane@gmail.com. You will be sent materials to read and watch ahead of time for our conversation.

Altar Society News

Members are invited to join us for our next meeting on Friday, March 20 at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall.

Flu Season Reminder

To protect the health and well-being of everyone, the Bishop wishes to remind us of the following directives: (1) The use of the Communion cup is suspended temporarily; (2) The faithful are strongly encouraged to receive the Body of Christ in the hand; (3) Do not hold hands during the Our Father; (4) The presider/deacon at Mass is to refrain from inviting the assembly to exchange the sign of peace. It is to be temporarily omitted; (5) Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion must cleanse their hands with an alcohol-based antiseptic before administering Holy Communion. • Thank you for following these directives. Please pray for the sick.

Parish Safety Measures

The next several months will see major implementation of the safety committee recommendations. This past week several of our safety projects have moved forward. Upcoming changes include:

- Over the next two weeks the parish will undertake the installation of a new expanded security camera system, including the replacement of the previously installed ones which have proven to be unreliable. This project will cost approximately \$24,500.
- An evaluation of the exterior lighting needs was done at night and a proposed plan has been developed to provide much better lighting along 39th Street and to illuminate the bell tower to highlight its architectural beauty. A detailed proposal and cost estimate has not yet been received.
- The reconfiguration of the Pieta chapel to allow for the reopening of its doors as an emergency exit only is being studied. This includes restoring the original chapel ceiling and floor, and the temporary moving of the Pieta, and its return once the chapel has been reconfigured. A detailed proposal and cost estimate has not yet been received.
- A plan for the upgrading of the rod iron fencing in the area between the church and the medical building and between the parish hall and the rectory to improve the security of the areas has been developed. The plan also calls for the replacement of the parish hall exterior doors, a new concrete path between the hall and the rectory for handicap access. This will require the removal of the existing shrubbery along the rectory. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$78,500.