



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

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
School: 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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 26

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

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 27

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Respect Life Meeting – PLC – 3:30 pm

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 28

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Women of the Word – PLC (Hope Rm) – 9:30 am
PSR – School – 3:45 pm
Latin Mass – Cathedral- 5:30 pm

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 29

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

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 30

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

FRIDAY OCTOBER 1

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

SATURDAY OCTOBER 2

Morning Mass – Cathedral – 8:00 am
Confession - Cathedral -3:00 – 4:30 pm
Mass – Cathedral -4:30 pm; 6:30 pm (Spanish)

SECOND COLLECTION

~THIS WEEKEND~

There will be no Second Collection this weekend, September 25 & 26. Next weekend, October 2 & 3, our Second Collection will be for our Religious Education Program.

~RESPECT LIFE MONTH~

LIVE THE GOSPEL OF LIFE! The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) proclaims October of each year as Respect Life Month. The first Sunday of October (Oct. 3, 2021) is Respect Life Sunday. Please watch for a special observance of the Day, during all of the masses on October 3rd. "Practices such as abortion and assisted suicide tragically reject the truth that human life is always to be cherished and defended with loving concern." Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, may Our Lord grant us the grace to truly and courageously live the Gospel of life. **We'd also like to remind you that this Monday, Sept. 27, we will have our monthly Respect Life Meeting at 3:30 p.m. in the Parish Life Center. Please join us!**

Hearing Aid Users, Switch to T-Coil

ADMINISTRATION

For the Week of: 09/12/21

Sunday Donations Received:	\$12,547.
Collection Revenue Received for: Mission Co-op	\$3,434.

~CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS~

October is the Month of the Most Holy Rosary. To celebrate this, all of our stunning rosaries are 25% off during October only! There's a rhythm to praying the rosary, and as you enter into that rhythm, you'll begin to think less about the words and more about the meaning of the words and the meditations. 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.

~ANNUAL PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT~

The parish annual financial report for last fiscal year, July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 is available in the Parish Office to registered parishioners. If you would like a copy, please stop by and pick one up or you can send an email request to us at: Office@steugenes.com. The office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

~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. We are in particular need of people who can commit to the following days and hours: Sunday 4-5pm; Tuesday 12-1am and 3-4am; Wednesday 2-3am and 3-4am; Thursday 4-5am. For the access code to the Chapel, please go to the Parish Office and talk to Maria Sanchez.

~NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING~

Engaged and married couples: you have the opportunity to learn Natural Family Planning at your convenience! Self-paced classes are available through the Couple to Couple League. Please visit their website: www.ccli.org.

~FAREWELL TO FR. STUART~

Next Sunday, October 3rd, will be Fr. Thomas Stuart's last day at the Cathedral, as he will start his new assignment at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Petaluma on October 4. We are sad to see him go but know that our loss is St. Vincent's gain! To wish him goodbye and good luck in his new assignment, we will have a small gathering after the 9:00 am Mass outside under the tented area on the east side of the church. Light refreshments will be served.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	September 25
8:00 am	Michael Russell, Jr., deceased
4:30 pm	Giampaoli & Tessier Families, living & deceased
6:30 (Sp)	Maria Lira, deceased
Sunday	September 26
7:30 am	Darren Wallace, living
9:00 am	Robert & Regina Wilkinson, living
10:30 am	People of St. Eugene's
12:00 pm	Humberto Ordonez, deceased
1:30 pm	Hugo Sanchez-Barba, living
5:30 pm	William & Jeanne McCormick, deceased
6:00 pm (Newman Ctr.)	Darren Wallace, living
Monday	September 27
6:45 am	Briana Ponce, living
8:00 am	Jeremiah Wara, living
Tuesday	September 28
6:45 am	Leo Pimentel, deceased
8:00 am	Briseida Liani Monterroso, living
5:30 pm (EF)	Mary Tran, living
Wednesday	September 29
6:45 am	Respect Life Intentions (Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Rafael)
8:00 am	Michael Taylor Shaklik, living
9:20 am (School)	Laura Leon Luna, living
Thursday	September 30
6:45 am	Kitzia Leon Luna, living
8:00 am	Giampaoli Family, living & deceased
Friday	October 1
6:45 am	Leo Pimentel, deceased
8:00 am	Bridget Mary Hagan, deceased
9:30 am (School)	Juana Maldonado, deceased
Saturday	October 2
8:00 am	In honor of and in reparation for the offences against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus and for the living & deceased members of the Russell and Rinaldi Families.
4:30 pm	Meghan McCurry, living
6:30 pm (Sp.)	Familia Jimenez & Garcia, living & deceased

~PRAYER FOR THE SICK~

Almighty and Eternal God, the everlasting salvation of them that believe, hear us on behalf of Thy sick servants, for whom we implore the aid of Thy pitying mercy, that, with his/her bodily health restored, s/he may render thanks to Thee in Thy Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY

~VIRTUAL ST. JOSEPH SUMMIT~

This week, the 72-hour Saint Joseph Summit (www.saintjosephsummit.com) virtual conference begins! (September 30-October 3) **We are happy to announce that St. Eugene's will be offering a free "passport" to all who are interested in attending this Virtual Summit!** Your 1-year access includes: A full year's admission to the Summit beginning Thursday, September 30th at 6pm PST and access to all 60+ recorded presentations. Just type this link into your search engine: https://www.spiritfilledevents.com/offers/JeLwygoe?coupon_code=STEUGENE (Or go to our on-line bulletin and cut and paste the address in.) If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to: support@spiritfilledevents.com

~CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH~

The Santa Rosa Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is offering, "The Consecration to St. Joseph" via Zoom, beginning September 30th. This six - week series will be offered on Thursdays at 10:30 am and at 6:30 pm. Free books will be provided by SRDCCW. To register please contact Char at (707) 331-3126 or write to her at SantaRosaDCCW@gmail.com.

~HOLY HOUR EVENING RETREAT~

On Friday, October 1, from 7-8:00 pm, St. Joseph Catholic Church in Cotati, located at 150 St. Joseph Way, will offer a Holy Hour Evening Retreat. Confessions will be heard beforehand (6-7:00 pm) followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a short spiritual talk based on the writings of St. Josemaria Escriva, Benediction and fellowship afterwards.

~EVENING ROSARY~

Please join us in the Cathedral on Friday, October 15th, at 7:00 p.m., as we pray the Rosary in honor of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. We will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and begin the evening with the Rosary. We will then pray the Litany of the Saints and will end with Benediction. An ice cream social will follow in the Parish Life Center.

~OPUS ANGELORUM RETREAT~

A silent Retreat is being offered at St. Clare's Retreat Center in Soquel, CA. The retreat will run from October 7-10. The cost is \$480 for single and \$440 for double. For more information, please call: (330) 969-9900.

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 Marrentes, 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, Pauline Goslovich and Mary Gonzales.

MY CATHOLIC FAITH

PROPHESYING

~WORTHY TOPICS~

There are many worthy topics in our readings today: Prophesying, avarice, the power in the name of Jesus and the deadliness of sin. Let's look first at the gift that was bestowed on the 70 elders (and Eldad and Medad): The gift of prophecy. "Would that all the people of the LORD were prophets! Would that the LORD might bestow his spirit on them all!" (NM 11:29)

~THE GIFT OF PROPHECY~

"The Holy Ghost [also] grants certain extraordinary gifts, which are given only on rare occasions and to selected persons. Such extraordinary graces are granted principally not for the benefit of the recipient, but of others. They were common during the early days of the Church, and helped in its rapid spread. Among them are the gift of tongues, of miracles, of visions, and **of prophecy.**" For entire article go to: <http://www.catholicbook.com/AgredaCD/MyCatholicFaith/mcfc042.htm>

~DANGERS~

"Both in our day and in the days of Moses, there were soothsayers and sorcerers who would have a limited view of the future thanks to dabbling with the powers of demons. The fallen angels still have angelic powers—preternatural powers—and can perform amazing feats which far exceed the power or knowledge of human beings. This is why we must never play with a ouija board, dabble in horoscopes, or have our fortune told. True prophets and visionaries are quite rare in this day and age so we must use discretion in this area. "We should instead say a prayer to the Holy Spirit. God wants us to trust in Him, and only Him, with our entire mind, body, and soul. The future is His to know, and for us to only find out as we live through it. The book of Revelation compares sorcery to fornication, idolatry, and murder!" This should be enough to convince us all that we must place our trust for the future in God's hands.

For entire article, go to: <http://www.catholicbible101.com/sorceryandwitchcraft.htm>

AVARICE

~TOO RICH~



"In our second reading, we read: "Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your impending miseries." These are very stern words. Is our Lord telling us that having money is evil? No, He is not. What

He is telling us, however, is that we must not love money too much! We should not put our trust in our riches, but rather, in God. People who place an inordinate emphasis on storing up riches often fall into the sin of avarice. As part of a Lenten series given at St. Francis de Sales Oratory, in St. Louis, Canon Michael Stein expounded upon this:

~GREED~

"In order not to become, or to remain, greedy we must know what it is exactly. What is "greed", "covetousness", "avarice"? Greed is an excessive love for, and seeking after, wealth and other earthly possessions. A greedy person strives for more riches than he requires and is never content. He clings to what he has and is stingy... there is a difference between possessing material goods and being greedy, just as there is a difference between having poison and being poisoned. Pharmacists keep almost every kind of poison in stock for use on various occasions, yet they are not themselves poisoned because they merely have it in their shops and not in their bodies. So also can you possess riches without being poisoned by them if you merely keep them in your home and purse and not in your heart. To be rich in effect and poor in affection is a great happiness for a Catholic. And just as what is poison for one may be a remedy for another, so too our riches, if they are rooted in our heart they are poison, but freely given they may be a saving remedy to the poor."

~STRONG ATTACHMENT~

"If we are strongly attached to the goods we possess, set our heart on them, always have them in our thoughts, and fear losing them, then we are infected with greed; with covetousness." For entire sermon, go to: <http://stlouiscatholic.blogspot.com/2011/03/greed.htm>

THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

~POWER IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM~

"The name of Jesus has power in the spiritual realm. We repeat the holy name at the center of our rosary prayer, and should do so with a pause and a bowed head. This is the heart of the prayer: an invocation of the holy name."

~INVOKE HIS NAME~

"The holy name should be used for every kind of deliverance prayers. When you are tempted, invoke the holy name. When you are under a cloud, invoke the holy name. When you are being attacked, invoke the holy name. Remember that the name "Jesus" means "Savior" so call on him when you need to be saved!"

~POWER OF SAINTS' NAMES~

"Also remember that the names of saints are powerful. Call on your patron saints by name. The devils hate the holy names of Jesus and Mary. When an exorcist casts out a demon he always demands the name of that demon. That's because the named demon must respond to the holy name of Jesus when it is uttered by a priest giving the command of deliverance. It was through the name of Jesus that the apostles obeyed Christ's command to take authority over the demons and it is through the holy name of Jesus that we prevail in spiritual warfare today." By Fr. Dwight Longenecker. Read Fr Longenecker's blog, browse his books and be in touch at dwrightlongenecker.com

SALTED WITH FIRE

~THE LITTLE ONES~

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea" (Mark 9:42). Gregory the Great says this about those severe words of Jesus: "Mystically expressed in the millstone is the hard and tedious rhythm of secular life, while the deep sea signifies the most terrible curse. Thus, After having taken a profession of holiness, anyone who destroys others through words or deed would have been better off if their misdeeds had caused them to die in secular dress, rather than, through their holy office, being imposed as an example for others in their sins. Without a doubt, if they had fallen all by themselves, their suffering in Hell would be easier to bear. "

~THE DIVINE SURGEON~

But the Lord, who does not enjoy the loss of his servants and does not want eternal death for his creatures, immediately adds a remedy for condemnation, a drug for the disease, relief from the danger of eternal damnation. His are the strong words of the Divine surgeon that cuts to heal, amputates to cure, prunes so the vine bears much fruit: "And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off" (Mark 9:43). "And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off" (Mark 9:45) "And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out" (Mark 9:47).

~STUMBLING BLOCKS~

"Several Holy Fathers interpret "the hand," "the foot," and "the eye" as a friend dear to our heart with which we share our life, to whom we are bound by ties of affection, harmony and solidarity. There is a limit to this relationship. Christian friendship submits to the law of God. If my friend, my companion, a person dear to me is for me an occasion of sin, a stumbling block for me in journey, I have no other choice. According to the criterion of the Lord, this relationship must be cut. Who would deny the agony of such a choice? Is this a cruel amputation? Yet the Lord is clear: It is better for me to go alone in the Kingdom (without a hand, without a foot, without an eye), than to go with my friend "into hell, into unquenchable fire" (Mark 9:43; cf. Mark 9: 45,47). Thus this strong image of the limbs of the body places us without much confusion in front of the mirrors of our consciences. The reference to the hand, the foot, and the eye recalls the words of the Apostle Paul in the letter to the Romans:

"So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin which dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I of myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin" (Romans 7:21-25).

Excerpted from: *Salted With Fire*, by Msgr. Charles Scicluna. For entire article go to: <http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=9333>

MI FE CATOLICA

PROFETIZADOR

~ TEMAS DIGNOS ~

Hay muchos temas valiosos en nuestras lecturas de hoy: Profetizar, avaricia, el poder en el nombre de Jesús y la letalidad del pecado. Veamos primero el don que se les otorgó a los 70 ancianos (y a Eldad y Medad): el don de profecía. "¡Ojalá todo el pueblo del SEÑOR fuera profeta! ¡Ojalá el SEÑOR derramara su espíritu sobre todos ellos!" (NM 11:29)

~ EL DON DE LA PROFECÍA ~

"El Espíritu Santo [también] concede ciertos dones extraordinarios, que se dan sólo en raras ocasiones y a personas seleccionadas. Tales gracias extraordinarias se otorgan principalmente no en beneficio del destinatario, sino de otros. Eran comunes durante los primeros días de la Iglesia y ayudaron a su rápida difusión. Entre ellos se encuentran el don de lenguas, de milagros, de visiones y de profecía ". Para ver el artículo completo, visite: <http://www.catholicbook.com/AgredaCD/MyCatholicFaith/mcfc042.htm>

~ PELIGROS ~

"Tanto en nuestros días como en los días de Moisés, hubo adivinos y hechiceros que tendrían una visión limitada del futuro gracias a jugar con los poderes de los demonios. Los ángeles caídos todavía tienen poderes angelicales, poderes sobrenaturales, y pueden realizar hazañas asombrosas que exceden con creces el poder o el conocimiento de los seres humanos. Es por eso que nunca debemos jugar con una tabla ouija, incursionar en horóscopos o que nos digan la suerte. Los verdaderos profetas y visionarios son bastante raros en esta época, por lo que debemos usar la discreción en esta área. "En cambio, deberíamos decir una oración al Espíritu Santo. Dios quiere que confiemos en Él, y solo en Él, con toda nuestra mente, cuerpo y alma. El futuro es Suyo para saberlo, y para que nosotros lo descubramos solo mientras lo vivamos. ¡El libro de Apocalipsis compara la hechicería con la fornicación, la idolatría y el asesinato! " Esto debería ser suficiente para convencernos a todos de que debemos poner nuestra confianza para el futuro en las manos de Dios.

Para ver el artículo completo, visite: <http://www.catholicbible101.com/sorceryandwitchcraft.htm>

AVARICIA

~ DEMASIADO RICO ~

"En nuestra segunda lectura, leemos: "Venid ahora, ricos, llorad y lamentad vuestras inminentes miserias". Son palabras muy severas. ¿Nuestro Señor nos está diciendo que tener dinero es malo? No, no es. Sin embargo, lo que nos está diciendo es que no debemos amar demasiado el dinero. No debemos confiar en nuestras riquezas, sino en Dios. Las personas que ponen un énfasis excesivo en acumular riquezas a menudo caen en el pecado de la avaricia. Como parte de una serie de Cuaresma dada en el Oratorio de San Francisco de Sales, en San Luis, el canónigo Michael Stein expuso sobre esto:

~ CODICIA ~

"Para no volvernos o seguir siendo codiciosos, debemos saber qué es exactamente. ¿Qué es "codicia", "codicia", "avaricia"? La codicia es un amor excesivo y una búsqueda de riquezas y otras posesiones terrenales. Una persona codiciosa se esfuerza por obtener más riquezas de las que necesita y nunca está contenta. Se aferra a lo que tiene y es tacaño ... hay una diferencia entre poseer bienes materiales y ser codicioso, así como hay una diferencia entre tener veneno y ser envenenado. Los farmacéuticos tienen en existencia casi todos los tipos de veneno para usarlos en diversas ocasiones, sin embargo, ellos mismos no se envenenan porque simplemente lo tienen en sus tiendas y no en sus cuerpos. Así también puedes poseer riquezas sin ser envenenado por ellas si simplemente las guardas en tu casa y bolso y no en tu corazón. Ser rico en efectos y pobre en afecto es una gran felicidad para un católico. Y así como lo que es veneno para uno puede ser un remedio para otro, también nuestras riquezas, si están arraigadas en nuestro corazón, son veneno, pero dadas gratuitamente pueden ser un remedio salvador para los pobres".

~ APEGO FUERTE ~

"Si estamos fuertemente apegados a los bienes que poseemos, ponemos nuestro corazón en ellos, los tenemos siempre en nuestros pensamientos y tememos perderlos, entonces estamos infectados de codicia; con codicia ". Para ver el sermón completo, visite: <http://stlouiscatholic.blogspot.com/2011/03/greed.htm>.

EL PODER DEL NOMBRE DE JESUS

~ PODER EN EL REINO ESPIRITUAL ~

"El nombre de Jesús tiene poder en el ámbito espiritual. Repetimos el santo nombre en el centro de nuestro rosario, y debemos hacerlo con una pausa y la cabeza inclinada. Este es el corazón de la oración: una invocación del santo nombre".

~ INVOCA SU NOMBRE ~

"El santo nombre debe usarse para todo tipo de oraciones de liberación. Cuando se sienta tentado, invoque el santo nombre. Cuando esté bajo una nube, invoque el santo nombre. Cuando te ataquen, invoca el santo nombre. Recuerde que el nombre "Jesús" significa "Salvador", ¡así que llámelo cuando necesite ser salvo! "

~ PODER DE LOS NOMBRES SANTOS ~

"Recuerde también que los nombres de los santos son poderosos. Invoca a tus santos patronos por su nombre. Los diablos odian los santos nombres de Jesús y María. Cuando un exorcista expulsa a un demonio, siempre exige el nombre de ese demonio. Eso es porque el demonio nombrado debe responder al santo nombre de Jesús cuando es pronunciado por un sacerdote dando la orden de liberación. Fue a través del nombre de Jesús que los apóstoles obedecieron el mandato de Cristo de tomar autoridad sobre los demonios y es a través del santo nombre de Jesús que prevalecemos en la guerra espiritual de hoy. Dwight Longenecker. Lea el blog del P. Longenecker, explore sus libros y manténgase en contacto en dwrightlongenecker.com

SALADO CON FUEGO

~ LOS PEQUEÑOS ~

"Cualquiera que haga pecar a uno de estos pequeños que creen en mí, es mejor que le colgaran al cuello una gran piedra de molino y lo arrojaran al mar" (Marcos 9:42). Gregorio el Grande dice esto sobre esas severas palabras de Jesús: "Expresado místicamente en la piedra de molino está el ritmo duro y tedioso de la vida secular, mientras que el mar profundo significa la más terrible maldición. Por lo tanto, después de haber hecho una profesión de santidad, cualquier persona que destruya a otros con palabras o hechos habría estado mejor si sus fechorías hubieran causado que murieran con vestimenta secular, en lugar de, a través de su santo oficio, imponerse como un ejemplo para los demás. en sus pecados. Sin duda, si hubieran caído solos, su sufrimiento en el infierno sería más fácil de soportar."

~ EL CIRUJANO DIVINO ~

Pero el Señor, que no disfruta de la pérdida de sus siervos y no quiere la muerte eterna de sus criaturas, inmediatamente añade un remedio para la condena, una droga para la enfermedad, un alivio del peligro de la condenación eterna. Suyas son las palabras fuertes del divino cirujano que corta para curar, amputa para curar, poda para que la vida dé mucho fruto: "Y si tu mano te es ocasión de pecar, córtala" (Marcos 9:43). "Y si tu pie te hace pecar, córtalo" (Marcos 9:45) "Y si tu ojo te es ocasión de pecar, sácatelo" (Marcos 9:47).

~ TROPIEZAS EN BLOQUES ~

"Varios Santos Padres interpretan" la mano", "el pie" y "el ojo" como un amigo querido de nuestro corazón con el que compartimos nuestra vida, al que nos unen lazos de afecto, armonía y solidaridad. Hay un límite para esta relación. La amistad cristiana se somete a la ley de Dios. Si mi amigo, mi compañero, una persona querida para mí, es una ocasión de pecado, una piedra de tropiezo en mi camino, no tengo otra opción. Según el criterio del Señor, esta relación debe cortarse. ¿Quién negaría la agonía de tal elección? ¿Es esta una amputación cruel? Sin embargo, el Señor es claro: es mejor para mí ir solo al Reino (sin mano, sin pie, sin ojo), que ir con mi amigo "al infierno, al fuego inextinguible" (Marcos 9:43). ; véase Marcos 9: 45,47). ... El Señor nos enseña otra exigencia sublime del discipulado, una medicina preventiva que Jesús en la Eucaristía, Fuego de Amor, les propone hoy a ustedes jóvenes comprometidos en la formación para el ministerio sagrado y la Iglesia: "Cada uno será salado con fuego" (San Marcos 9:49). El fuego arde, arde, purifica. Es un signo elocuente del Espíritu Santo. En las hermosas palabras del Santo Padre pronunciadas en esta Basílica de San Pedro el pasado domingo, solemnidad de Pentecostés: "El fuego de Dios, el fuego del Espíritu Santo, es el de la zarza que arde sin consumirse (cf. Éxodo 3, 2): es una llama que arde pero no destruye, que al arder hace brotar lo mejor y más verdadero del hombre, como en una fusión hace emerger su forma interior, su vocación a la verdad y al amor." Extraído de: Salado con fuego, por Mons. Charles Scicluna. Para ver el artículo completo, visite: <http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=9333>

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