

December 18, 2005
Fourth Sunday of Advent



~From the Desk of Fr. Terry~

Please welcome Fr. Manuel Soria as Parochial Vicar Pro-tem.

I am looking for someone to “adopt” my fish. If you have a large fresh water aquarium (at least 30 gallons) and would like some new fish, call the office. If someone wants the fish but doesn’ t have the right size tank, I think we can work something out. Call the office. 343-8741.

St. John the Baptist Mass Schedule

- Christmas Vigil, Dec. 24th
 - English Family Mass ~ 5:30pm
 - Spanish Misa ~ 7:30pm
 - English Readings and Carols ~ 11:30pm
- Midnight Mass ~ 12:00am in English
- Christmas Day Masses, Dec 25th
 - English ~ 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:00am
 - Spanish ~ 12:30pm
 - no 5:30pm
- Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Vigil Dec. 31st
 - English ~ 5:30pm
 - Spanish ~ 7:30pm
- Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Jan. 1st.
 - English ~ 7:30am, 9:30am & 11:00am
 - No 5:30pm
 - Spanish ~ 12:30pm

St. James Misssion Church Christmas Schedule

- Christmas Vigil, Dec. 24th
 - English Mass ~ 5:30
- Christmas Day Mass, Dec. 25th
 - English Mass ~ 9:00am
 - Spanish Mass ~ 10:30am
- Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God ~ Jan. 1st.
 - English Mass ~ 9:00am
 - Spanish Mass ~ 10:30am

ADVENT Penance Services in the Area

Our Divine Savior, Chico: Mon., Dec. 19th, noon & 7pm
 St. Thomas the Apostle, Oroville: Tues., Dec. 20th, 3:30pm

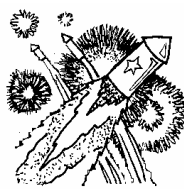
Vespers— Evening Prayer

Tuesday evenings 6-6:30pm in the Church during Advent- join Fr Terry and the choir to pray the Liturgy of Hours Evening Prayer.



Attention Lectors and Extra-ordinary Ministers of Communion.

We need you for the Christmas and New Year’s masses. There is a signup form in the sacristy. Please sign up to serve the mass you will be attending.



FAREWELL PARTY FOR FR. TERRY

The Farewell Party for Fr. Terry will be Tues. January 3rd . Fr. Terry will celebrate his last mass with us at St. John’s at 6pm.

Dinner and festivities will follow in the cafeteria. Please bring a dessert to share. All groups, organizations, and parishioners are invited to attend. If you would like to help, please call Cathy O’Toole 893-8760 for more info. If anyone has pictures of Fr. Terry at mass, school events, weddings, baptisms, with the youth group, just relaxing, (candid shots are great), etc. we would like them to become part of a special slide show. Please bring them to the office by Dec. 22nd . If you have digital pictures, they can be emailed directly to Cathy O’Toole at cotoole@stjohnthebaptistchico.org

The monthly Tridentine Latin Mass will be celebrated today, Sunday, Dec. 18th (third Sunday of the month) at 2:00pm.
 Fr. Paul Schloeder, celebrant.

VISIT OUR NEW PARISH WEBSITE:

www.stjohnthebaptistchico.org.

It is up and running, thanks to the hard work of some wonderful parishioners. It contains a lot of information and features, including the Weekly Bulletin, news and events, celebration schedules, ministries, a photo gallery and much, much more! Come “browse” with us.

The Church Website: www.stjohnthebaptistchico.org
 office email address: churchoffice@stjohnthebaptistchico.org
 Fr. Terry's email address: Highlander44@sbcglobal.net
 Fr. Terry's web-site: frterryfulton.org

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Lorraine Burton, William Gress and for their family.

❖ **Calendar for the week** ❖

- Sat. 17** Confessions 10-11am
 Posadas 7-9pm start in church, followed by party in the gym
- Sun. 18 4th Sunday of Advent**
 Childcare at 9:30a mass, upper meeting room of school
 Tridentine Latin Mass- 2pm
 Children's Liturgy of the Word, 5:30p mass
 LifeTeen 6:45-8:30p see LifeTeen section
 Posadas 7-9pm start in church, followed by party in the gym
- Mon. 19 Penance Service at ODS- 12 noon and 7pm**
 JrLife 7:00-8:30pm. Upper Mtg Rm of school.
 Posadas 7-9pm start in church, followed by party in the gym
- Tues. 20 Penance Service in Oroville 3:30pm**
 Vespers- evening prayer 6-6:30 in the Church
 Choir practice 6:30pm
 Posadas 7-9pm in the gym
- Wed. 21 St. Peter Canisius**
 7pm Misa
 Posadas 7-9pm start in church, followed by party in the gym
- Thurs. 22**
 Posadas 7-9pm start in church, followed by party in the gym
- Fri 23 St. John of Kanty**
 Adoration 3:30-4:30p in church
 Posadas 7-9pm start in church, followed by party in the gym
- Sat. 24 VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS see mass schedule on pg. 1**
 Confessions 10-11am
 No Spanish CFF
- Sun. 25 CHRISTMAS DAY see mass schedule on pg. 1**

✠ **Mass Intentions** ~St. John the Baptist ✠

- Sat 17** 7:30a ✠ Louis Ianonne (✠)
 5:30 ✠ Connie Fernandes (✠)
- Sun 18** 7:30a ✠ Mary Figura (✠)
 9:30a For the People of God
- Spanish** 12:30p
 Tridentine- 2:00p Special Intention
 5:30p ✠ Juanita Soria (✠)
- Mon 19** 7:30a ✠ Kathy Logan (✠)
- Tues 20** 7:30a ✠ Louie Iannone (✠)
- Wed 21** 7:30a Rosanna Correa (living-birthday)
- Spanish** 7:00p
- Thurs 22** 7:30a ✠ Mary VanBuskirk (✠) and
 Jason VanBuskirk (living)
- Fri 23** 7:30a ✠ William Kaps (✠)
 8:45a No School Mass
- Sat 24** 7:30a Carlena Boutwell (living-birthday)
- Vigil** 5:30p ✠ Harry Cimquini (✠)
- Spanish** 7:30p
 12:00a
- Sun 25** 7:30p DJM Missionaries of Mercy
 9:30a For the People of God
 11:00a ✠ Ted Jackenhoefert (✠)
- Spanish** 12:30p ✠ Joaquin Murillo (✠)
 5:30p No Mass

✠ **Mass Intentions** ~St. James ✠

Sun
 ✠ Indicates deceased

❖ **ESPAÑOL** ❖

- Domingo 18** 4° Domingo de Adviento
 2pm La Misa en Latin, El tercer Domingo del mes
 7pm- Las posadas comienzan en el templo
 8-9pm Las piñatas en el gimnasio
- Lunes 19** 7pm- Las posadas comienzan en el templo
 8-9pm Las piñatas en el gimnasio
- Martes 20** 7pm- Las posadas en el gimnasio
 8-9pm Las piñatas en el gimnasio
- Miércoles 21** San Pedro Canisio
 Inicio del invierno
 Confesiones 6:30p
 Misa a las 7:00 pm.
 7pm- Las posadas comienzan en el templo
 8-9pm Las piñatas en el gimnasio
 Coro 6:30p
 A.A. en Español 7pm
- Jueves 22** 7pm- Las posadas comienzan en el templo
 8-9pm Las piñatas en el gimnasio
- Viernes 23** San Juan de Kanty
 7pm- Las posadas comienzan en el templo
 8-9pm Las piñatas en el gimnasio
 A.A. en Español 7pm
- Sábado 24** no CFF-
 La Nochebuena~ Misa 7:30pm
- Domingo 25** La Natividad del Señor~ Misa 12:30pm

IMITAR LA DECISIÓN DE MARÍA

El ángel Gabriel hoy le presenta a María un misterio. La pregunta de María "¿Cómo podrá ser esto?" se parece a esas novelas de misterio "¿Quién tiene la culpa?" El misterio de salvación en Cristo no es un misterio que se pueda resolver, sino una realidad más allá de nuestro entendimiento en la cual nos decidimos a participar. En la liturgia de la Iglesia Oriental, todos esperan para ver si María participará en el misterio: Dios espera, Adán y Eva y todas las almas de los muertos que anhelan el Paraíso esperan, los ángeles esperan tener nuevos compañeros celestiales. Y hay gran regocijo cuando su decisión es un "sí".

A nosotros se nos ofrecen opciones menos dramáticas, pero el misterio de nuestra salvación en Cristo de ningún modo queda "solucionado". Puede que ahora lo entendamos un poco mejor gracias al "sí" de María. Puede que estemos un poco más cercanos a él mediante la pasión, muerte y resurrección de Jesucristo. Pero, en último término, sigue siendo una realidad más allá de nuestro entendimiento, un misterio al cual todos debemos dar nuestro propio "sí". Ya pronto estaremos cantando "Venid y adoremos". Que nuestra oración de Adviento, a imitación del "sí" de María, continúe para

que podamos participar en el misterio de nuestra salvación en Jesucristo, Dios-con-nosotros.

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◆ **PARISH NEWS** ◆

Catholics Returning Home: an open door for returning Catholics, WELCOME! Were you raised Catholic but no longer or seldom come to Church? Are you a Catholic who now feels separated from the Church? Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church as it is today? Would you like to feel at home in the Church again? No matter how long you have been away and no matter what the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church. After the first of the year we will be starting a new session for Catholics Returning Home. For more details and information contact CRH Coordinator Deacon James Burkett 893-2348. This is a Collaborative Ministry of St. John the Baptist, Our Divine Savior, and the Newman Center.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter local support group meets the first Saturday of every month. The coordinating couple is Stephanie and deacon James Burkett. We start with a Potluck dinner at 6:30pm and fellowship at 7:30pm. Marriages have challenges, not only from the world but within our own relationships. Having a support group makes life and marriage relationship stronger and more vibrant. Our friends as well as our children and their friends, are watching. Come rekindle the fire, put the spark back into your relationship. For more details contact Stephanie and James Burkett 893-2348.

Retirement Fund for the Religious (Religious Institutes) is the bishop's December special collection. Almost 33,000 women religious and more than 5,500 men religious are past the age of 70. Retired religious continue to visit the sick, tutor children, and volunteer in parishes and work among refugee populations. Your donation helps alleviate the spiraling costs of health care. In 2004, 528 institutes received grants made possible by this appeal. Please be generous.

Kid Corral: Next meeting is January 28th. Kids of all ages are welcome. In addition, Walk For Life West Coast will be on January 21 in San Francisco. Kids from Kid Corral are going again this year. Call Hillary Gomez (or mom, Kelly) 891-4500 if you are interested in going.

Support Catholic Radio in the Chico area. Listen to "The Catholic Hour: Why Be Catholic" featuring Joe Hollcraft as the host. Please tune in KKXX AM930 at 11AM on Saturdays (live) and 11AM Sundays (encore). If you would like to sponsor this program on the air please contact the office- 343-8741.

The newly restored Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament is open after 28 months of restoration.

- Tours are available following the 12:10pm Mass on Wednesdays and following the 9 & 11am masses on Sundays. There are



significant changes to the Cathedral well worth seeing.

◆ **PARISH NEWS** ◆

Walk For Life West Coast 2006: Make history- join thousands of West Coast pro-lifers on Jan. 21, 2006 for the 2nd Annual Walk for Life West Coast. Join us in challenging the notion that abortion has ever been a good choice for women, for men, for families or for our society. Join us as we proclaim the truth that abortion hurts women, men and children, and that we all deserve better than abortion. Help proclaim a message of Life and Peace throughout the streets of San Francisco. The Walk for life will begin at 11am at Justin Herman Plaza (near the Ferry Bldg. in San Francisco). For more info- call 415-586-1576 or visit website www.walkforlifewc.com.



Walk for Life Participants from the Sacramento Diocese are invited to celebrate 8am mass at St. Rose Church, 5961 Franklin Blvd., Sac. Then a bus for San Francisco departs from St. Rose parking lot after the 8am mass. Bus reservations are required, the cost is \$15 per person. Bus reservation deadline is Jan 11. To reserve contact Lenore Mullarkey, 916-395-9370.

A weekly Holy Hour is held at St. John's every Friday, 3:30-4:30p. Come spend some time with Jesus exposed in the Blessed Sacrament.

Knights of Columbus "ALL YOU CAN EAT" 2006 Crab Feed at St. John's. Mark your calendars NOW for Sat. Feb.4, Doors open at 5pm, dinner is served at 7pm and the raffle is at 9pm. One ticket per \$30 donation.. Last day to get tickets is Monday, Jan. 16th. NO TICKETS WILL BE ISSUED AT THE DOOR. Premium wines, cocktails and beer will be on tap. There will be a \$10 corkage fee on wine brought from home. For tickets call Jim Currlin 343-6409 or 343-4067 or come by the church office, 435 Chestnut St., M-F 9-12:30 or 1:30-4:30.

◆ **Community News** ◆

Mark Your Calendars Now: Dr Alexander Shaia, noted Scripture Scholar, Speaker, and Author will make a presentation on the Gospel of Mark; Friday, Jan. 27, 7-8:30pm and Saturday, Jan 28, 9am-3pm at Sacred Heart Parish Center in Red Bluff.

Widowhood Program: Come and meet new friends, eat good food and learn about interesting programs that are available. We meet for breakfast on Mondays and lunch on Wednesdays and love to have new people join us. For more info on this great program, give Anne a call at 342-4291 on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

Become an Enloe Hospice Volunteer: You will learn to be a supportive companion to patients who are receiving hospice care and also assist family members both during their loved one's illness and during the bereavement process that follows. Training begins Friday, January 13. The course will run for ten Friday afternoons, 2:00-5:00, through March 17. Classes are held at Enloe Conference Center, at 5th and Esplanade. For more information

contact Nancy, Volunteer Coordinator at 332-3180. An interview is required prior to training.

❖ **MARRIAGE & FAMILY** ❖

Marriage Encounter Community Night. Attention Encountered couples, we meet in the upper meeting room of the school from 6:30-8:30pm. on the first Saturday of the month. Please join us. Call Stephanie and James Burkett 893-2348 for details.

RETRouvaille- Help for Hurting Marriages! Tens of thousands of marriages headed for divorce have successfully been saved by attending a Retrouvaille program. If you are thinking of separation or divorce or you are already separated or divorced but want to try again, then we believe Retrouvaille can help. For additional info, see the websites: www.retrouvaille.org or Sacramento@RetroCA.com. You can also call Fred and Barbara at 800-283-5952 or Fran at 916-362-2525. Retrouvaille (the French word for "rediscovery") is a live-in weekend and non-live-in post-weekend program for married couples. The emphasis is on a technique of communication between a husband and wife. A series of in-depth presentations are given by one of three married couples and a priest that focuses on a specific area of a marriage relationship. Post-weekend sessions continue the marriage renewal begun on the weekend and review earlier concepts in greater depth, introduce new ones and help you to apply these concepts to your own marriage.

Marriage Encounter We are looking to help make good marriages even better! If you have a good marriage and want to make it a great marriage, come to a Marriage Encounter Weekend! Call Dorothy & Aric Cook 891-0426 more details.

Want to be part of the statistic that has less than 2% divorce rate? Then Natural Family Planning is what you want! In addition to less than a 2% divorce rate, it is better than all other methods in achieving or avoiding pregnancy, it has no side effects, is very low cost, and treats both women and men with respect.

Natural Family Planning (Creighton model) classes are available right here in Chico as well as in Yuba City. Contact Jackie Hollcraft P.A.C., M.S. (899-0243) in Chico or Dr. Gretchen Marsh (671-9625) in Yuba City. This model is introduced in our Marriage Prep. classes.

Catholic Marriage Enrichment Group Our next meeting is in the social hall at Our Divine Savior on Jan. 4th, 6:45 - 9pm. The theme will be "How to Become Best Friends with Your Mate and Family". All Catholic married couples are welcome so please join us. If you have questions, please contact Debbie Weinrich at Sierra Counseling Service 342-2878.



Pray for ...

- Fr. Terry as he transitions to his new assignment in Woodland.
- the Holy Spirit to choose our new priest and bless our community
- all Priests and Religious
- our Bishops, William Weigand, Richard Garcia, and Francis Quinn
- for the intentions of Pope Benedict XVI
- the many, many sick and suffering of our parish family
- the victims and relief workers of tragedies
- our military men and women.
- an end to abortion.
- healing for those women and men wounded by abortion
- our political leaders and our country to respect and defend life in all its stages
- Christian marriages and families
- vocations to the priesthood and religious life
- success of the Catholic high school project
- Fr. JB, his many projects in Kenya and our sister parish, St. John the Baptist, in Nyeri, Kenya.
- the holy souls in Purgatory
- the intentions of our parishioners
- those who have no one to pray for them

POPE BENEDICT'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

"That an ever deeper understanding be spread of the dignity of men and women according to the Creator's plan."

His mission intention is: "That, on earth, the search for God and thirst for truth, may lead every human being to meet the Lord."

"St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen"

Collections for last Sunday
St. John St. James
\$ 9,295 \$520

Thank You for Your Generosity to St. John's & St. James



If you would like to be on the Lifeteen mailing list please contact Rob at 342-4687 leave us a message and a phone number.
www.chicolifeteen.org

Jr. High Students~ JR LIFE Christmas Party.
 Please bring a \$5 wrapped gift for the gift exchange.
 Join us in the Upper Meeting Room of Notre Dame School this Monday at 6:45! Meeting ends 8:30pm.
 Bring your friends!

Next two Weeks: No meetings for Christmas or New Year's.

High School Students: : LIFE TEEN Christmas party.
 Please bring a \$5 wrapped gift for the gift exchange.
 Join us in the Upper Meeting Room of Notre Dame School right after the 5:30 LIFE TEEN Mass. Bring your friends!

Next Week. No meeting on Christmas or New Years

Youth House School Hours: We're open Mon-Thurs.
 Mon. 3pm-4:30pm; Tues. 3pm-8pm; Wed. 3pm-5:30pm and Thurs. 3pm-8pm (these times are sometimes subject to change, so call first to make sure we're open.)

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS - IN THE ZONE PRAYER GROUP meets every Thursday at 5:00pm. Join us at the Youth House as we study Christ's living word in the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelations. All high school students are welcome!!

NEW TEEN "PRAYER IN YOUR LIFE" GROUP: is getting ready to start! For more information call Debbie Rosales at 894-8552.

XLT: (Exalt) Come together for praise and worship in front of Exposition of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament (in church). Open to all teens and young adults in the Deanery ages 14-30. The next XLT is January 26th at 7:00PM

Join the CORE! We are currently looking for new CORE Team members, ages 18 thru 118 with a heart for teens. If you are interested please call 342-4687 and ask for Rob.

Youth Sacrament Preparation For Teens

For teens in grades 7-12 who need Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion and/or Confirmation. Contact Jason at the Church office if this is something you

need.

◇ CFF: CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION ◇

Religious Education Questions ?:
 Call Jason Van Buskirk 343-8741

CFF Meets Today

No CFF next Sunday, Dec.25th
No CFF on Jan 1st.

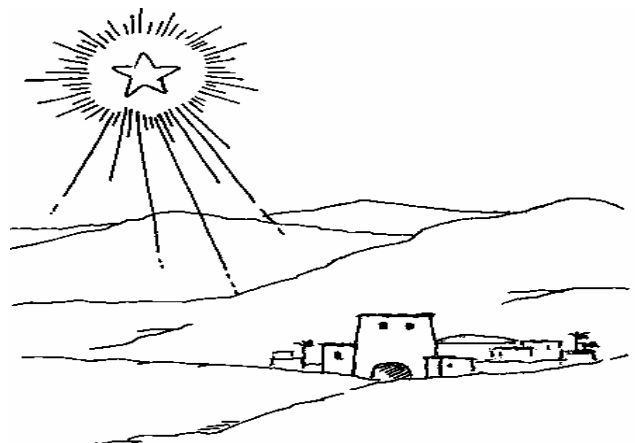
See you on Jan.8th

CFF Christmas Tree Decoration: Saturday, December 24, 12:30-1:00 p.m. in the Church. The ornaments your children are making in CFF will decorate the trees in the vestibule for the Christmas season. They will be returned to the children after Epiphany.

SACRAMENTS

All children who are expecting to receive sacraments should have their registrations turned in to Jason.

Sacrament Parent's Class: Next class is Tuesday, January 17th, 7-8 p.m. in the Upper Meeting Room. We will be discussing the Sacrament of Confession.



❖ PARISH INFORMATION ❖

Welcome to Our Community



Registrations: We are so happy that you have decided to join us. To register with St. John's or our mission church, St. James, fill out a registration form available in the vestibule of the church or church office & drop it in the collection or at the office (343-8741) located across the street from the parking lot at 435 Chestnut St.

Marriages: make arrangements with the priest no less than 6 months in advance of your desired date. For an appointment with the priest call the office 343-8741.

Baptisms: The required Baptism classes are offered every other month in English and every month in Spanish. Come to the office for a baptism registration form and class information or call the office 343-8741 for information.

Children's Faith Formation (C.F.F.): Pre-K through 6th grade. **September–May.** Registration is in August. Classes began Sept 11th. Contact Jason Van Buskirk, DRE at the office 343-8741.

Children's Sacraments: Requires at least 2 years attendance in Religious Education (CFF or Notre Dame School). Registration is in August. Contact Jason for info. 343-8741.

Confirmation: Is received in the 6th grade and requires a minimum of 2 years attendance in an approved religious education program. Call Jason 343-8741 for more info.

Youth Sacrament Program: For youth in grades 7-12 who need sacraments: Baptism, First Penance, First Communion and/or Confirmation. Contact Jason 343-8741. Registrations are from Aug. 22 – Sept. 16. Classes begin Oct. 12.

Rite of Christian Initiation Adapted for Children: (RCIC)

If your elementary age children have missed Baptism or First Communion contact Jason Van Buskirk 343-8741.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Interested in what the Church teaches, in becoming a Catholic, or have missed some sacraments, please contact Deacon Steve Schwartz 891-0626.

❖ BIBLE STUDIES ❖

Men's Bible Study: meets every Friday morning 6-7am in the Knights of Columbus Room at Our Divine Savior Parish Hall. Also join them for breakfast after from 7-8am if you can. Call Deacon Steve Schwartz 891-0626 for details.

Women's Bible Study: Tuesday mornings 9-11am at Terry Matthews' home. Prayer, fellowship, discussion of daily readings and Scott Hahn scripture study. Everyone is welcome—no prior experience needed! Call Terry 893-1644 for details.

Bible Study with Joe Hollcraft: You can hear Joe "live" on the radio, "**The Catholic Hour: Why Be Catholic**". on KKXX AM930 at 11:00am on Saturdays and re-aired on Sundays at 11:00am.

❖ PRAYER GROUPS ❖

Eucharistic Adoration: Weekly: every Friday 3:30-4:40pm
Monthly: the first Monday of the month, all day 8:00am—7:00pm. Benediction is from 6:45-7pm.

XLТ: (Exalt) open to all teens and young adults in the Deanery ages 14—30. Meets in the Church on the last Thursday of the month at 7:00PM

Holy Spirit Prayer Group: meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Newman Center at 7pm. Call Carolyn Cyr 891-4815 or Deacon James Burkett 893-2348 for information.

Rosary Prayer Group: meets in the Church on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm. (English)

Pro-Life Prayer Group — Missionaries to the Unborn: Help rescue the unborn through prayer. Every Saturday 9:00am-11:00am. we pray outside the Feminist Women's Health Center abortion mill, 1469 Humbolt Rd. (across from the police station) Pray with us and stand for Life. Questions? Call Jim 891-0427.

In The Zone Prayer Group: High School students meet Thursday evenings, 5:00pm in the Youth House.

Kid Corral For kids of all ages! See Parish News for more information or call Hillary Gomez at 891-4500 (or mom, Kelly)

Grupo de Oración and Jr. Grupo meets Tuesday evenings in the upper meeting room of the school at 7:00pm (Spanish)

Legión de María Rosario meets on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm. Contact Raquel Ruiz for more information 343-8741 (Spanish)

Clase de Oración meets Friday evenings at 7-9pm. (Spanish) in the cafeteria.

Readings for the week of 12/19-12/25

Mon: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25
Tues: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
Wed: Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45
Thurs 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
Fri: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66
Sat: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79
Sun: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25
Mt 1:1-25
Midnight: Is.9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97; Ti 3:4-7;
Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Theme for 12/25 "Salvation is from God"

Liturgy of the Hours ~ Week IV

St John the Baptist's Advertiser of the Week
CHICO COLLISION CENTER, INC.

WRINKLE REMOVERS

530- 343-2480

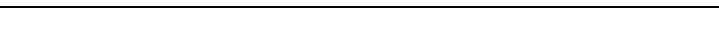
We are very grateful for all of our advertisers. *Thank you!!!*

NFP Natural Family Planning Want be part of the statistic that has less than 2% divorce rate? Then Natural Family Planning is what you need! In addition to less than a 2% divorce rate, it is better than all other methods in achieving or avoiding pregnancy, it has no side effects, is very low cost, and treats both women and men with respect **NFP (Creighton model) classes are now available in Chico!** Contact Jackie Hollcraft 899-0243.

Bethlehem Christian Families A few weeks ago, hand carved, olive-wood religious articles from Bethlehem in the Holy Land were available for sale after the masses. These are a result of the workmanship of over 85 Christian families who make their livelihood selling their Nativity scenes, rosaries, crucifixes, Last Supper designs and various other religious statues to tourists. As the tourist trade has fallen off dramatically, relatives abroad are making these beautiful articles available so the families can maintain a Catholic presence in Bethlehem and the Jerusalem area. If you are interested in more info please see www.BCF-Olive.com or email Bcf@Bcf-Olive.com.

NFP (Couple to Couple League) is available in Paradise with Neil and Mary Essila. The cost is \$75 per couple. Please call Neil or Mary at 876-8206.

Catholic Married Couples Group The next meeting will be on Dec. 7th at St. John the Baptist from 6:45 – 9pm. All Catholic married couples are invited no matter how long you have been married. We are watching a video and discussing how we can apply the principles to our marriages. This is a great opportunity to get to know other couples in our greater Catholic community and support one another in living out our sacramental vocation. For more info call Debbie Weinrich at Sierra Counseling Service 342-2878.



The Bishop's Collection: The regular monthly diocesan collection for September is for Diocesan Priests Retirement. Envelopes are in the Vestibule for your convenience.


Pray for ...

◆ **AROUND THE DIOCESE and beyond** ◆

Attention prayerful single men! The New Camaldoli Hermitage in Big Sur, the Marists Fathers and Brothers in Berkley, Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside, Holy Trinity Trappist Monastery in Huntsville, Utah and Gethsemani Abbey in Trappist, Ky. Will be hosting group and individual “Live-in Experience” vocational retreats soon. Work and pray with the monks. Weekend dates are also available. There is no cost but space is limited. For information call toll free 1-800-221-1807.

“St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen”

XLT- Have you wondered what it is? XLT (exalt) If you are between 14 & 30 yrs old and like to sing and praise God, this is an opportunity for you to praise, worship and grow in your faith. Join our young adult Catholic community and the LifeTeen Band in worshipping God on the last Thursday of every month at 7pm here at St. John’s in the church.



◆ **OTHER NEWS** ◆

◆ **NFP Natural Family Planning** ◆

NFP (Creighton model) classes are available right here in Chico and as well as in Yuba City. Contact **Jackie Hollcraft P.A.C., M.S. (899-0243)** in Chico or Dr. Gretchen Marsh (671-9625) in Yuba City. This is the model that is introduced in our Marriage Prep. classes.

NFP (Couple to Couple League) is available in Paradise with Neil and Mary Essila. The cost is \$75 per couple. Please call Neil or Mary at 876-8206.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING—NFP

If you missed the introductory session held here but are interested in finding out more about NFP or if you are ready to start, call Jackie Hollcraft 899-0243. Leave a message if she is not home.

Catholics Returning Home: Were you raised Catholic but when you come to Mass you find it hard to understand, because of all the changes? Are you feeling separated or alienated from the Church? Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church as it is today? Would you like to feel at home in the Catholic Church again? No matter how long you have been away and no matter what the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Lord and with the Catholic Church. Please join us for these informal listening sessions and update of the Catholic faith. The sessions are held on Monday evenings starting Sept. 12, 7:30-8:30. We are meeting in the parish office, upstairs @ 435 Chestnut St. For more info. call Deacon James Burkett 893-2348.

Widowhood Program: “Friends are quiet angels who lift us to our feet when our wings have trouble remembering how to fly”. Come and meet new friends, eat good food and learn about interesting programs available. We meet for breakfast on Mondays and lunch on Wednesdays. For more info on this great program, call Anne at 342-4291 on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

St. Patrick’s Home for Children is desperate for foster families. If you think you would like to be a foster parent or a benefactor of St. Patrick’s Home for Children, Inc. call Steve Isbell: 916-386-1603

American Cancer Society programs, 754 Mangrove Ave. (Safeway shopping center) 342-4567, option 3. for reservations.

Prostate Cancer Support Group. Learn about diagnosis and treatment options. We meet the 3rd Thurs. of every month at the Enloe Conference Center, Room 101.

Strength for Caring: A free program providing education and support for those living with or caring for someone with cancer.

Please think about volunteering. We need clerical, phoning, drivers and many other positions. Call us today. 342-4567.

For hand-made baptismal gowns and other apparel for that special little one, call Blessed Event at 893-9339.

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accepting applications for Director of Education, a part-time, paid position. Call Connie 897-6103 if interested in applying.

Wedding Banns

Cost Cutting: In our efforts to curb spending we looked for ways to lessen our mailing costs and found that the company who provides our donation envelopes will send them directly to your homes. This saves us a lot in postage. You will be getting more than one month's envelopes at a time. Thank you for your patience as we make this change.

◆ More News ◆

FIRST MONDAY: ADORATION/EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is tomorrow

All day Monday, December 5th
after 7:30am Mass to 6:45pm Benediction.
Sign-ups are in the vestibule.

All hours must be covered.

Come spend a holy hour with Jesus
exposed in the Blessed Sacrament



An explanation follows:

Parents, are your children ready to hear God's word proclaimed and explained to them at their level? St. John's has revived the "Children's Liturgy of the Word" ministry. Children Pre-K – 4th grade are welcome to join us for a celebration of the Liturgy of the Word designed especially for them. As soon as a ministry team is gathered, we will initially begin the program at the Sunday 5:30 pm Mass.

After the opening prayer the children will be invited to come forward for a blessing before their dismissal. The children will follow the same liturgical calendar and will hear the same readings as you, but on their level. They will learn the parts of the Mass and how to be a joyful and active participant. After their Liturgy, the children will return to Mass during the collection.

For the ministry team, we need adult volunteers to help lead, read, help with crowd control and musicians/song leaders. You don't need to have children to get involved with this ministry and we will provide you with all the materials and training that you need. No skills are required – just a heart for teaching children about God.

If you would like to volunteer or just have some questions about this ministry, please call us: Matt & Pamela Meuter 566-0425 or email: pamelameuter@hotmail.com

Want be part of the statistic that has less than 2% divorce rate? Then Natural Family Planning is what you need! In addition to less than a 2% divorce rate, it is better than all other methods in achieving or avoiding pregnancy, it has no side effects, is very low cost, and treats both women and men with respect **NFP (Creighton model) classes are available as close as Yuba City.** Contact Dr. Gretchen Marsh (671-9625)

OR.....

If you prefer the Billings Ovulation Method of Fertility Management there is a new series of instruction for NFP starting in Sept. If you would like to schedule and appt. for the Billing Method or just want to discuss NFP and the Church's views on the topic and how it can enhance your marriage, please call, Kim Cole at 275-2282 or email Kim at WatkinsCole@AOL.com.



Feeding the Homeless (second Wednesday & third Tuesday of the month). Thank you, we have adequate volunteers to feed the homeless at the Torres Shelter on our two days in August. Our list of new volunteers continues to grow. In addition, many who prepare and serve have such a good experience that they ask to come back frequently. If you want to help on Sept. 14th or 20th, call Jerry Converse 342-2134.

Women's Resource Center, a medically licensed Christian ministry in Chico, committed to supporting women who have experienced or are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy, is

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Rosary 7pm in the church

Mass in english: 7:30, 9:30am & 5:30 pm
Misa en Español: 12:00 noon & 7:00pm

Lifeteen: In the Zone Prayer Group 5pm @ the
Lifeteen Youth House

Fri 11 **(Our Lady of Lourdes World Day of the Sick)**
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (3:30-4:30p)

The Altar Society needs help! We are not an organization with meetings or dues. Our work is a ministry of the church. This ministry consists of several teams of two or three people who are assigned to a given month. We work an hour or so each Saturday of that month preparing the church for Sunday Masses. For many years, a small dedicated group has been attending to this ministry but due to ill health, etc., we are in need of new dedicated helpers. We need you no matter what your age. Remember the Church is our House of Worship and every little bit of help you give is a big help to all of us.

Please... we need additional helpers. Call now and volunteer.

Thank you, call Thelma Seiler 342-4393 or the Church office 343-8741.

✠ **TIME, TALENT, TREASURE** ✠

We invite you to participate in our parish by volunteering for any of the following ministries:

Ministry	Contact Person
<u>Adult Education</u>	Jason Van Buskirk 343-8741
Adult Faith Formation	Jason Van Buskirk 343-8741
Catechist Formation	Jason Van Buskirk 343-8741
Catholics Returning Home	Deacon James Burkett 893-2348
RCIA	Deacon Steve Schwartz 891-0626
Women's Bible Study	
Young Adult Bible Study	
Scripture Study	
<u>Altar Servers</u>	Fr. Terry 343-8741
<u>Altar Society</u>	Thelma Seiler 342-4393
<u>Baptism Prep</u> class	Aric & Dorothy Cook

Call the parish office to register
Extra-ordinary ministers of the Eucharist
Lectors
Hospital visitation
Homebound & Convalescent

✠ **PILGRIMAGES** ✠

Treasures from our Tradition

In a few weeks' time, at the chrism Mass of the diocese, fresh sacramental oils will be blessed and chrism consecrated for

us in every parish. Olive oil is the main ingredient of chrism, but olive oil with some exotic additives that change its character and purpose. Rich balsam and perfumes separate chrism from the pantry. Food no longer, neither is this oil for grooming or toning muscles. It has a breathtaking aroma that is both alluring and enduring.

The prayer of consecration is a good Lenten meditation since it focuses us on the goal of our journey, linking it with the olive-bearing dove at the end of Noah's stormy voyage of forty days. The dove signaled the birth of a new world, a society reborn from the wreckage of the old, drowned world of sin. At the end of our Lenten journey, the oil of chrism will be poured down in abundance on the brows of catechumens and infants, as well as on those to be confirmed or ordained. Lent puts us in touch with the hard edges of life in need of salvation, and the chrism of Easter joy redeems and restores.

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The Trinity Cross: Every five years the bishops of every diocese in the world go to Rome to make their "ad limina Apostolorum" (to the threshold of the Apostles) visit by praying at the tombs of Sts. Peter and Paul. During their visit they provide detailed accounts of the affairs of their diocese to the successor of Peter, the Pope.

Five years ago our bishops brought back to the faithful of the diocese, Eucharist medals that were blessed by Pope John Paul II. Many of you still wear or carry them. This year, Bishops Weigand and Garcia were in Rome in May and have brought back crucifixes from their ad limina visit.

This crucifix depicts the Holy Trinity and is modeled after a 16th century fresco in a Dominican church in Florence, Italy. The letters P.P. on the back are the abbreviation of an ancient title of the Pope. They stand for the Latin words "Pastor Pastorum" or the Shepherd of Shepherds. All of the crucifixes have been blessed by the Holy Father.