



The Cathedral of  
**ST. EUGENE**

2323 Montgomery Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405  
(707) 542-6984

### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Frank Epperson, Rector  
Rev. Alan Acevedo, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Jeffrey Keyes, In Residence  
Deacon Mike Heinzelman  
Deacon Gary Moore  
Deacon Russ Bowden

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Email Comments/Suggestions to:  
[cathedralresponse@gmail.com](mailto:cathedralresponse@gmail.com)

Parish Office Phone	542-6984
Parish Office Fax	542-1621
Religious Education	326-3408
Finance Council – Marty McCormick	526-1700
Choir Directress – Pam Zieminski	578-8848
School Office – Sharon Jeffrey	545-7252
Preschool Office – Sharry Caesare	528-9133
Homeschool Academy– Jessica Warner	206-5579

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Entrance is located at SW corner of Rectory

### WEBSITES

Parish: [www.steugenes.com](http://www.steugenes.com)  
School: [www.steugenesch.org](http://www.steugenesch.org)

### REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH

Our warmest welcome to all who worship in our community. If you are not registered in the parish, please complete a registration card. Cards are available at church entrances or at the parish office.

### MARRIAGES & BAPTISMS

Please contact the office at least 12 months in advance for weddings and 3 months in advance for baptisms. Check the parish website for more information.

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office when a parishioner is home bound or hospitalized to arrange for Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick.



### MASS TIMES

Daily Mass: 6:45 and 8:00 a.m.  
Saturday: 8:00a.m; 4:30 p.m. & Sp.6:30 p. m.  
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
12:00 noon and 5:30 p.m.  
Tuesday Latin Mass: 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday Latin Mass: 1:30 p.m.

### CONFESSIONS

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Saturday or by appointment

### PERPETUAL ADORATION

**Perpetual Adoration** is in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. To sign up for your hour with our Lord, call Annette (English) at: 542-3635 or Maria Vega (Spanish) at: 710-5094

**Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament** is held in the chapel every First Friday following 8:00 a.m. Mass. *During this time of Covid-19, Benediction is not being held.*

### DEVOTIONS

**Recitation of the Rosary** is Monday – Saturday at 7:30 a.m. in the Cathedral

**Chaplet of Divine Mercy** is Saturday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Cathedral

### CATHEDRAL SHOPS

**Cathedral Thrift Shop** Hours: Tues & Wed. 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

**Cathedral Books & Gifts** Hours: Wed-Sat 8:30-4:30 & Sun 8:30-1:30, Closed Mon/Tues - Phone: 542-0250

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

### PARISH CALENDAR

#### SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12

Masses – Cathedral – 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00, 1:30 pm (Latin) & 5:30 pm  
RCIA and RCIF – Becker Center-10:30 am

#### MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am

#### TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 14

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am  
Women of the Word – Brinker Room – 9:30 am  
Latin Mass – Cathedral- 5:30 pm

#### WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 15

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am  
School Mass – Cathedral – 9:20 am  
Bible Study – PLC (Hope Rm) - 6:00 pm

#### THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 16

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am

#### FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 17

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am  
Collectible Sale – Becker Center- 9:00 am

#### SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18

Morning Mass – Cathedral – 8:00 am  
Collectible Sale – Becker Center – 9:00 a.m.  
Confession - Cathedral -3:00 – 4:30 pm  
Mass – Cathedral -4:30 pm  
Spanish Mass – Cathedral – 6:30 pm

### ST. EUGENE'S THRIFT SHOP

#### ~COLLECTIBLE SALE~

The St. Eugene's Thrift Shop will be having their annual Collectible Sale on **September 17 & 18** in the Msgr. Becker Center. The sale will run from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm on Friday and from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm on Saturday. All proceeds go to help with the support of our Parish. See you there!

#### ~40 DAYS FOR LIFE~

Our Pro-life prayer warriors are gearing up for "40 Days for Life", beginning on September 22 and running until October 31. The opening prayer will be held at 11:00 a.m. on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood located at 1140 Sonoma Avenue. Our kick-off "brown bag meal" will take place the evening before, on Sept. 21, after the 5:30 p.m. Mass in the PLC at 7:00 pm. To sign-up, go to our website at: [www.40daysforlife.com/SantaRosa](http://www.40daysforlife.com/SantaRosa) or call Judy at 477-8937.

### Hearing Aid Users, Switch to T-Coil

#### ADMINISTRATION

##### For the Week of: 08/29/21

Sunday Donations Received:	\$10,545
Collection Revenue Received for: St. Vincent de Paul	\$6227.

#### ~CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS~

To celebrate the impact of art in our spiritual lives, our **Special of the Month** for September is 25% off all art, including wall art and posters. The shop hours are: Wed-Sat from 8:30 am-4:30 pm & Sun 8:30 am-1:30 pm. We are closed Mon./Tues. Call us at 542-0250.

#### ~NEW TO THE PARISH?~

If you are new to St. Eugene's, *Welcome!* We hope you find a spiritual home here. Please formally register in the parish and be a part of our family. Come to the parish office Mon-Fri, 9-4 to register - a welcome packet awaits you there. Registration cards are also available in the front and east church vestibules.

#### ~UPDATE YOUR RECORDS ~

Have you changed your address? Phone number? Email address? Have new family members since you registered in the parish? Have your children grown up and left home? If so, please contact the parish office and let us know your changes so that we can update your parishioner record. Email changes to [maria@steugenes.com](mailto:maria@steugenes.com) or call her at 542-6984, extension 10.

### SECOND COLLECTION

#### ~MISSION COOPERATIVE PROGRAM~

This weekend, September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, our Second Collection is for the Mission Cooperative Program. All proceeds will be sent to the missionary partners that the Diocese of Santa Rosa has historically supported. Around the world, those who are suffering, need to experience the solidarity of other Christians with our Universal Church in facing the pandemic and the other daily harsh realities that our brothers and sisters constantly face. Our Second Collection next weekend, September 18 & 19, will be for our Tuition Assistance Program. As always, thank you for your generosity!

#### ~ADORERS NEEDED~

To sign up for an hour with Our Lord, please contact Annette Righetti at: 542-3635 (English) or Maria Vega at: 710-5094 For the access code to the Chapel, please go to the Parish Office and talk to Maria Sanchez.

The bulletin item deadline is Thursday @ 3:00pm for the Sunday after next bulletin. E-mail items to: [office@steugenes.com](mailto:office@steugenes.com).

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 11</b>
8:00 am	ICF Members, living & deceased
4:30 pm	Meghan McCurry, living
6:30 (Sp)	Familia Jimenez & Garcia, living & deceased
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 12</b>
7:30 am	John Bugbee, deceased
9:00 am	Virginia Welchon, deceased
10:30 am	People of St. Eugene's
12:00 pm	Kitzia Leon Luna, living
1:30 pm	Gustavo Sanchez, living
5:30 pm	Brendan Victor Flanagan, living
6:00 pm (Newman Ctr.)	Fr. Thomas Stuart, living
<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 13</b>
6:45 am	Frank Epperson, Sr., deceased
8:00 am	A. Magdalena Delgadillo, living
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>September 14</b>
6:45 am	Vincent De Lucca, deceased
8:00 am	Perina Pisenti, deceased
5:30 pm (EF)	Michael Tran, living
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>September 15</b>
6:45 am	Magda Skikos, living
8:00 am	Cristina Fable, deceased
9:20 am (School)	Kitzia Leon Luna, living
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>September 16</b>
6:45 am	Mary Tran, living
8:00 am	Andrew & Carmel Palanos, living
<b>Friday</b>	<b>September 17</b>
6:45 am	Bridget Mary Hagan, deceased
8:00 am	Ora Romani, living
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 18</b>
8:00 am	Veronica Palanos, living
4:30 pm	George Schirle, deceased
6:30 pm (Sp.)	Pablo Fernandez, deceased

## IN NEED OF PRAYERS

### ~PLEASE PRAY FOR~

Those who are ill need your support and prayers: Tristan Humble, Samuel Agius, Sandy Torti Wilcox, Marjorie Miles, Amelia Lansangan, Gail Brown, Leo Del Santo, Emeline Jane Smith, Rosalind Britto, Ken Davis, Rita Wyatt, Karen Mills, Eileen Carol, Nancy Amador, Patrick Welter, Cristeta Marentes, Jesus Navarro, Michael Boland, Stephen Warner, Thomas Patrick, Aida Catapang, Bob Goldman, Pat Davenport, Joan Cosgrove, Paulita Castro, Jean L. Alfano, Theresa Pham, Rainey Olson, Michele Otten, Mary Gonzales and Luke Gunnewegh.

## SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY

### ~RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONGRESS~

On **Saturday, September 25, 2021**, the Diocese of Santa Rosa will present a day of prayer and fellowship for all adults in the Diocese. The event will be held at Cardinal Newman High School, 50 Ursuline Rd., Santa Rosa. The theme is *"Praying Always"*. The day will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the gym with Holy Mass offered by Bishop Robert F. Vasa, who welcomes us to this Congress by saying, "During this Year of St. Joseph, our theme *"Praying Always"* reminds us that the work of evangelization is both an active and a contemplative work. In fact, the Lord Himself tells us, 'Without Me you can do nothing!' Prayer is a manifestation of our recognition of this truth." Here are just some of the guest speakers and topics: · **Rev. John Plass** - "Adoring My Eucharist Lord" · **Rev. Jeffrey Keyes** - "Lectio Divina" · **Rev. Moses Brown, J.C.L.** - "Catholic Prayers, the Liturgy of the Hours: Praying with Psalms & Sulpician method of prayer" · **Rev. John Marie Bingham, O.P.** - "The Hail Mary: Holy Door & Threshold of Grace" and "The Father Heart of St. Joseph" · **Mother Teresa Christe, M.S.S.R.** - "Common obstacles to prayer & How to overcome them" · **Deacon Dance Farrell** - "Bringing meaningful prayer into hustle & bustle of daily life" This day is designed to bring spiritual nourishment to all adults in the Diocese. We look forward to seeing you. This event is **FREE**. For more information or to register, please contact Carmen Aanenson at the Diocesan Dept. of Religious Education at e-mail address: [dre@srdioocese.org](mailto:dre@srdioocese.org) or call her at: 707-566-3366 More info at: [www.srdioocese.org/religious-education-congress](http://www.srdioocese.org/religious-education-congress)

### ~VIRTUAL ST. JOSEPH SUMMIT~

**New Information:** Last week, we took a more in-depth look at the presenters taking part in this virtual summit. In his interview with Catholic World Report magazine, Deacon Steve Greco was asked about what makes this summit different. He said, "Well, for one, our focus on St. Joseph is new. But in our time, I think looking to Joseph for help and inspiration is critical. He can help us in our battle against Satan and help us heal from past wounds. He is also an important guide for our time. He helps us better understand the role of the man in marriage, as a spiritual head, at a time when there is a dearth of such role models in society. And, while our ministry has done many virtual events in the past, this is the first time we've done one of this scale. Having this means to reach a worldwide audience is a great benefit, an asset and a blessing. In this Year of Saint Joseph, which runs through December 8, 2021, there are a variety of special indulgences granted by the Holy See. One involves participating in a spiritual retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph. An indulgence, I would remind your readers, is remission of temporal punishment due to sins already forgiven, a way of speeding our entry into heaven when we die." For more information or to register for the Summit, go to: [www.Saintjosephsummit.com](http://www.Saintjosephsummit.com). To read more from Catholic World Report, go to: <https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2021/05/04/three-day-saint-joseph-summit-virtual-conference-will-focus-on-st-joseph-as-spiritual-father/>

# MY CATHOLIC FAITH

## THE CROSS AND MARTYRDOM

### ~FROM THE PASTOR~

There are often readings in Holy Scripture that strike us as especially pertinent or poignant. The readings today struck me in this sense for they talk about suffering, something that we seem to see an awful lot of today. Not just any suffering, however, but suffering for a cause, an ideal. What does this mean for a Christian? It means that we must always be prepared to deny our own will and take up whatever cross may be presented to us. "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." In other words, there may come a time, and it may be very soon, where we will have to make a concrete, actual choice as to whom we will follow: the gods of man or the Son of God. If we choose God, we WILL suffer. It may take the form of being ridiculed, ostracized, marginalized or actual imprisonment and martyrdom. In whatever form it may take, we have a role model to follow: Jesus Christ. We will have to set our faces like flint and bear with grace and patience whatever cross the Lord sees fit to give us, knowing that He will never give us a cross that is too heavy for us to bear. Let us read some excerpts from an essay by Catholic author, Joseph LaCombe, on this topic to gain some insight and wisdom about holy suffering, followed by excerpts from Catholic blogger, Mary Ann Kreitzer, on martyrdom.

### ~TAKE UP YOUR CROSS~

"Denying ourselves, sacrificing ourselves for the sake of others, bearing our daily crosses, and offering all of that up to God for the merits of others – not our own merit. I think about these things when I reflect on the readings for today. Jesus tells us that to follow Him, *we must deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow.* This is a blessing, a grace of the crosses that come our way. Just as with Jesus, He announces to the disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly, and be killed. He must do this for the world. He must bear His literal cross, and be crucified, and die for us, so that the ship can be righted, so to speak. Peter gets so upset at this and tells Jesus that this will never happen! But Peter didn't listen to the rest of Jesus' words – *that on the third day, He would be raised.* There was a reason

and a purpose for all that Jesus was to do and undergo, and there was a joy and a gift – a joy of salvation and a gift of eternal life. And so, in our daily crosses, we too can find joy. We too can receive gifts and graces. ... I do know that our crosses in life, can purify us, shape our soul, our character, and our strength – if we trust in and rely on God to get us through ... [A]nd I do know, that if we deny ourselves, sacrifice our own will and our selfish desires for the will of God, and offer up our sacrifices and suffering to Him for the good of someone else, that there is merit here. Not only does this purify our own soul, but I've seen prayers answered – for others – in this very act. And so as much as I hate to see and experience any kind of trial and suffering or tragedy, there is joy and grace and a gift to be found there if we use these as an opportunity to love. To love and lean on Christ, and use these as an opportunity to love others."

### ~LIVE ETERNALLY WITH CHRIST~

"If we conform ourselves to the world, to society, and let this overcome us, and we wallow in our own self-pity and selfish desires, we will be destroyed – eternally. But with each cross that comes our way, if we look at it as an opportunity to renew and grow our prayer life, and our spiritual relationship with God, and deny our wills and look to these crosses as a way to help others somehow, and ask God to show us that – we will grow immensely and we, too will be raised after our death and live eternally with Christ. This is the joy to be found in our daily crosses. But we must deny ourselves. We must deny our will, and discern the will of God. We've got to deny our own wants, our own sorrows, our own selfish desires and simply let Him guide us, so that we can follow. We must not ask the question, why would God let this happen – but ask what is God wanting me to learn from this experience? What is God wanting me to do – right now – as a result of this cross? What is God wanting me to share with others based upon what I am experiencing? Where is God pulling me closer to Him? In every single instance, we will be tempted *not* to do this. We will be tempted to give into our own will and desires, and focus on our self, and turn away from Christ. We will have obstacles come before us, trying to prevent us from thinking this way, and following God. This is when we exclaim, as Jesus did, "*Get behind me Satan!*"

*You are an obstacle to me.*" Jesus will be there, to show us the way, to renew and deepen our understanding of Him, and lead us to all that is good and pleasing and perfect." For the complete article, go to: <https://www.acatholic.org/sunday-9317-take-up-your-cross/>

## ARE YOU READY?

### ~TO BE A MARTYR~

"Several years ago as he suffered with terminal cancer, Cdl. Francis George of Chicago made this now famous statement: *I expect to die in bed, my successor will die in prison and his successor will die a martyr in the public square. His successor will pick up the shards of a ruined society and slowly help rebuild civilization, as the church has done so often in human history.* Anyone with fingers on the pulse of American culture can hardly be surprised at a prince of the Church predicting impending persecution. Since bloody martyrdom already devastates many countries in the world, why should the United States, the epicenter of the culture of death, which exports evil all over the globe, be immune? Yes, those U.S. Catholics faithful to the teachings of the Church are likely to face imprisonment, and even bloody martyrdom, in the not-too-distant future. The signs are plentiful. A rabid anti-Christian secularism infiltrates every segment of modern life both at home and abroad. It labels people of faith intolerant and hateful simply because they believe in the Ten Commandments and fundamental moral principles based on the natural law implanted in the human heart. When defending the nuclear family consisting of mother, father and children brings accusations of hatred, it is obvious that a culture suffers from terminal madness. A few weeks before resigning the papacy, Pope Benedict XVI addressed 50,000 in St. Peter's Square following the *Angelus*. His tone was serious, and he clearly warned that we will be put to the test. The *Vatican Insider* reported his words on the event: *The time of testing is here. We must not use God for our own ends. ... Don't be afraid to fight the evil spirit.*" *What is important is that we do it alongside Christ the Victor. ... We must reject the false images of the Messiah as Jesus did when faced with the temptations the Temptor presented Him with, the most serious of which is using God for one's own ends. ...* The battle is firmly engaged with the clouds of persecution darkening as they have been since Pope John Paul II made his apocalyptic statement at Fulda in 1980: *We must prepare ourselves to suffer great trials before long, such as will demand of us a disposition to*

*give up even life, and a total dedication to Christ and for Christ. ... With your and my prayer it is possible to mitigate this tribulation, but it is no longer possible to avert it, because only thus can the Church be effectively renewed. How many times has the renewal of the Church sprung from blood! This time, too, it will not be otherwise. We must be strong and prepared, and trust in Christ and His Mother, and be very, very assiduous in praying the Rosary."*

### ~HOW TO PREPARE~

"So how does one prepare for martyrdom? Follow Jesus. He calls Himself "the way, the truth, and the life," a description that summarizes the school of martyrs. What is "the way?" Jesus showed us after His baptism when He suffered and prayed in the desert. Fasting and prayer, especially the Eucharist, the Rosary and contemplation strengthen one to fight the temptations of Satan against materialism, power and worldly honor. Only men and women dedicated to Christ will detach themselves from the world. To prepare, Catholics must ruthlessly root out what St. Ignatius called "inordinate attachments." If they don't, when martyrdom looms, they will likely walk away "sad" like the rich young man in the Gospel. Someone who can't give up the goods of life for Christ is hardly likely to give up life itself. The second class in the school of martyrdom is truth. What good is dying for a cause if it's a lie and a fraud? We must know and embrace the truth. That entails a serious obligation to study the doctrines of the Church, Holy Scripture and the lives of the saints. As we internalize the fullness of the truth based on the two great commandments, we prepare ourselves for the most advanced class in the school of martyrdom: following Jesus "the life." This is where the rubber meets the road, where the talk must become the walk. It is no good just to know the truth; it must be lived especially today in the culture of "let's pretend and lie that": babies aren't really babies; deliberately killing the aged and handicapped is "mercy"; two men or two women can contract a "marriage"; marriage isn't really indissoluble, etc. The culture of the lie needs the witness of the truth both through speech and action. Living the truth is risky, however. It risks hatred from those who prefer comfortable lies. It risks rejection, imprisonment and even death — which is why preparing for martyrdom is so important." For entire article by Mary Ann Kreitzer: <https://www.churchmilitant.com/news/article/are-you-ready-to-be-a-martyr>

MI FE CATOLICA

LA CRUZ Y EL MARTIRIO

~ DEL PASTOR ~

A menudo hay lecturas en las Sagradas Escrituras que nos parecen especialmente pertinentes o conmovedoras. Las lecturas de hoy me impresionaron en este sentido porque hablan de sufrimiento, algo que parece que vemos muchísimo hoy. Sin embargo, no cualquier sufrimiento, sino sufrimiento por una causa, un ideal. ¿Qué significa esto para un cristiano? Significa que siempre debemos estar preparados para negar nuestra propia voluntad y tomar cualquier cruz que se nos presente. "Porque el que quiera salvar su vida, la perderá, pero el que pierda su vida por mí y por el evangelio, la salvará". En otras palabras, puede llegar un momento, y puede ser muy pronto, en el que tengamos que hacer una elección concreta y real sobre a quién seguiremos: los dioses del hombre o el Hijo de Dios. Si elegimos a Dios, sufriremos. Puede tomar la forma de ser ridiculizado, condenado al repudio, marginado o encarcelado y martirio real. Sea cual sea la forma que adopte, tenemos un modelo a seguir: Jesucristo. Tendremos que poner nuestros rostros como pedernal y soportar con gracia y paciencia cualquier cruz que el Señor considere conveniente darnos, sabiendo que nunca nos dará una cruz que sea demasiado pesada para que la llevemos. Leamos algunos extractos de un ensayo del autor católico Jose LaCombe sobre este tema para obtener un poco de conocimiento y sabiduría sobre el sufrimiento santo, seguidos de extractos de la bloguera católica, Mary Ann Kreitzer, sobre el martirio.

~ TOMA TU CRUZ ~

"Negarnos a nosotros mismos, sacrificarnos por el bien de los demás, llevar nuestras cruces diarias y ofrecer todo eso a Dios por los méritos de los demás, no nuestro propio mérito. Pienso en estas cosas cuando reflexiono sobre las lecturas de hoy. Jesús nos dice que para seguirlo, debemos negarnos a nosotros mismos, tomar nuestra cruz y seguirlo. Esta es una bendición, una gracia de las cruces que se nos presentan. Al igual que con Jesús, anuncia a los discípulos que debe ir a Jerusalén, sufrir mucho y morir. Debe hacer esto por el mundo. Debe llevar su cruz literal, ser crucificado y morir por nosotros, para que el barco pueda enderezarse, por así decirlo. ¡Pedro se enoja mucho por esto y le dice a Jesús que esto nunca sucederá! Pero Pedro no escuchó el resto de las palabras de Jesús: que al tercer día Él resucitaría. Había una razón y un propósito para todo lo que Jesús debía hacer y experimentar, y había un gozo y un regalo: un gozo de salvación y un regalo de vida eterna. Y así, en nuestras cruces diarias, también nosotros podemos encontrar alegría. Nosotros también podemos recibir dones y gracias. ... Sí sé que nuestras cruces en la vida pueden purificarnos, moldear nuestra alma, nuestro carácter y nuestra fuerza, si confiamos y confiamos en Dios para que nos ayude a salir →

adelante... Y sé, que si nos negamos nosotros mismos, sacrificamos nuestra propia voluntad y nuestros deseos egoístas por la voluntad de Dios, y ofrecemos nuestros sacrificios y sufrimientos a Él por el bien de alguien más, que hay de mérito aquí. Esto no solo purifica nuestra propia alma, sino que he visto las oraciones respondidas, por otros, en este mismo acto. Y por mucho que deteste ver y experimentar cualquier tipo de prueba, sufrimiento o tragedia, hay alegría, gracia y un regalo que se puede encontrar allí si los usamos como una oportunidad para amar. Amar y apoyarse en Cristo, y usar esto como una oportunidad para amar a los demás".

~ VIVA ETERNA CON CRISTO ~

"Si nos amoldamos al mundo, a la sociedad, y dejamos que esto nos supere, y nos revolcamos en nuestra propia autocompasión y deseos egoístas, seremos destruidos eternamente. Pero con cada cruz que se nos presenta, si la vemos como una oportunidad para renovar y hacer crecer nuestra vida de oración y nuestra relación espiritual con Dios, y negar nuestra voluntad y mirar estas cruces como una forma de ayudar a otros de alguna manera, y Pídale a Dios que nos muestre que - creceremos inmensamente y también seremos resucitados después de nuestra muerte y viviremos eternamente con Cristo. Ésta es la alegría que se encuentra en nuestras cruces diarias. Pero debemos negarnos a nosotros mismos. Debemos negar nuestra voluntad y discernir la voluntad de Dios. Tenemos que negar nuestros propios deseos, nuestras propias tristezas, nuestros propios deseos egoístas y simplemente dejar que Él nos guíe para que podamos seguirlo. No debemos preguntarnos por qué Dios permitió que esto sucediera, sino preguntarnos qué quiere Dios que yo aprenda de esta experiencia. ¿Qué quiere Dios que haga, ahora mismo, como resultado de esta cruz? ¿Qué quiere Dios que comparta con los demás en base a lo que estoy experimentando? ¿Dónde está Dios acercándose a Él? En cada caso, estaremos tentados a no hacer esto. Seremos tentados a ceder a nuestra propia voluntad y deseos, enfocarnos en nosotros mismos y alejarnos de Cristo. Tendremos obstáculos ante nosotros, tratando de evitar que pensemos de esta manera y sigamos a Dios. Aquí es cuando exclamamos, como lo hizo Jesús, "¡Apártate de mí, Satanás! Eres un obstáculo para mí". Jesús estará allí, para mostrarnos el camino, para renovar y profundizar nuestra comprensión de Él, y guiarnos a todo lo que es bueno, agradable y perfecto".

Para ver el artículo completo, visite: <https://www.acatholic.org/sunday-9317-take-up-your-cross/>

## ESTAS LISTO?

~ SER UN MÁRTIR ~

"Hace varios años cuando padecía un cáncer terminal, Francis George de Chicago hizo esta declaración ahora famosa: *espero morir en la cama, mi sucesor morirá en la cárcel y su sucesor morirá mártir en la plaza pública. Su sucesor recogerá los fragmentos de una sociedad en ruinas y ayudará lentamente a reconstruir la civilización, como la iglesia ha hecho tan a menudo en la historia de la humanidad.* Cualquiera que conozca el pulso de la cultura estadounidense difícilmente se sorprenderá de que un príncipe de la Iglesia prediga una persecución inminente. Dado que el martirio sangriento ya devasta a muchos países del mundo, ¿por qué debería ser inmune Estados Unidos, el epicentro de la cultura de la muerte, que exporta el mal a todo el mundo? Sí, es probable que aquellos católicos estadounidenses fieles a las enseñanzas de la Iglesia se enfrenten al encarcelamiento, e incluso al martirio sangriento, en un futuro no muy lejano. Las señales son abundantes. Un secularismo anticristiano rabioso se infiltra en todos los segmentos de la vida moderna, tanto en el país como en el extranjero. Etiqueta a las personas de fe intolerantes y odiosas simplemente porque creen en los Diez Mandamientos y los principios morales fundamentales basados en la ley natural implantada en el corazón humano. Cuando la defensa del núcleo familiar formado por madre, padre e hijos trae acusaciones de odio, es obvio que una cultura sufre de locura terminal. Unas semanas antes de renunciar al papado, el Papa Benedicto XVI se dirigió a 50.000 personas en la Plaza de San Pedro después del Ángelus. Su tono era serio y advirtió claramente que seremos puestos a prueba. El Vatican Insider informó sus palabras sobre el evento: *El momento de las pruebas está aquí. No debemos usar a Dios para nuestros propios fines. ... No tengas miedo de luchar contra el espíritu maligno. "Lo importante es que lo hagamos junto a Cristo el Vencedor ... Debemos rechazar las imágenes falsas del Mesías como lo hizo Jesús cuando se enfrentó a las tentaciones del Tentador. le presentó, el más serio de los cuales es usar a Dios para sus propios fines ...* La batalla está firmemente comprometida con las nubes de la persecución oscureciéndose como lo han estado desde que el Papa Juan Pablo II hizo su declaración apocalíptica en Fulda en 1980: *Debemos prepararnos nosotros mismos a sufrir grandes pruebas en poco tiempo, como las que exigirán de nosotros una disposición para renunciemos incluso a la vida y a una dedicación total a Cristo y por Cristo. ... Con tu oración y la mía es posible mitigar esta tribulación, pero ya no es posible evitarla, porque solo así la Iglesia puede renovarse eficazmente. ¡Cuántas veces ha brotado de sangre la renovación de la Iglesia! Esta vez, también, no será de otra manera. Debemos ser fuertes y pre-*

*pararnos, confiar en Cristo y su Madre, y ser muy, muy asiduos en el rezo del Rosario ".*

~ CÓMO PREPARAR ~

"Entonces, ¿cómo se prepara uno para el martirio? Sigue a Jesús. Se llama a sí mismo "el camino, la verdad y la vida", descripción que resume la escuela de los mártires. ¿Cuál es la manera?" Jesús nos mostró después de Su bautismo cuando sufrió y oró en el desierto. El ayuno y la oración, especialmente la Eucaristía, el Rosario y la contemplación fortalecen a uno para luchar contra las tentaciones de Satanás contra el materialismo, el poder y el honor mundano. Solo los hombres y mujeres dedicados a Cristo se desprenderán del mundo. Para prepararse, los católicos deben desarraigar sin piedad lo que San Ignacio llamó "apegos desmesurados". Si no lo hacen, cuando el martirio se avecina, probablemente se alejarán "tristes" como el joven rico del Evangelio. Alguien que no puede renunciar a los bienes de la vida por Cristo es poco probable que renuncie a la vida misma. La segunda clase en la escuela del martirio es la verdad. ¿De qué sirve morir por una causa si es una mentira y un fraude? Debemos conocer y abrazar la verdad. Eso conlleva una seria obligación de estudiar las doctrinas de la Iglesia, la Sagrada Escritura y la vida de los santos. Al interiorizar la plenitud de la verdad basada en los dos grandes mandamientos, nos preparamos para la clase más avanzada de la escuela del martirio: seguir a Jesús "la vida". Aquí es donde la goma se encuentra con la carretera, donde la charla debe convertirse en paseo. No es bueno simplemente conocer la verdad; hay que vivirla especialmente hoy en día en la cultura del "pretendamos y mintamos": los bebés no son realmente bebés; matar deliberadamente a ancianos y discapacitados es "misericordia"; dos hombres o dos mujeres pueden contraer un "matrimonio"; el matrimonio no es realmente indisoluble, etc. La cultura de la mentira necesita el testimonio de la verdad tanto a través del habla como de la acción. Sin embargo, vivir la verdad es arriesgado. Se arriesga al odio de quienes prefieren mentiras cómodas. Se arriesga al rechazo, al encarcelamiento e incluso a la muerte, razón por la cual prepararse para el martirio es tan importante ". Para el artículo completo de Mary Ann Kreitzer: <https://www.churchmilitant.com/news/article/are-you-ready-to-be-a-martyr>

~SE NECESITAN ADORADORES~

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CATECISMO

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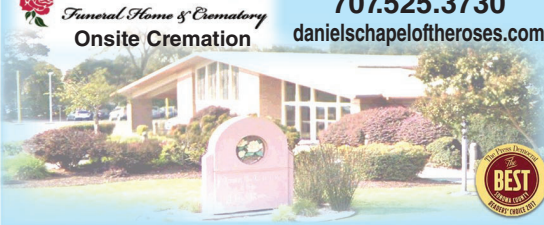
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