

Corpus Christi Newsletter



December 2008



Advent Arrives

The Holy Season of Advent began on Sunday, November 30. It is a time of grace offered to us for preparing ourselves for the proper celebration of Christmas. In celebrating Christmas we commemorate and rejoice in the first coming of Christ - that accomplished through his Incarnation and birth. He is the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity. Sent by God the Father, he was by the power of the Holy Spirit conceived in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This stupendous event we know as the Incarnation. We celebrate it on March 25 and in the First Joyful Mystery of the Holy Rosary.



Christmas

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Again, he is none other than the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity who in the Incarnation became one of us - became man. At the moment of the Virgin Mary's response to the Angel Gabriel - "Let it be done to me according to your word" - the Son of God, Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, took from Mary a human body, created a human soul and infused that soul into the body provided in the womb of Mary, thus forming his human nature. This he did so that he might (and did) redeem us through his Passion and Death on the Cross. Nine months after his conception in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary - his Incarnation - Mary gave birth to him at Bethlehem. This we recall and celebrate at Christmas.

Let us use the Holy Season of Advent well, reading and reflecting on the Scriptures provided for each day of Advent. They are referenced in each week's Sunday bulletin.

Christmas Schedule: For times of Masses and pre-Christmas Confessions, see enclosed leaflet.

Penance Services

(with the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession)

Assumption Church, Truckee: 7:00 p.m. Tues, Dec 16
Corpus Christi Church, Tahoe City: 7:00 p.m. Weds, Dec 17
St. Francis Church, Incline Village: 6:30 p.m. Thurs, Dec 18

Penance - the sacrament of Forgiveness

"Christ instituted the sacrament of Penance for all sinful members of his Church; above all for those who, since Baptism, have fallen into grave sin, and have thus lost their baptismal grace and wounded ecclesial communion. It is to them that the sacrament of Penance offers a new possibility to convert and to recover the grace of justification (holiness). The Fathers of the Church present this sacrament as 'the second plank (of salvation) after the shipwreck which is the loss of grace.'" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1446)

"The spiritual effects of the sacrament of Penance are: - reconciliation with God by which the penitent recovers grace; - reconciliation with the Church; - remission of the eternal punishment incurred by mortal sins; - remission, at least in part, of temporal punishments resulting from sin; - peace and serenity of conscience, and spiritual consolation; - an increase of spiritual strength for the Christian battle." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1496)

Making a well prepared for, and worthy reception of, the Absolution (forgiveness) from sin in the sacrament of Penance an important part of our Advent preparation for Christmas is highly recommended by the Church.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(Monday, December 8)



That the Blessed Virgin Mary was preserved from Original Sin at the first moment of her life - when she was conceived in the womb of her mother - was believed and taught by the Catholic Church from its beginning. In 1854 Pope Pius IX infallibly declared this to be true and a dogma (teaching) of the Catholic Faith. Four years later (1858) the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared Bernadette Soubirous (now Saint Bernadette) at the grotto of Massabielle, Lourdes, France. When asked for her name by Bernadette the Virgin Mary responded: "I am the Immaculate Conception", thus reiterating the belief of the Church from its beginning, and which was confirmed by the infallible declaration of Pope Pius IX, that she was preserved from Original Sin from the first moment of her life - her conception.

Devotions

("So you could not stay awake with me for even an hour?" - Mt. 26:40):

Mon-Fri (8:00 am): Daily Mass
1st Sat (8:00 am): First Saturday Mass & Rosary
Mon (5:15-6:15 p.m.): Adoration of Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist, Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Thurs (4:00- 6:00 p.m.): Exposition and Adoration of the Lord Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist.

The Greatest Grace

"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 declared a Saint. Do we appreciate our being baptized or received into the Catholic Church as the greatest grace given us?



Bishop Gallegos Maternity Home

The parish will participate in a program to support the home and its residents beginning in January 2009. We are looking for volunteers to assist with the effort. If you are interested in additional information, contact Sheila Scribner at 583-4344.

Healing After Abortion Retreat

March 27-29, 2009

Mercy Retreat Center, Auburn

Struggling after an abortion? Still seeking peace years after the choice? Experience the healing love of Jesus at Rachel's Vineyard Retreat, March 27-29, at the Mercy Retreat Center, Auburn. This weekend retreat combines presentations, a memorial service, and more. For additional info, contact Debbie at (916) 733 -0161, or via e-mail at : projectrachel@diocese-sacramento.org all inquiries are strictly confidential.



Retrouvaille of Northern California

A lifeline for troubled marriages

February 13-15, 2009

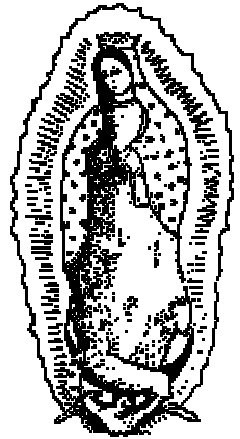
The Retrouvaille Program consists of a weekend experience combined with post-weekend sessions. It is designed to provide the tools to help put your marriage in order again. The main emphasis of the program is on communication between husband and wife. It will give you the opportunity to rediscover each other and to examine your lives together in a new and positive way.

Contact: Ruben and Carmen Teczon
P.O. Box 693177
Stockton, CA 95269
800-283-5952
Sacramento@RetroCA.com

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

(Friday, December 12)

This feast recalls the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the hill of Tepeyac, (near Mexico city) between December 9 through 12, 1531, to Juan Diego. In 1523 Juan, an Astec whose name translated to "Singing Eagle" converted to the Catholic Faith. At Baptism he was given the name "Juan Diego". When on his way to Mass on Saturday, December 9, 1531, the Virgin Mary appeared to him. She said: "I am the ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of the true God who gives life and maintains it in existence." She instructed Juan to ask the bishop of Mexico city to have a church built at the place of the apparitions. To prove to the bishop that the apparitions did happen she had Juan collect Castilian roses on the hill of Tepeyac. She wrapped them in his tilma, tied the corners around his neck and instructed to show them to no one but the bishop. When he untied the tilma in the presence of the bishop the roses fell to the floor but there was now imprinted on the tilma a depiction of the Virgin Mary who had appeared to him. This tilma is still preserved at the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Speaking to Juan Diego, the Blessed Virgin Mary, among other things, said: "I will show compassion to your people and to all people who sincerely ask my help in their work and in their Sorrows." The Virgin Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, is patroness of the Americas. Let us ask her to intercede for us.



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Religious Education

The CCD classes will return to Thursday afternoons beginning January 8th. Call Barbara Schlumpf for more information, at 581-4637

Pray for the Sick

Margie Erman	Marge Faia	Lou Jenkins
Albert Juarez	Joey Kenney	Emily Killian
Teresa Le Fevers	Helen Mathis	Connie Morris
Jack Morris	Marie Niemann	Joseph Recchia
Bill Stelzriede	Bob Sweigert	David Warner

For Prayer Requests, please call the Parish Office at 583-4409

Restoration and Repair - Churches, Rectory, Hall - Update

Campaign Overhead:	(printing, merchant acct. fees) Cost:	\$4,107. ⁶⁹
Queen of the Snows Church:	Work completed. Cost:	\$423,896. ⁶⁰
Corpus Christi Church:	Work completed to date Cost:	\$47,931. ⁰³
Parish Center:	Work completed to date Cost:	\$667. ⁷³
Total Expenditures to Date:		\$476,603.⁰⁵
Restoration & Repair Fund Income to date:		\$498,479.⁹⁷



Remaining Repairs on Church, Rectory, Hall, to be done on a needs priority basis as parish finances permit.
Work in Prospect: repairs as needed; painting preparation; painting. In Progress: Repairs to Front of Church

Thanks to all who support the Restoration and Repair of our parish facilities.