



# Holy Spirit Catholic Church

March 3rd & 4th, 2018

1244 St Francis Rd. Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Parish Office & Rectory: (707) 539-4495 FAX (707) 539-3343

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Office Hours Mon-Thurs 9:30 to 2:30

## Pastoral Staff:

Fr Ron Serban, Pastor, Ext. 21

Deacon John Storm, 479-5424, [jstorm@srdiocese.org](mailto:jstorm@srdiocese.org)

Tara Kowalski, Office Manager, Ext. 10

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St Vincent de Paul Society, 537-7835

Joe Piasta, Men's Club, 576-7850 Ext. 102

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Patty Edson, Holy Communion Visitation, 538-3208

Diane Bowman, Prayer Chain 539-9035

Sharron Simpson-Ministry Coordinator-[simshar21@gmail.com](mailto:simshar21@gmail.com)

## Mass & Service Schedule:

Stations of the Cross: Fridays, 6:30 pm

Saturday: 5pm.

Sunday: 7:30 & 10:15 am.

Liturgy of the Word for Children: Sundays 10:15 am.

Weekdays: Mondays-Friday & First Saturday 9am

## Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Every Thursday and First Saturdays following 9 am Mass  
or at the Rectory with an appointment

## For other Sacraments:

Please call the Parish Office

6 months in advance for Marriage

3 months in advance for Baptism

# **3rd Sunday of Lent** **March 3rd & 4th**

## **Looking at Marriage During Lent** **An Ideal Time for the Renewal of Our Marriages**

Lent seems to be the ideal time to look at marriage. How does our Lent journey shape what we are called to do in marriage?

A few decades ago, the word "obey" was removed from wedding vows. Instead we promised to love, honor and cherish each other. Many years later, Jesuit philosopher John Kavanaugh, S.J. lamented how much we had lost by dropping the word "obey" from wedding vows. He said that the root of the word "obey" simply means to put the needs of another ahead of our own.

Obedience in this context has nothing about one dominating another - only two people pledging to put the needs of the other ahead of their own. What a wonderful idea. It seems that this is exactly what we are called to in a gospel-based marriage.

### **Called by Jesus to be Unselfish**

Now during these weeks of Lent we can take some time to examine our marriage. Do we love as deeply as we had originally intended when we first made our vows? As unselfishly? Whether we've been married 3 years or 30, this sacred season could be the start of a renewed relationship with our spouse, shaped by our experience of Lent.

We are invited by Jesus to put the needs of another ahead of our own. We can deepen our commitments in marriage and even change the dynamics within our relationships through unconditional love. In loving this way, we transform not only our spouses but more importantly, ourselves.

For those of us who are parents, we have probably always put the needs of our children first – but our spouse? Yes, we care for each other, but do we put the other's needs ahead of our own? And yet how profoundly would our marriages change if we simply lived that vow for a while?

During Lent, we can make "obey-ing" the special focus of our lives. Instead of giving up chocolate, what if each day during Lent, we asked for the grace to be more unselfish in our marriage? As a first step, what if tomorrow, before we got out of bed, we asked God to help us love our spouse more? To put the needs of this life partner of ours ahead of our own?

### **Silencing our Disappointments**

This Lenten journey begins with prayer and moves into silence. We hold off on the sarcastic comment aimed at our spouse. We silence a cutting remark. We drop the correction before it comes out of our mouths. Neglect the pouting. Stop the stony silence when we are displeased. These behaviors can be long standing and not easy to change. Also, it might take a while before our spouse really trusts these efforts. We will be the ones doing the "giving" for a while.

We are born selfish creatures crying out for someone to take care of our needs. The process of growing in this life seems to be learning how to become less selfish, less self-absorbed. On our good days we can do that, by loving, giving and caring for others before thinking of ourselves. But on our bad days, we look at our spouses and others and grumble about the unfairness: "Why is it always ME who has to do the giving? Why doesn't my spouse have to care about ME first? Am I always the one who has to apologize first? Ask about the

other's day first? When is it MY turn to be taken care of?"

We are called to love in marriage the way we are loved by Jesus – without figuring out what we will get out of it. "Love one another as I have loved you." As I have loved you. In the same way Jesus loves us – without limits. And so we love our spouse who is crabby and barking. Instead of snapping a response we can ask ourselves, "What does my spouse need right now?" It's not about giving up my dignity or rolling over to a bully. It's about loving someone who might not be very loveable right now.

We can wallow in our own self-pity and self-absorption, but it is in that moment that we are being called more deeply into Jesus' love. We must die to our own needs and our own longing in order to find a new life in Jesus. In a profound way, we are being called to the simplest task: to care about other people before we take care of ourselves. What kind of people would we be if we got everything we wanted? If we never had to move outside of our own needs and desires? Jesus asks us: What good is it for us to get everything we wanted, if in the process we lose our very selves?

### **Cherishing Each Other**

We've stopped snapping back, held our complaints. What if we add a small goal for ourselves every day? What if we added one positive, loving thing each day of Lent? We might hang up his clothes without complaining about it. Put the cap back on her toothpaste – with a smile. Lay out the crossword puzzle with a fresh pencil for him. Have a pot of coffee ready for her in the morning. Do some of the tiny, thoughtful things we might have done years ago, before we slipped out of the habit.

It's not spending money, it's a change of attention. Send him an e-mail of gratitude during the day. Tuck a note into her suitcase as she departs on a trip. A call just to say how grateful I am for you in my life. Each day we ask God for the grace to love as God loves us – without limits.

One final thing is patience. We have to learn to trust that eventually, with our constant loving and God's grace, our spouse will notice the difference. Under the barrage of love, our spouse will begin to soften, bark less, say thank you more. It takes time to change the patterns and it takes time for our spouse to trust in the changes. It may take months beyond Lent, but if we believe in this, pray about it and trust in God, the changes that happen in our marriages and ourselves can be dramatic.

This isn't something for women to do for their husbands. Or husbands to do for their wives. It is what each of us as married people are called to do for each other. This is the way of life Jesus calls us to: "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me." "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny herself, take up her cross and follow me."

Re-focusing our marriage invites us to be more giving, to fight our human nature that has us focused on our own needs. We are asked to stop keeping score with the ones we love and to put their needs ahead of our own. It is then, Jesus promises, that by losing our lives for his sake, we will find real life.

## The Mass Schedule– March 3-11

03/03	Sat	9:00am	Int. of Anne Benjamin
03/03	Sat	7:30am	†Daniel Sullivan
03/04	Sun	7:30am	Mass for the People
03/04	Sun	10:15am	Int. of the Kern Family
03/05	Mon	9:00am	Int. of Gary Davis
03/06	Tues	9:00am	†Theresa McElroy
03/07	Wed	9:00am	Chad & Michelle Davis Anniversary
03/08	Thurs	9:00am	†Mike Miller
03/09	Fri	9:00am	†Jack Macy
03/10	Sat	5:00pm	Int. of Don Ratcliff
03/11	Sun	7:30am	Mass for the People
03/11	Sun	10:15am	†Archibaldo & Helga DaLuz

### Healing Mass and Lunch for Fire Victims

Members of the Order of Malta will be at St. Rose Parish on Saturday, March 10 to offer material, emotional and spiritual support to those who lost homes, businesses and jobs in the October fires. The day includes a bilingual Lourdes Healing Mass at 10:30 a.m., a lunch in the St. Rose Parish hall with a Health, Life and Job Fair. Those who did not suffer a loss, likely know others who did. Pass on a copy of this information to them and let them know about this upcoming healing day at St. Rose.

To help those serving the food please call the parish office 542-6448, and let them know how many family members will be attending.

Ladies, mark your calendars for the Women's Club annual "Sox Night" on Wednesday, April 11th! This year it's a movie and pizza event, and we'll donate all those new sox for homeless families.



### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND THOSE

**WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS:** The intentions of the Holy Spirit Prayer Chain, Steve Straessler, Tristan Humble, Mauro DeTrizio, Helen Hubbard, Joey Benjamin, Karen D'Ambrogi, Bonnie Clark, Renee Dierckx, Jackson Langdon, Nina Cantacessi, Debbie Sickma, Lisa Adams, Margaret Potchatek, Charlotte Facchini, Anne Benjamin, Erasmo Roque, Phyllis Smith, Ken Davis, arilyn Lechuga and Chuck Fritch

**FOR THE SOULS OF:** Jack Macy, Nathan Krempely, Charlie Rogers, Paul Davis, Jeanne Vandenberghe, Bruce Campbell, Dennis DeCota, Frank Mantellina, Ray Hill, Alice Puruggannan, Howard Furlong, Richard Marson, Al Pisenti, Margaret Winrich and Carmen Leon-Guerrero

**LAST WEEK'S PLATE COLLECTION:** \$ 6,262.33

**THIS WEEKS SECOND COLLECTION  
BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS-6:30 ON FRIDAYS  
DURING LENT– FOLLOWED BY A SMALL  
SOUP MEAL WITH BREAD**



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter - Sunday March 11th**  
-An amazing weekend away with your spouse. to register, please visit: <https://www.sacramentowwme.org>. Or for more information, contact Terry & Janet at: (916)489-3464 or at: [applications@sacramentowwme.org](mailto:applications@sacramentowwme.org). See Website for upcoming weekends.

### March 10th & 11th /4th Sunday of Lent

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Greeters	Servers
Sat, March 10th 5 pm	#1-K. Schmoll #2-K. Kinkella	Cheryl Dudley, Joanne Landen, Martha Johnson, Ed & Judith Mattingly	As Available	As Available.
Sun., March 11th 7:30 am	#1-L. Kubo #2-L. Davis	Patti Mazur, Brian Connolly Kathleen Castro	As Available	Elizabeth McDonnel.
Sun, March 11th 10:15 am	#1-L. Johnson #2.L. Orr	Deacon John, Loyde & Sherry Johnson, Tim & Shirley Sullivan, Dennis Krempely, Michael Wagner, Donna Kaiser Babette O'Shell, Kathy Stevens	As Available	Jerome Salvador

Children's Liturgy of the Word – Jane Howard

Homebound Week of March 7th M. Hoeft, M. Davis, D. Boito

# FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION

## Faith Formation Grades 1-6

*This Sunday's Gospels: John 2:13-25*

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus makes it clear that the real temple of God lies within us. His cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem calls us all to cleanse ourselves. We have the days of Lent to make a special effort to become less selfish and more loving—to renew and deepen our covenant with God. <http://www.pflaumweeklies.com>

*As a family take some time to talk about what you can "clear out" to make your home a more welcoming place for the presence of Jesus.*



### **JUST A REMINDER TO ALL FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS...**

*We will hold our 1<sup>st</sup> Communion/Reconciliation Parent Meeting on **Tuesday, March 6th** at 7PM in the church. At least one parent must be present for the entire meeting. A reminder mailing is heading home this week.*



### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

This Thursday (March 8<sup>th</sup>) all R.C.I.A. candidates and catechumen will gather in the Holy Family Room at 6:30PM to continue our Lenten journey of **Purification and Enlightenment**. This week's reflection will be on the "Wells of Wonder; Wells of Hope."

**PLEASE KEEP OUR CATHECUMEN AND CANDIDATES IN YOUR PRAYERS AS THEY JOURNEY TO THEIR FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CHURCH THIS EASTER.**

### **Confirmation**



All Confirmation candidates are invited to share the **Circle of Grace** with us this week...

**BUT things will look a little different this week only;**

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will gather on Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7PM in the Holy Family Room for "SAYING NO TO DISRESPECT!"

High School Confirmation Candidates will gather Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7PM in the Holy Family Room for "RIGHT RELATIONSHIPS."

**Confirmation Candidates and Parents please check your emails for changes that are occurring in our Confirmation program. A Parent Meeting will be held Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30-7PM in the Holy Family Room.**



**What does a "right" relationship look like?**

**What does a "wrong" relationship look like?**

(I bet we all have a few answers for this one, for others.)

Come and explore a few essentials in making "right" relationships and avoiding the wrong ones.

**All high school teens** are invited to join us for the Circle of Grace "RIGHT RELATIONSHIPS". We will gather with refreshments at 7PM in the Holy Family Room.



### **Youth Day**

The diocese youth office is calling all teens to a Youth Day at Cardinal Newman gym on March 11th from 11a-4p. We will be celebrating our faith in a powerful way—a day filled with music, inspirational talks, and Mass with Bishop Vasa.

Contact Megan O'Neill for more details