

Corpus Christi Newsletter

December 2005

Advent On Sunday, December 4, we begin the liturgical season of Advent. Advent has a two-fold character. Firstly, it is a time in which to prepare for the celebration of Christmas, the remembrance and celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, Son of God, come as savior of the world. Secondly, it is a season in which, through the Sunday and daily Scripture readings, we are reminded that, as he came once as Redeemer, Jesus will come again in glory as Judge of the living and the dead. In making Advent a time of spiritual preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ, we ought also prepare to welcome him when he comes in glory accompanied by his angels to gather into his heavenly kingdom all who were faithful to him in his kingdom on earth. Let us observe Advent and prepare the way of the Lord into our hearts and homes when he comes to us through our celebration of Christmas Mass and our receiving him, body, blood, soul and divinity, in Holy Communion during the Mass of Christmas.

The Greatest Grace that was ever given me was my reception into the Catholic Church *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*, the first native born American to be canonized.

CONFESSIONS: Corpus Christi Only

Penance Service & Confessions:
Dec. 14 (Wed) 7:00 PM
Confessions:
Dec. 17 (Sat) 5:30-6:00 PM
Dec. 23 (Fri) Noon-1:00 PM
7:00-8:00 PM

Devotions

Mon (5:15-6:15 p.m.): Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Adoration of Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist.

Thurs (4:00- 6:00 p.m.): Exposition and Adoration of Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist.

Cathedral Rededication The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, the principal and mother church of our diocese, was rededicated on Sunday, November 20, Feast of Christ the King. The first Mass celebrated north of San Francisco was offered by Father Peter Augustine, (Dominican) on August 10, 1850, in a private home at 5th and L Streets, Sacramento. Among the participants was the first governor of California, Peter Burnett. The Diocese of Sacramento was established on May 28, 1886 by Pope Leo XIII. It succeeded the Vicariate of Marysville (est.1860) and the Diocese of Grass Valley (est. 1868). Bishop Patrick Manogue (miner become priest and bishop) was its first bishop. In 1889 the building of the cathedral was completed and it was dedicated by Bishop Manogue. Both the diocese and its cathedral were named in honor of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist - The Most Blessed Sacrament. So also is one of the two major rivers of northern California - the Sacramento River. Five of our parishioners were privileged to participate in, and represent our parish at, the Solemn Mass and rededication of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament - an event of major historical significance.

Church Restoration and Repair on Queen of the Snows, Olympic Valley, is almost complete. Corpus Christi Church and Rectory pre-painting repair and painting will, God willing, begin early next summer.

Funding: Budget: \$300,000.00; Income to date: \$145,934.00; Expenditures to date:\$153,933.39
Thanks to all -full time parishioners, part time parishioners, visitors - who have made and continue to make contributions to the restoration and repair of our churches.

Listen to Catholic Radio

KIHM 920 AM Reno;
KSMH 1620 AM Sacramento

Religious Education

Religious Education Classes Grades 1-6 meet on Thursdays, 3:15 – 4:30 p.m. in the Parish (Mulligan) Hall. These classes are provided to help (not substitute for) parents fulfill their God-given privilege and responsibility of instructing and forming their children in the Christian Faith. Our parish, and especially our parish parents, are blessed to have and are greatly indebted to our Religious Education Staff: Barbara Schlumpf (Director) and volunteer teachers – Donna Anderson, Mary Collins, Lynn Fagan, Patricia Lebreton, Lauren Parson, Jaime Sharbrough.

Universal Call to Holiness “All Christians in any state or walk of life are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of charity. ‘Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect’ (Mt 5:48). God wants us to be holy. One must try to sanctify oneself in one’s [place within the Church of Christ. Lay Christians live in the ordinary circumstances of family and social life, from which the very web of their existence is woven.

By their very vocation, they seek the Kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and by ordering them according to the plan of God. They live in the world, that is, in each and in all the secular professions and occupations.

Hence the laity, dedicated as they are to Christ and anointed by the Holy Spirit, are marvelously called and prepared, so that even richer fruits of the Spirit may be produced in them. For all their works, prayers, and apostolic undertakings, family and married life, daily work, relaxation of mind and body, if they are accomplished in the Spirit – indeed even the hardships of life, if patiently borne – all these become spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. In the celebration of the Eucharist these may most fittingly be offered to the Father along with the body of the Lord. And so, worshipping everywhere by their holy actions, the laity consecrate the world itself to God, everywhere offering worship by the holiness of their lives.

The way of perfection passes by way of the cross. There is no holiness without renunciation and spiritual battle. Spiritual progress entails the self-discipline and mortification that gradually lead to living in the peace and joy of the Beatitudes (cf 2 Timothy 2:4). ‘Without mortification, there is no happiness on earth’ (St. Josemaria Escriva) “ - Vat. II, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church.

Confirmation Preparation The process introduced this year for preparing our parish candidates for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation is called *Family Catechesis*. At once a month sessions candidates and parents together meet with Patricia Lebreton, director of the preparation process. At each session the material assigned for study over the previous month is reviewed and material to be studied by candidates and parents over the next month is outlined and explained. Parents are invited to participate in these monthly sessions with their daughter / son Confirmation candidate. They are encouraged to participate with the candidate in studying the material at home. Participating parents have found the process convenient and enriching for themselves. We are greatly indebted to Patricia Lebreton for donating her time and talents to facilitate this process of instruction and preparation of candidates for Confirmation.

Family Prayer If you desire peace in your hearts, your home, and your country, assemble every evening to recite the Rosary
Pope Pius XII.

Receiving Holy Communion Worthily In order to worthily receive Holy Communion – the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ – one must be free of grave (mortal) sin; that is be in the state of Sanctifying Grace. One must also fast from food and drink (water excepted) for one hour before receiving Holy Communion; exception is made for the sick and the aged. If in doubt consult your confessor or any priest. If one is not free of grave sin one must receive absolution in the Sacrament of Penance (Confession). (see Guidelines for the Reception of Communion on inside of front cover of Missalette)

Pray for the Sick

Bill Brady, Charles Cross, Yvonne Menezes,
Joseph Recchia, Anita Staziak.