

March 4, 2018

Third Sunday of Lent (B)

Ex 20:1-17 or Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

1 Cor 1:22-25

Jn 2:13-25

Wisdom, Strength

This ceiling painting by Laureti is found in the Constantine Room of the papal apartments. It is a symbolic celebration of the triumph of Christianity over paganism, set in a classical architectural space. The remains of a crushed Hermes lies broken in pieces on the floor, while a crucifix of Jesus Christ sits upon the pedestal.

It is fitting that this painting crowns the papal hall honoring Constantine, the first Roman emperor to leave paganism and be baptized a Christian. Constantine had four basilicas built in Rome—including St. Peter's—and gave Christians freedom of religion in the Roman Empire.

The message is clear. The Romans worshiped statues of gods who were mere human creations and

projections. In the statue's place is not just another statue but a crucifix that reminds us of a reality, a historical event. God himself became human in Jesus Christ and showed his divine strength by emptying himself and being crushed by our sins in order to forgive and win back a rebellious humanity.

This show of godly power through weakness is foolishness to the Gentiles and inconceivable to the Jews. Yet this humility and love is the wisdom that confounds and the strength that saves.

Religion isn't a business or human invention for personal enthronement. Jesus overturns this idea like he overturns the moneychangers' tables. Worship of God is all about accepting his

initiative and humbly responding in the obedience of faith and the purifying joy of love.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

How does my faith foster humility in me?

Are my Lenten practices helping me to be purified from sin and faithful to the gospel?

Piece: *The Triumph of Religion*, 1585
Artist: Tommaso Laureti
Location: Vatican Papal Apartments



*[Jesus said,] "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace."
John 2:16*

Mass Intentions for the Week

Intention

Requested by

Saturday, Mar. 3	5 p.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
Sunday, Mar. 4	8 a.m.	Peter Vietti †	Vietti Family
	9:30 a.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
	11 a.m.	Esther Taylor †	Taylor Family
	12:30 p.m.	Fr. Thuong Nguyen-Thanksgiving and Blessings	Community at St. John
	6 p.m.	St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Monday, Mar. 5	8 a.m.	Maria Fatima Gregorio †	Mom and Dad
Tuesday, Mar. 6	8 a.m.	St John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Wednesday, Mar. 7	8 a.m.	Jaime William Smith †	Smith Family
Thursday, Mar. 8	8 a.m.	St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Friday, Mar. 9	8 a.m.	Clara Ulloa †	Noreen Shaughnessy
Saturday, Mar. 10	8 a.m.	St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish

Stewardship

Envelopes & EFT, February 18, 2018	\$ 5,437
Loose Donations	\$ 1,671
Second Collection: Youth Ministry	\$ 246
Ash Wednesday	\$1,130
Envelopes & EFT, February 25, 2018	\$2,904
Loose Donations	\$1,588

This week's Second Collection will support Parish Development and School Tuition Assistance Program

Thank you for your generosity.

Daylight Savings Time

On March 11, Sunday, set time one hour ahead.

Adoration Chapel's Lenten Retreat

A Topic About Prayer
Saturday, March 10, 2018, 7pm-9pm

Learning About Fasting
Saturday, March 17, 2018, 7pm-9pm

Understanding Almsgiving
Saturday, March 24, 2018, 7pm-9pm

Let Us Pray for the Sick

Rodolfo Abesamis, Virginia Alday, Gera Assefa
 Evelyn Baker, Niani Barber, Pearl & Patrick Batiste
 Paul Batist, Irene Blair, Robert Britto, Richard
 Calapini, Evelyn Canepa, Jeff Chavez,
 Brenna Clark, Jennette Cleadenger
 Betty Cooper, Linda Crittendon
 Cora Dongon
 Joann Douglas, Pablo de la Vega
 Mary Dong, Tami Duncan, Juanita
 Estrellas, Filomena Giese, Mike
 Giovannini, Joseph Golinveau
 Domingos deGregorio, Andy
 Gutierrez, James Gutierrez, Ruben Gutierrez, Maydelle
 Halligan, Joanne, Marvin & Maurice Haynes, Sherry
 Highlander, Tamaya Hunt, Ann Jones, Tom Kennedy,
 Robin Laws, Maria Impang Lozada, Bernice Luckett,
 Marian & Michael Luoma, Nancy McVey
 Francis Mondragon, Ester Oppus, Judith Padilla, Theresa
 Parella, Angelina Patacsil, Pam Paun, Victoria Payless
 Fely Sabares, Jovita Santos, Linda Schneider, Dimitri
 Smith, Salvador Tejero, Rose Texara, Pat Tilley, Joseph
 Vidal, Sarah Vidal, Evodio Walle, Jan Williamson



Senior Center Event

Mar. 6: Seniors' Meeting at 11:30am / Lunch at 12:30pm. Call: 237-3808 (Tuesdays).

Third Sunday of Lent

“*You shall not covet*” is perhaps a difficult commandment to keep in our consumer-oriented society. But as Christian stewards, we know that we are the recipients and caretakers of God’s many gifts. May this understanding that all is gift help us be less resentful of the gifts of others.

This Week’s Service Schedule

Sunday Readings: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3,7-8,12-17, 1Cor 1:22-25, Jn 2:13-25.

Monday Readings: 2Kings 5:1-15b, Lk 4:24-30. Or Ex 17:1-7, Jn 4: 5-42.

Tuesday Readings: Dan 3:25, 34-43, Mt18:21-35. Or Ex 17:1-7, Jn 4:5-42.

Wednesday Readings: Deut 4:1,5-9, Mt 5:17-19. Or Ex 17:1-7, Jn 4:5-42. Or Rom 8:31b-39, Mt 10:34-39.

Thursday Readings: Jer 7:23-28, Lk 11:14-23. Or Ex 17:1-7, Jn 4:5-42. Or 1Jn 3:14-18, Mt 25:31-40.

Friday Readings: Hos 14:2-10, Mk 12:28-34. Or Ex 17:1-7, Jn 4:5-42. Or Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31, Mt 22:34-40.

Saturday Readings: Hos 6:1-6, Lk 18:9-14. Or Ex 17:1-7, Jn 4:5-42.

Liturgy of the Hours, Mon.- Fri. at 7:40am.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena, Wed., 8:30am at the Church and 6pm at the Chapel.

Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Mon.- Sat., 8:30am at Church; Daily, 3pm, 9pm, and 10pm (Spanish) and Wed., 7:30pm (Spanish), Chapel.

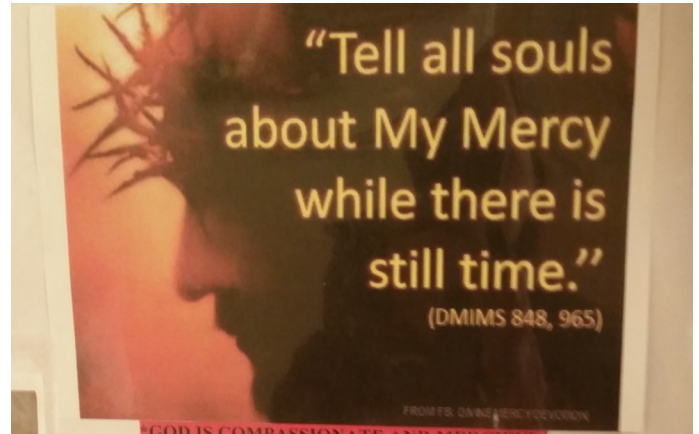
Holy Infant of Prague Novena, Thu. at 8:30am at Church.

Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Fri., 6pm at the Chapel.

Confession, Sat., at 4pm or at an appointed time.

Stations of the Cross, Fri., 8:30am, 7:30pm (with Benediction) at Church.

Retreat Topic on Prayer, Sat., 7-9pm at the Chapel.



Bishop’s Appeal of 2018

By sharing your time, talent and treasure with our sisters and brothers and our Church of the East Bay, you are making a sacrifice and returning to God a small portion of the many gifts he has given to you. By embracing Lighting the Way through the 2018 Bishop’s Appeal, you are contributing greatly to building up the Kingdom of God here in the Church of the East Bay. - Bishop Michael Barber

Protecting God’s Children

All volunteers and church employees must take the training at virtusonline.org.

Volunteers and church employees, who mentor minors, or administer the Eucharist at homes or visit vulnerable adults are required to be livescanned/ fingerprinted.

Send copies of your training certificate and livescan/fingerprint document to the Rectory.

For questions, please call the Rectory or the Safe Environment, Diocese c/o Diana Bitz 267-8315.

The Holy Father’s Prayer Intention for the Month of March

Evangelization: **Formation in Spiritual Discernment.**

That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.



Carolyn Dickens
Bernardine Clark
Pat Jeffre
Gazaway Patrick

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land at Christmas Season
 Come and Join this Extraordinary unforgettable Trip to the Home Land of Jesus

With Fr. Joseph Tran
 -Round Trip from USA
 Hotel Included

December 3-13, 2018
 -Breakfast and Dinner Daily

\$3,200/person
 -Mass Daily

For more information visit: www.polandmej.com
 Contact: Victoria Tannady (510) 847-7773 email: beatitudes8@rocketmail.com
 or Luvi Lumibao (510) 918-5825 email: luvillumibao@aol.com

SVDP Easter Foods Distribution

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will distribute hams and sides for a joyous Easter meal to needy families at our pantry on Saturday, March 17th. You can help by providing donations of 5-pound canned hams or funds to purchase hams and sides. See any SVDP member, place a donation in the collection basket made out to "St. John the Baptist SVDP", or bring hams or funds to the parish office. Please bring all donations in by Wednesday, March 14th. Thank you!

CRS-Rice Bowl

In Burkina Faso, CRS encounters Safiata, a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities. crsricebowl.org

Get On The Bus, Thank You!

Sincere and grateful thanks to all of you for your great generosity to the Get On The Bus Appeal last Sunday. I will have exact amount in the bulletin in two weeks - I know some of you are still donating. Our visit this year is on May 11.

Where does the money go? The first major cost is the bus itself and the insurance. Our bus - Bus U leaves from Santa Rosa at 3:00 am; meets us in Oakland at 4 am and from there we pick up some families in San Jose. All going well, we arrive in Chowchillia by 9:00 am. The families visit until 3:00 pm. We give breakfast to all on the bus as the sun rises! We pay for lunch to be brought in to the prison so that the families can have a meal together— high point of the day! By 6:00 pm it is dinner time so we pick up a meal before we reach San Jose. Know that you are helping to make this a memorable day for many families. - Sr. Carmel

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The mission is to proclaim the value of Marriage and Holy Orders in the church and the world! - Joe & Sue Talarico, Diocese of Oakland

How about to take some time for the two of you -- to be alone and rekindle that flame of love and intimacy. Relax, let go and grow your love for one another by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend held at **San Damiano Retreat Center**, Danville on **May 18-20th**. Space is VERY limited! Early registration is highly recommended. For more information

contact Mike & Jeanne @ 925.672.2016 or Joe & Sue @ 925.680.7767 now or go to oaklandwwme.org

Pat Jeffre, A Dear Friend

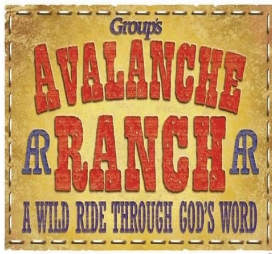
We are very sad to share the news of the death of Patricia Jeffre, a long-time active parishioner of St. John's, on Sunday evening, February 25, 2018. Pat had recently resided at El Cerrito Royale where she also joined the small community of Catholic faithful, attending services regularly and always with her lovely smile and vibrant presence. She will be sorely missed. "Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon her." Services are tentatively scheduled at Holy Angels/St. Joseph Cemetery, [2540 Church Lane, San Pablo](#): Viewing and Rosary Friday March 16, 4-8pm Rosary at 7pm). The funeral service, same location, on Saturday, March 17 at 11:00 AM.
- Sharon, [510-412-9761](tel:510-412-9761)

The "Footsteps of St. Paul" Pilgrimage

This pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey will visit the House of the Blessed Mother in Ephesus. Mass will be celebrated daily during the 14-Day Pilgrimage.

The pilgrimage includes seven days of cruising the Greek Islands. The cost is \$4,599 for a round-trip airfare from San Francisco, hotel accommodations, meals, cruise and island short excursions. Flyers are available at the vestibule and at the St. John the Baptist Office. Due to high demand, please make your reservation early for this pilgrimage from September 20 to October 3, 2018. The pilgrimage will be accompanied by Fr. Thuong H. Nguyen as the Spiritual Director. For reservation and for more information, contact Group Leader, Linfa Belisario, @ (510) 599-4210.

Vacation Bible Day Camp



St. John The Baptist Church 17th Annual Vacation Bible Day Camp will be held June 25-29th, 2018. Our School Gym will be transformed into a Country Western Ranch Experience for "A Wild Ride at Avalanche Ranch".

Prairie Dog Pre-School is for 3-5 year olds who haven't started kindergarten. The same time and fees apply. All Day Campers are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m for only \$170, Morning only Campers are 9 a.m.-12 noon For \$70. (One of the Best Bargains in the Bay Area!, Kids can arrive at 8 a.m. at no extra charge.)

Kids will enjoy: Sing & Play Stampede Skits & Songs, Cowpoke Crafts & Science, Wild Bible Adventures, Chuck Wagon Chow Snacks, Horseplay Games, Special Guests & Service Projects, new friends and much more!

Mark your calendars & set the date for the Coolest week of the Summer!

On-line registration : www.sjtbc.us/vbdc.html.
Questions: Pam Vincent [email:pam@sjtbc.us](mailto:pam@sjtbc.us)



Welcome to the Faith

Rose Montgomery

Argie Liam Esguerra

Our Newly Baptized

Oakland Symphony Chorus Italian Tour 2018

Sing with the Oakland Symphony Chorus in some of the finest cities and concert venues in historic Italy. You will be traveling to Rome, Venice, Florence, and Pisa from June 21 to July 1, 2018.

Join parishioners Bernie Juat and Cynthia Webb-Beckford singing in Rome and Florence.

For more information, log on:

www.oaklandsymphony.org/about-us/chorus/
International Tours Next Stop: June 21-July 1, 2018

Calls for Help & Hope

The Contra Costa Crisis Center has provided a lifeline of help and hope for 42 years.

Call 1-800-833-2900