



Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Psalm 119: 1-2

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time



February 12, 2017

February 12, 2017—How God's Law enriches our Life

Today's First Reading from Sirach, reminds us that in life we all have a choice: between good and evil, i.e., life and death. When we turn from God and sin, we choose death, that of our soul or some other kind of death. When we sin, we say "no" to life with God, the only Real existence. The Responsorial, from Psalm 119, underscores the importance of internalizing God's law in our hearts. The Jewish people had received God's law by Divine intervention; other nations did not know how to please God. So, the Israelites viewed God's law as a *gift*, in which they found life and hope. The Psalmist recognizes that we cannot go beyond mere observation of the law without God's grace, so he asks for the grace to internalize God's law. May we have the grace to see God's law as a gift and interiorize it. In the Second Reading, St Paul instructs us to embrace not worldly wisdom, but God's wisdom, i.e., the wisdom of the cross. For we are called to observe Gospel values and in so doing, serve others with the gifts God has given us. In today's Gospel, Jesus enlightens us as to the spiritual intent behind the commandments and explains the real meaning of God's law. He challenges/exhorts us to look inside ourselves, to interiorize the law; not only are we asked to not commit murder, but further, to not even think unkind or mean thoughts of others. Our Lord also places great importance on reconciliation with others, beginning with those closest to us, in order to genuinely worship Him. Similarly, Jesus extends the prescriptions of adultery, to go beyond asking how far can we go before it's a sin, to asking how can we protect the sanctity of marriage and have a chaste disposition. To emphasize the importance of self-mastery Jesus uses exaggeration: cutting off limbs, a Semitic way of speaking. Moses received the Law indirectly, from an angel. We have received the New Law directly from God, in the Person of Jesus. May our efforts to live His law more deeply, in sincerity and truth, bring us closer to Him and enrich our lives.

CHAPEL OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST



Perpetual Adoration
GREAT NEED FOR ADORERS:
 Sunday: 10 - 11am, 5 - 6pm, 6 - 7pm
 Monday: 1 - 2pm
 Wednesday: 3 - 4am
 Thursday: 5 - 6pm
 Saturday: 3 - 4am, 9 - 10am, 1 - 2pm,
 3 - 4pm, 7 - 8pm

If you would like to be in the Real Presence of Jesus and visit with Him for one or more of the above hours, or any Hour, or be a substitute, please call Marge at 967-0641 or Chris at 966-3266. God is "thirsting" for you to satiate "His thirst"

Talk given why Perpetual Adoration is so important to the world - Pope Benedict XVI, Feb.22, 2007. "In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for *silent Adoration*, of Jesus concealed in the "Host".

Daily Masses and Mass Intentions

Sunday 2/12/2017

8:00 AM (I) Lydia Noland by St. Mel Faculty & Staff
 10:00 AM (R) Matthew Lopez by Dale Carter
 4:30 PM (R) Babies that have been aborted

Monday 2/13/2017

7:00 AM (R) Michael Archuletta by Roland Family
 8:30 AM (I) Ryan & Allison Roland - 1st Wedding Anniversary by Jack & Christina Roland

Tuesday 2/14/2017 *MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

*7:00 AM (R) Lee West by Suzanne Rossi
 *8:30 AM (I) Bill Mullin Family by Al Schindler Family

Wednesday 2/15/2017

7:00 AM (I) Holly Hilley & Children
 by Nick & Antonia Cammarota
 8:30 AM (R) Jack Roland, Sr. by Roland Family

Thursday 2/16/2017

7:00 AM (R) Anthony Chellemi by Loving Brother & Family
 8:30 AM (I) Walt Harcos by Nancy & Michael Elorduy

Friday 2/17/2017

7:00 AM (I) Condon Family
 8:30 AM (I) Schmitt Family by Bill Mullin

Saturday 2/18/2017

8:30 AM (R) Francis Anthony Denning by Susan Myers
 4:30 PM (I) Gemma Cammarota
 by Nick & Antonia Cammarota

Sunday 2/19/2017

8:00 AM (I) Loretta Jacobs by Joe Dobrowolski
 10:00 AM (I) Frank & Judy Spinelli by Carol McNelly
 4:30 PM (I) Kelly Mantsch by Kathy Baxter

Commentator & Music Leaders & Altar Servers for

February 18 & 19, 2017

Mass Times	Commentator Altar Servers	Music Leader
SAT 4:30 PM	Mammano N / Mammano F John, Michael & Kyle	Men's Choir
SUN 8:00 AM	Ward / Morrison John Paul, Aaron & Greta	Music Leader
SUN 10:00 AM	Cantrell / Allison Lucas, Sebastian & Collin	Traditional Choir
SUN 4:30 PM	Wagner M / Wagner D Fred, Kate & Gavin	Youth Choir

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

The St. Mel youth group invites all teens to a "Hang Out" session every Wednesday from 4-8PM in the Convent. Teens are welcome to do homework, read, or just hang out. Snacks will be provided. Join us every Wednesday until the end of February.

Upcoming meeting dates are: February 12th in the Convent where we will continue the discussion, "Is God Really Our Father" and February 19th is GAME night in Doheny Hall. Get ready for the Nerf War! Hope to see you both nights at 5:30PM!

YOUNG ADULTS



Join the Young Adults group on Saturday, February 18th in the St. Jude Room for a Coffee Social after the 8:30AM Mass. All young adults, ages 18-39 are welcome to attend!

REMINDER

Please do not leave valuables in your cars when you are at Mass. There have been several break-ins in the parking lot.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



RCIA is about to begin. Being part of the Church established through Jesus Christ, and entrusted to the leadership of the apostle Peter, is a gift. This gift might just be for you. Join us *any Sunday beginning May 7th in the St. Jude Room* (top of the back stairs) at **8:00AM** to discover how you might become Roman Catholic; and participate in the greatest adventure of your life. Please contact Michael Faber, at 686-7020 or rcia-stmelfairoaks@gmail.com for more information.

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

If you or someone you know is considering returning to the Catholic Church, St. Mel can provide assistance. Help is available throughout the year. Contact St. Mel Parish Office, 967-1229 or Karen, 966-0184.

CHRIST THE KING PARISH RETREAT

You are invited to the 2017 Christ the King Parish Retreat! The theme is "*Gathered in the Name of Jesus*" and we invite all to come and probe the depth of God's Love for us in Christ as we gather in prayer, study, meditation, sacraments, and rest. The *Women's* retreat will be March 10-12 and *Men's* retreat will be March 31- April 2. Reserve your spot by calling your Parish Coordinator, Martha Styer, 962-3307; Donna Greuel, 225-2456 or the retreat center, 725-472 Ext 301. You can also register online at www.christthekingretreatcenter.org. If you're unable to attend our parish date, visit the website for other dates. *Accept this invitation as a precious gift to yourself as you awaken and rejuvenate the spirit within you.* Please know, no one is refused because of inability to pay full amount.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL

Please place donations *inside* the donation box located in the parking lot by the Adoration Chapel. Any items placed outside the box will not be picked up by the driver. Larger items can be taken directly to the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store at 2275 Watt Ave, Sacramento, CA 95825.

SACRAMENTO CATHOLIC FORUM PRESENTS:

Wynette Sills, Director, Californians for Life, will speak on 'A Strategic Plan to End Abortion: Our Catholic Responsibility' on Wednesday, February 22nd at Christ the King Retreat Center. The day begins with Mass at 6:30AM followed by networking, breakfast and the presentation. The retreat center is located at 6520 Van Maren Ln., Citrus Hts, CA. The cost is \$20 for pre-register or \$25 at the door. Further information and reservations: www.saccatholicforum.org.

MATTHEW KELLY PASSION AND PURPOSE LIVE

Author of "Resisting Happiness" and "Rediscovering Catholicism", Matthew Kelly will be delivering Passion & Purpose Live, with musical guest Eliot Morris. This event will empower you to learn more about our Catholic story, begin your personal journey to become the-best-version-of-yourself, and inspire you to get involved in the positive changes that are occurring in the Catholic Community. For more information or to register go to www.dynamiccatholic.com, look under 'Events' and click on 'Passion and Purpose'. March 3rd: Holy Trinity in El Dorado Hills. March 4th: St. John's in Folsom.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS & HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD FOR UNITY PROJECT

The Fair Oaks Knights of Columbus Council 6066 is assisting with the Habitat for Humanity Build for Unity project and are seeking interested parishioners from St. Mel who would like to join our council volunteers to help. Our council needs 6 or more to serve as a crew to assist in building homes for two disadvantaged families, one Christian and one Muslim, to live peacefully as neighbors. The project site is about 30 minutes from Fair Oaks in the northern edge of Sacramento County.

Parishioners, Knights, and any family member over 16 years old can volunteer. Volunteer days range from Tuesday to Saturday and are a full day commitment. Our Council participation will vary depending on availability and organizer needs. If interested please contact Warden Michael Ochoa at 730-3178 or mkochoa@pacbell.net.

PLEASE NOTE!

*** SCHEDULE FOR BULLETIN ARTICLES ***

Please send your typed articles, in MS Word - Times New Roman, font 10, via email to stmeloffice@yahoo.com, no later than **NOON ON FRIDAY** to be included in the next bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bulletin Weekend Dates 2017	Articles DUE Prior To FRIDAY
February 18 - 19 February 25 - 26 March 4 - 5 March 11 - 12	February 10 February 17 February 24 March 3

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

On February 25th and 26th, we will once again be given the opportunity to be Christ to others through works of mercy. How do we help a family in need? How do we best help the man or woman along the roadside with a request for money? Do we pass them by? Do we feel guilty? Do we wonder how the money we give might be spent? As Catholics in the Diocese of Sacramento, we have a way to help those truly in need. By making a generous donation to the Annual Catholic Appeal, you can live the Gospel message and provide real assistance. Last year 405 of our parishioners contributed \$123,689 to the Appeal. St. Mel Parish received 25% to serve our local needs, people who came to our doors looking for a bit of help or a hand up. The charitable works of the Church, whether in Catholic social service programs or parish-based outreach ministries, depend on all of us. Each of our gifts, no matter the amount, really does make a difference in someone's life. Please prayerfully consider what you can give. Our gifts to the Annual Catholic Appeal are Mercy in Motion.

ST. MEL SCHOOL DINING OUT FUNDRAISER

St. Mel School is having a Dine Out fundraiser Tuesday, February 21st at Moe's Southwest Grill, located at 5406 Sunrise Blvd, Citrus Heights. Dine In or Take Out and St. Mel School will receive a portion of the sales. A flyer is needed and these are available in our school or parish offices. Thank you for your support!

ST. MEL SIP AND SUPPER CLUB

Would you like to get to know some of your fellow parishioners at casual get togethers in each other's homes? The St. Mel Sip and Supper Club meets in groups of 8 four times a year to share dinner and fellowship. All are welcome and it is a fun way to get to know others in our church family. If interested, send an email to familyvanark@gmail.com or call Claire and Roelof at 802-1089.

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS



Please join the **Legion of Mary** in praying daily the intentions of Pope Francis for February. Please place special emphasis this month on...*comforting the afflicted.*

Let us pray...that all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees and the marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities. Amen.



This is how we know what love is: He laid down His life for us. -1 Jn 3:16

Reflection: The word "love" is the most misused, abused, and confused word in the English language. We say: I love ice cream, I love my mother, I love my wife, I love God. And some use "love" to justify abortion.

The real meaning of love is found at the Cross. Love says, "I sacrifice myself for the good of the other person." Abortion says, "I sacrifice the other person for the good of myself."

Prayer: Lord, I commit myself today to the love of others, especially those most in need.

Excerpt reproduced with permission from *Pro-Life Reflection for Every Day* © 2009 Catholic Book Publishing Corp., NJ. All rights reserved. <http://www.catholicbookpublishing.com>

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Altar Server Training is never out of season. Orientation and training for new servers is available as needed after school and on weekends. *Refresher and update sessions are also available.* Interested students and parents may contact Dave Murray, 716-5187 or e-mail dddmurray@comcast.net. Information forms for parents of servers are available in the church vestibule or upon request via e-mail.

Please Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Al Volmer | Garvin Arnett | Katie Henson |
| Alan Cheuse | George Kim | Katie Spain |
| Alex Quiroz | Gianna Atilano | Keith Sprengle |
| Amanda Barron | Grace Barrios | King David Chico |
| Anthony Caillou | Gregory David | Latasha Rodriguez |
| Arthur Morton | James A. Martinez | Linda Ramsey |
| Audrey Holden | Jean Crupi | Lydia Melendez |
| Bob Ahern, Sr. | Jeanette Barron | Margaret Anderson |
| Candy Barrios | Jerry Esparza | Margaret Valley |
| Charles Joseph Ortner | Jerry Smith | Mary Alyce Gisla |
| Cheryl Richardson | Jim Maher | Michael English |
| Chris Stabile | Joanne Kim | Michael J. Martinez |
| Christian Dimitri | Jody & Ron Martinez | Michelle Atwood |
| Daniel Schwartz, III | Johanna Ross | Mollie Dear |
| Dave Kangas | John & Judy English | Nellie Henson |
| Deana Landingham | John Forrest | Nick Tenaglia |
| Delfina Rodriguez | John Langland | P. J. Spain |
| Diane Castonguay | John Wise, Jr. | Patty Arcenequex- Conti |
| Donald Wise | Jose Mascoro | Pilo DeLeon |
| Dora V. Marczak | Joseph Dimitri | Ray Willey |
| Dora Palpallatoc | Joseph Jacin | Rendtor Ramirez |
| Eduardo Murallon | Joseph McCormick | Richard Robinson |
| Elizabeth McMahan | Judy Spinelli | Robert Atkinson |
| Evelyn Dimitri | Karen Petersen | Robin Dunton |
| Fred H. Salter | Katie Grant | Rodney Wise |



29th Anniversary of the St. Mel Perpetual Adoration Chapel February 11, 1988 - February 11, 2017

"I looked up towards the grotto, and I saw a lady. She had on a white dress with a blue sash and yellow rose on each foot, the color of her rosary." (St. Bernadette – February 11, 1861)

Our Lady's Message to Bernadette:

"Penance – Pray for the Conversion of Sinners"

On the feast of the Annunciation, at the grotto, March 25th at four in the morning, Bernadette asked the Lady her name – the Lady slipped her rosary onto her right arm, and with her hands joined, she raised her eyes to heaven and said:

"I am the Immaculate Conception"

The message of Lourdes had been signed. On March 2nd, the day of the 15th apparition, the Lady said to Bernadette – "Go tell the priest to build a chapel and to have the people come...."

True prayer that the Lady of Massabielle had spoken of was that true conversion of heart, which in contemplating Jesus on the cross, understands the true nature of sin, and finds in the passion of God's love for the lost, the way to personal and collective salvation.

The ninth apparition is really the culminating point of the Lourdes message. The water oozing from the inner recesses of the grotto was now to take on an unimaginably deep meaning. This water is the mystical sign of the water that flowed with the blood from Christ's side, gashed by the soldier's spear. Without knowing it and yet without understanding, Bernadette had mimed the "passion" for sinners.

In the story of the apparitions, it was Bernadette, a simple laywoman, who was chosen as the messenger of heaven and sent to the church authorities. In her story we are reminded that in the true Church of Christ, each of us has a role to play simply, bravely and lovingly.

Like Bernadette, let us live our lives as Christians of today in such a way that our lives have something to tell. (*Lourdes, In Bernadette's Footsteps*, Father Joseph Bordes, Rector Emeritus of the Lourdes Shrine)

The message of Lourdes comes to us in many signs – the more important are poverty, rock, cave, water and light – outward signs of a deeper spiritual reality that God wishes to work in our hearts. The *Cave* - In Lourdes, Mary now replaces the prophets. She is the first witness of the Incarnation. She appears in a cave to remind us that the *Word* was made flesh and dwells among us – Jesus born in a cave at Bethlehem reveals himself to humankind. The Cave, the Grotto is the heart of the mountain where in biblical times the divine presence would make itself known. In the Bible, Moses and Elijah are admitted into intimacy with God, as they find themselves in a cave. The Presence of Jesus is not confined to the temple or church – it is not limited to the Grotto or Lourdes. Lourdes simply reminds us that all the ground on which we stand is holy. In a cave by a river, Mary waited for Bernadette. On the roads where we walk, Jesus waits for us. We are invited to meet Him on the roads where we walk in places where we live. (*The Miracle of Lourdes*, Father John Lochran, Chaplain at Lourdes)

Won't You Come To The Chapel of the Holy Eucharist

Our response and desire for a dialogue of love in which we can talk to God heart-to-heart in His Real Presence.

Call Marge Della Villa 916-967-0641 or 916-966-3266 (COMMIT TO AN HOUR OR SUBSTITUTE)

We welcome all new parishioners and ask that you complete this registration form and place it in the collection basket at Mass, or return it to the Parish Office.

Quick Registration St. Mel Catholic Church		Envelopes?	Yes	No
Last Name _____	First Name(s) _____			
Mailing Name (i.e. Mr. & Mrs. John Doe) _____				
Address: _____				
Street _____	City _____	Zip Code _____		
Phone # _____				
E-mail _____	CONTACT ME BY:	<input type="checkbox"/> PHONE	<input type="checkbox"/> EMAIL	
Do you have any special request: _____				