



The Cathedral of
ST. EUGENE

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

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Frank Epperson, Rector
Rev. Thomas Stuart, 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 - David Gallagher	545-7252
Preschool Office - Sharry Caesare	528-9133

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: 8:00 a.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 has been moved to outside of the East Entrance of the Parish Life Center due to Covid-19 restrictions on gathering indoors.

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 (for March): Every 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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 21, 2021

PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY MARCH 21

Masses – Cathedral – 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00, 1:30 pm (Latin) & 5:30 pm
RCIA Classes – Becker Ctr. – 10:30 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast – Becker Center – 8-11:00 am

MONDAY MARCH 22

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

TUESDAY MARCH 23

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Latin Mass – Cathedral- 5:30 pm

WEDNESDAY MARCH 24

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

THURSDAY MARCH 25

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
School Masses – Cathedral – 9:30 a.m.; 1:30 p.m.
Chrism Mass – Cathedral – 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY MARCH 26

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Stations of the Cross – Cathedral – 2:00 & 6:00 pm;
Spanish – 7:00 pm
Crab Feed – Becker Center – 4:30-6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY MARCH 27

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

CATHEDRAL THRIFT SHOP

~THRIFT SHOP~

We are happy to announce that the St. Eugene Thrift Shop will re-open for business on Wednesday, March 17th. For the month of March, it will only be open on Wednesdays (24th and 31st). In April, it will resume its regular schedule of Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

~PARISH OFFICE MOVE~

On Monday, 8 March, the parish office was relocated to a more logical location - in the old bookstore near the parking lot. New paint (donated by ACM) and new flooring and the moving of furniture will hopefully offer a welcoming environment within the new office. Office hours will remain the same, M-F 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. A big "Thank You" to John Kennedy, Vince Buettner and Jesus Ornelas for all of their hard work in making this new office space a reality!

Hearing Aid Users, Switch to T-Coil

ADMINISTRATION

For the Weeks of: 3/7/21

Sunday Donations Received:	\$14,284.00
Collection Revenue Received for: School Tuition Assistance	\$2,574.00

~CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS~

During the month of March, our St. Francis Statue is 25% off. Lent is a time for self-reflection and deepening our relationship with God through Jesus Christ. As St Francis stated: "O divine Master grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life." Our St Francis statue is 8 inches tall, and it fits perfectly on a desk, on a shelf, or wherever you need inspiration and peace. We have a limited supply, so shop early! We also have a large selection of books in Spanish and welcome our Spanish speaking parishioners to stop by and check us out!. Please stop in and see our new location in the "Faith Room" of the Parish Life Center. 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. We stay open until 4:30 on the First Sunday of each month.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

~ON YOUTUBE~

For those who are unable to attend our Friday Stations of the Cross in person, inside the Cathedral, you can now follow along with us on our YouTube Channel. Simply go to www.Youtube.com and type in the words: Cathedral of St. Eugene – Stations of the Cross.

~WOMEN OF THE WORD~

Women of the Word, St. Eugene's scripture, prayer, and social group open to all Catholic women, continues to meet during this pandemic (albeit in a different form). What do we do? *We support each other in prayer:* We are sharing weekly prayer requests and praises with one another. How and when do we meet? *We meet every other Tuesday morning "virtually"* via zoom and regular telephone lines. We are learning about and contemplating the Seven Sacraments. **Our next meeting will be on March 30 at 10:00 a.m.** We are doing a retreat called "Bridge To Eternity": The Sacrament of Holy Orders.. We welcome new members. If you are interested in joining us with prayer or at our bi-weekly meetings, email Mary Gioia for information about how to participate at: hiecke@sonic.net. Please join us for our next meeting!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	March 20
8:00 am	Scott Voelker, living
4:30 pm	Meghan McCurry, living
6:30 pm	Maria Concepcion Hernandez, deceased
Sunday	March 21
7:30 am	Eileen Carol, living
9:00 am	George Schirle, deceased
10:30 am	People of the Diocese
12:00 pm	People of St. Eugene's
1:30 pm	Elizabeth Marapao, living
5:30 pm	David Crone, living
6:00 pm	Daria Vigil, deceased
	(Newman Ctr.)
Monday	March 22
6:45 am	Nguyen Van Ngam, deceased
8:00 am	Michael Tran, living
Tuesday	March 23
6:45 am	Nguyen Van Ngam, deceased
8:00 am	Leo Ambrosi, deceased
5:30 pm (EF)	Mary Tran, living
Wednesday	March 24
6:45 am	Nguyen Van Ngam, deceased
8:00 am	George Skikos, deceased
Thursday	March 25
6:45 am	Nguyen Van Ngam, deceased
8:00 am	Respect Life
5:30 pm (Chrism)	Bishop's Intention
Friday	March 26
6:45 am	Nguyen Van Ngam, deceased
8:00 am	Jack Bjornstrom, deceased
12:00 pm Hosp.	Joseph Duong, living
Saturday	March 27
8:00 am	Dennis & Carol McKay, deceased
4:30 pm	Meghan McCurry, living
6:30 pm (Sp)	Holy Souls in Purgatory

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

~IN NEED OF PRAYERS~

Those who are ill need your support and prayers: Tristan Humble, Samuel Agius, Sandy Torti Wilcox, Marjorie Miles, Amelia Lansangan, Gail Brown, Luigi Fabiano, 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, John Bugbee, Bob Goldman, Pat Davenport, Joan Cosgrove, Paulita Castro, Virginia Avilla and Theresa Pham.

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES

~MASS OF THE CHRISM~

The Most Reverend Robert F. Vasa, Bishop of the Diocese of Santa Rosa, along with the Diocesan and Religious priests of the Diocese, invites you to participate in the Mass of the Chrism here at St. Eugene's Cathedral this Thursday, March 25 at 5:30 p.m. This Mass is celebrated once a year and during the Mass, the Bishop blesses the oil of the Sick and the oil of Chrism. This Mass is one of the principal expressions of the fullness of the ministerial priesthood that the Bishop has received and it also signifies the unity the priests, who share in the same ministerial priesthood, have with the Bishop. *Seating is likely to be extremely limited due to the number of priests attending and the 25% capacity rule. This Mass will be live-streamed on our YouTube Channel.*

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

~PANCAKE BREAKFAST~

The St. Eugene's Pre-School will hold a "take-out" Pancake Breakfast from 8-11:00 a.m. this Sunday, March 21st, in front of the Msgr. Becker Center. A delicious breakfast of pancakes, eggs and sausage will be brought to your car while you wait. While waiting for breakfast, kids can have fun (from the car) finding the 12 Easter eggs that are "hidden" in front of the building. Meals may be purchased on site while the supply lasts.

~CRAB FEED~

Don't miss our school's Annual Crab Feed! Same great food, but take-out style! **When:** Friday, March 26th 4:30-6:30 pm pick up time. **Pick up Location:** Becker Center. \$25 per person. Meal Includes: ¾ lb. Crab (body & legs), 16 oz. cup of Clam Chowder, Side Caesar Salad, Roll w/ butter and a large Cookie. ***To purchase tickets, please call 545-7252 or email office@steugnesch.org.** Tickets must be purchased in advance by March 22nd!

FLOWER MEMORIAL ENVELOPES

~EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL DONATIONS~

Easter flower memorial envelopes are on the vestibule tables at both entrances of the church. Please legibly fill out the names of loved ones and return your envelopes to the collection plate **this weekend, March 20 & 21** to be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. You can also drop them off at the Parish Office. Deadline to turn them in is noon, Wednesday, **March 24th**. Names received after this deadline will be listed in subsequent bulletins.

~REVISIONS NEEDED~

The list of people in need of prayer has not been updated for almost one year. Please contact us if you notice someone who needs to be taken off or added – 542-6984, ext. 16.

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

ON THE VALUE OF SUFFERING

~FROM THE PASTOR~

The following is a very good article having to do with the many whys of suffering. It is by Fr. Andrew Hofer, O.P. and is taken from a publication called, "Teaching the Faith." I think it offers all of us great food for thought!

~WHY MUST WE SUFFER?~

"Suffering can make us ask all sorts of questions that we might not dare voice aloud: "Why is this happening? Who is the God who would allow such suffering? Does God even exist? Why? Why? Why?" Many turn away from God and his Church because of suffering—their own suffering and the suffering that they see around them. Their hearts are broken. We can take the objection to God's permission of suffering, which is traditionally called an evil, with utmost seriousness and compassion. In his *Summa Theologiae* I, q. 2, a. 3, when St. Thomas Aquinas asks if God exists, the first objection given to God's existence is the presence of evil. How can an infinitely good God exist when we know from our own pain that the evil of suffering exists? The question is of perennial concern. The Catechism of the Catholic Church #309 says: If God the Father almighty, the Creator of the ordered and good world, cares for all his creatures, why does evil exist? To this question, as pressing as it is unavoidable and as painful as it is mysterious, no quick answer will suffice. Only Christian faith as a whole constitutes the answer to this question: the goodness of creation, the drama of sin and the patient love of God who comes to meet man by his covenants, the redemptive Incarnation of his Son, his gift of the Spirit, his gathering of the Church, the power of the sacraments and his call to a blessed life to which free creatures are invited to consent in advance, but from which, by a terrible mystery, they can also turn away in advance. There is not a single aspect of the Christian message that is not in part an answer to the question of evil. No quick answer to suffering can be satisfactory. But there is indeed help from God in the midst of our suffering. This help is our salvation. The good news is this: Christ draws us through the love of his suffering to himself. We can celebrate on this Fifth Sunday of Lent what St. John Paul II calls "the Gospel of suffering" (*Salvifici*

Doloris #25). The Fifth Sunday of Lent was long ago given the title of "Passion Sunday," and still today the Lenten liturgy changes tone to concentrate on the Passion, that is, suffering. Christ proves his love for us through suffering."

~A NEW COVENANT TO COME~

"The first reading from the prophet Jeremiah tells us of "a new covenant" to come (Jer 31.31). It will be written on the hearts of God's people. This New Law is fulfilled in Jesus Christ. On the night before he died, he gave us the sacrament of his Body and Blood. In the words of institution at Mass, we hear Jeremiah's prophecy fulfilled in "the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant." This blood is "poured out." This means that Christ sheds his blood for our salvation. He dies for us. The new covenant, written on our hearts, comes through the suffering of God made flesh for us sinners. God knows that we suffer in our hearts, and so that is where the new covenant is inscribed. The Apostle Paul says, "[T]he love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly" (Rom 5.5-6). From the divine end of the new covenant, Christ's death shows the depths of God's love and faithfulness. We can also see Christ's suffering from another perspective. From the human end of the new covenant, Christ's death shows the depths of the human response in love and obedience. "

~ON THE CROSS~

"Our second reading, from the Letter to the Hebrews, tells us about Jesus: "Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him" (Heb 5.8-9). Christ's human life was not perfect, not complete, until he was lifted up on the cross. There on the cross, Jesus says, "It is finished" (John 19.30). St. John Paul II writes, "If, in fact, the Cross was to human eyes Christ's emptying of himself, at the same time it was in the eyes of God his being lifted up. On the Cross, Christ attained and fully accomplished his mission: by fulfilling the will of the Father, he at the same time fully realized himself. In weakness he manifested his power, and in

humiliation he manifested all his messianic greatness" (Salvifici Doloris #22). Only in suffering did Christ fully realize himself. He saves us by his blood: "by his wounds, we were healed" (Isa 53.5). Our Suffering in Christ Christ's suffering makes all the difference for our suffering. Without Christ, there is so much useless suffering in the world. Think of the despair and emptiness that people feel without Christ. In Christ, we have "the Gospel of suffering." He bids us to pick up our cross and follow him. He speaks repeatedly in the Gospel of his own suffering and ours. Suffering is not simply something to be overcome; it is the means for new life. Without the cross, there is no resurrection. Without our suffering, we cannot have the new life that Christ wants to share with us."

~THE SALVIFIC MEANING~

"St. John Paul II writes: Down through the centuries and generations it has been seen that in suffering there is concealed a particular power that draws a person interiorly close to Christ, a special grace. To this grace many saints, such as Saint Francis of Assisi, Saint Ignatius of Loyola and others, owe their profound conversion. A result of such a conversion is not only that the individual discovers the salvific meaning of suffering but above all that he becomes a completely new person. He discovers a new dimension, as it were, of his entire life and vocation. This discovery is a particular confirmation of the spiritual greatness which in man surpasses the body in a way that is completely beyond compare. When this body is gravely ill, totally incapacitated, and the person is almost incapable of living and acting, all the more do interior maturity and spiritual greatness become evident, constituting a touching lesson to those who are healthy and normal. (Salvifici Doloris #26) The saints experience how we have only to obey Christ in order to experience him as "the source of eternal salvation" (Heb 5.9). Our life is not made perfect, not complete, except through that obedience of sharing in Christ's suffering. "Apart from the cross there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven," says St. Rose of Lima (CCC #618)."

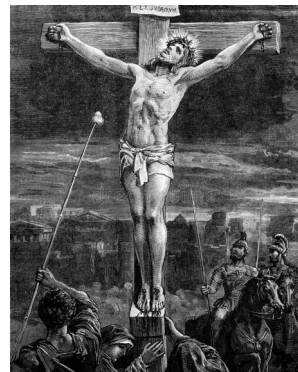
~HE DRAWS US~

"In our Gospel, Jesus proclaims, "[W]hen I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself" (John 12.32). Drawing is a powerful image. Christ does not compel us by violent force; he draws us. Commenting on this verse, St. Thomas

Aquinas understands this drawing precisely in terms of God's love. He quotes a passage from Jeremiah 31: "I have loved you with an everlasting love. Therefore, I have drawn you, having mercy" (Jer 31.3). Also, St. Thomas refers to the bride's words to her bridegroom in the Song of Songs: "Draw me after you" (Song 1.3). Where is the bridegroom taking his bride? To paradise through suffering."

~HE DRAWS US~

"Can you see God's love drawing you through suffering? Some cannot. The mystery of the cross is veiled. We can ask God for the grace to know the truthfulness and power of his love in suffering. In reply to the objection that an infinitely good God cannot exist because of evil existing, St. Thomas turns to the wisdom of St. Augustine: "Since God is the highest good, he would not allow any evil to exist in his works, unless his omnipotence and goodness were such as to bring good even out of evil" (S.T. I, q. 2, a. 3, ad 1; quoting St. Augustine, Enchiridion #11). Nothing was more evil than putting Christ to death. And yet, God allowed that most terrible suffering so that we might have Christ's resurrection. This is the victory of love! Yes, God's love is at work most powerfully on the cross. He wants us to experience that love when we suffer, and especially in the Sacrifice of the Mass. We are drawn by love to be in communion with Christ. In the Eucharist, Christ's broken heart is given for our own broken hearts. At the altar, we unite our suffering with his. Christ draws us through the love of his suffering to himself. " Fr. Andrew Hofer, O.P., is Associate Professor and Director of the Doctoral Program on the Pontifical Faculty of the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, DC



CATEDRAL DE ST. EUGENE'S — 21 de Marzo del 2021

Quinto Domingo de Cuaresma

ORACION A SAN MIGUEL ARCANGEL

SAN MIGUEL ARCÁNGEL, defiéndenos en la batalla. Sé nuestro amparo contra la perversidad y asechanzas del demonio. Reprímele Dios, pedimos suplicantes, y tu príncipe de la milicia celestial arroja al infierno con el divino poder a Satanás y a los otros espíritus malignos que andan dispersos por el mundo para la perdición de las almas. Amen.

Nota:

Por recomendación de nuestro Obispo R. Vasa aprender de memoria esta oración y hacerla después de que termina la Santa Misa. (claro que usted puede rezarla lo mas seguido posible)



CALENDARIO PARROQUIAL

Se invita a toda la comunidad, durante la Cuaresma se estará rezando el Viacrucis en la Catedral los todos los Viernes a las 7:00pm. En español.

Santa Misa en Español los sábados a las 6:30pm.

Confesiones Sábados de 3:00 a 4:30pm.

~MISA DEL SANTO CRISMA~

El Reverendísimo Robert F. Vasa, Obispo de la Diócesis de Santa Rosa, junto con los sacerdotes Diocesanos y Religiosos de la Diócesis, los invita a participar en la Misa del Santo Crisma aquí en la Catedral de San Eugenio este jueves 25 de marzo a las 5:30 pm.

Esta Misa se celebra una vez al año y durante la Misa, el Obispo bendice el óleo de los Enfermos y el óleo del Crisma. Esta Misa es una de las principales expresiones de la plenitud del sacerdocio ministerial que ha recibido el Obispo y también significa la unidad que los sacerdotes, que comparten el mismo sacerdocio ministerial, tienen con el Obispo.

Es probable que los asientos sean extremadamente limitados debido al número de sacerdotes que asisten y la regla de capacidad del 25%. Esta misa se transmitirá en vivo en nuestro canal de YouTube.

NUEVA OFICINA PARROQUIAL

~MUDANZA DE LA OFICINA~

El lunes 8 de marzo, la oficina parroquial se trasladó a un lugar más lógico: en donde antes estaba la tienda de artículos y libros religiosos, cerca del estacionamiento.

La pintura nueva fue donada por ACM (El Señor Alejandro Cruz y el piso nuevo gracias a Jesús Ornelas.

Con el nuevo cambio y la mudanza de muebles se espera que se ofrezcan un ambiente acogedor dentro de la nueva oficina. El horario de atención seguirá siendo el mismo, de lunes a viernes de 9:00 a.m. a 4:00 p.m. ¡Un gran "Gracias" a John Kennedy y Vince Buettner por todo su arduo trabajo para hacer realidad este nuevo espacio de oficina!

TIENDA DE ARTICULOS RELIGIOSOS

¡Por favor, visítenos!

Estamos estrenando una nueva tienda ahora es en el salón parroquia, (Parish Life Center-Faith Room)

¡Durante el mes de Marzo, tendremos el 25% de descuento en la estatua de San Francisco! La Cuaresma es un tiempo para la autocorreflexion y la profundización de nuestra relación con Dios a través de Jesucristo. Como decía San Francisco: "Oh divino Maestro, concede que no busque tanto ser consolado como consolar; ser comprendido como comprender; ser amado como amar. Porque es en el dar que recibimos; es en perdonar que somos perdonado y muriendo es que nacemos a la vida eterna". Nuestra estatua de San Francisco mide 8 pulgadas de alto y cabe perfectamente en un escritorio, en un estante o donde sea que necesite inspiración y paz.

También tenemos una gran selección de libros en Español.

El horario de la tienda es: Miércoles a Sábado de 8:30 a.m. a 4:30 p.m. y Domingos de 8:30 a.m. a 1:30 p.m.

Pregunte por ayuda en Español tenemos voluntarios que pueden contestar todas sus preguntas.

Si hay algo que necesita y no lo tenemos, nosotros podemos ordenarlo por usted.

Estamos cerrados Lunes / Martes.

Llámenos al 542-0250.

QUE ES UN PACTO

~ DEL PASTOR ~

Hoy, me gustaría concentrarme en una palabra de nuestra primera lectura de Jeremías, 31: 31-34. La palabra es **pacto**. A menudo vemos esta palabra en las Sagradas Escrituras, pero ¿le damos mucha importancia? ¿Sabemos lo que significa? ¿Entendemos su importancia? El siguiente artículo ofrece un análisis muy completo de esta palabra y cómo se entrelaza a través de las generaciones hasta nuestros días. Lea ahora, 7 pactos: La historia de la Biblia, por Chris McCarthy. (Este artículo continuará en un futuro boletín).

~ SIETE PACTOS ~

“La mayoría de los Cristianos hoy en día creen que solo ha habido dos pactos establecidos por Dios en la historia de la salvación. De hecho, eran siete. Ciertamente, existe la mayor división entre el séptimo y los seis precedentes, que llamamos Antiguo y Nuevo Testamento, pero lo que el aclamado autor, John Bergsma señala en su libro Conceptos básicos de la Biblia para católicos, es que hay mucho más en el Antiguo Testamento. cronología de lo que es obvio para nosotros a primera vista. En consecuencia, la única manera de comprender correctamente la historia de la redención del hombre es comprender primero cómo cada uno de los siete pactos está interconectado y cómo cada uno de ellos presagia de alguna manera el séptimo, el Nuevo Pacto en el que estamos viviendo actualmente. Incluso esto, sin embargo, nos dará una imagen insuficiente de la historia de la salvación si no entendemos, sobre todo, la naturaleza de los pactos en sí mismos ”.

~ ¿QUÉ ES UN PACTO? ~

“¿Qué es entonces un pacto? La mayoría de la gente piensa que es simplemente una promesa o un pacto hecho entre Dios y su pueblo. Si bien este es ciertamente un aspecto de un pacto, en realidad hay mucho más que considerar aquí. Según Bergsma, la forma en que las antiguas sociedades del Medio Oriente entendían el concepto de pacto era en términos de una familia extensa. En sus palabras, un pacto puede describirse como "una forma legal de hacer que alguien forme parte de su familia". Por lo tanto, se puede decir que la Biblia es esencialmente la historia de Dios tratando de establecer una familia extensa para sí mismo al acercarse a la humanidad una y otra vez. Otro aspecto muy importante de una relación de pacto es que se incurrirá en consecuencias si cualquiera de las partes viola los términos en los que se estableció el pacto. Veremos estas consecuencias realizadas al examinar el Pacto Mosaico y el Pacto Davídico, entre otros ”.

~ PACTO DE ADAMIC ~ (Adán)

“Todo el mundo está familiarizado con la historia del primer pacto entre Dios y el hombre en la persona de Adán. Encontrado en el libro de Génesis 2: 1-24, Bergsma describe el relato de la creación en términos de imágenes del templo. Con cada día sucesivo de la creación, Dios

agrega otro "ladrillo" al templo que está construyendo para él y sus criaturas. El séptimo día, que es el día de descanso, se asienta sobre la estructura de la creación como la piedra angular que une a toda la creación. Dentro de este templo de la creación, también se encuentra el Jardín del Edén, que es como el Lugar Santísimo en el Pacto Davídico y que también presagia la Jerusalén celestial por venir. Este concepto de que el universo es como un templo enorme en el que mora la presencia de Dios es uno que reaparecerá en el diseño del templo del Pacto Davídico ”.

~ EL PAPEL SACERDOTAL DE ADÁN ~

“Tan pronto como Adán es creado, se le asigna una posición de autoridad en el templo de la creación y se le asignan ciertos deberes que cumplir. Él está hecho a imagen y semejanza de Dios, debe "labrar la tierra y cuidarla", debe nombrar a todos los animales, y debe convertirse en el padre de la raza humana. Si bien nombrar animales puede parecer un trabajo trivial, en realidad representa algo mucho mayor. Adán recibe aquí cierta autoridad sobre la creación de Dios, lo que lo confirma en su papel de rey. La labranza y el mantenimiento del templo de Dios indican que Adán también posee un papel sacerdotal. Incluso tiene algunos elementos de un profeta, ya que un profeta es esencialmente una persona que habla por Dios. En el lenguaje bíblico, por lo tanto, Adán es designado como "hijo primogénito, rey, sacerdote, profeta y esposo". ¿Te recuerda a alguien? Génesis describe a Adán como un tipo de Jesucristo, quien, como sabemos, es el verdadero Primogénito de Dios, el verdadero Rey de la Creación, etc. Adán, por supuesto, no reina solo en el templo de Dios. Dios le ha dado a Eva para que sea la reina de la creación y quien se convertirá en la "madre de todos los vivientes". En la Nueva Alianza Eucarística, vemos que Eva era un tipo de la Virgen María, quien es la verdadera Reina de la Creación y espiritualmente “la madre de todos los vivientes”, en términos de aquellos que han recibido la gracia santificante. En última instancia, lo que lleva a Adán a romper este primer pacto es lo que los teólogos han denominado durante mucho tiempo la triple lujuria. Al ver que el "fruto" del árbol del conocimiento del bien y del mal era "bueno para comer, y que era un deleite para los ojos, y que el árbol era deseable para hacernos sabios", Adán y Eva sucumbieron a la lujuria. de la carne, la lujuria de los ojos y el orgullo de la vida. Es importante entender que el “conocimiento” del bien y del mal no es tanto lo que se implica aquí, sino más bien la definición del bien y del mal. En su relato de la caída del hombre, Génesis está usando un lenguaje simbólico para decirnos que Adán y Eva querían definir el bien y el mal para ellos mismos, aparte de Dios. Si eso le suena familiar, probablemente sea porque la humanidad todavía sufre esta tentación en la actualidad. A medida que avancemos en la historia de la salvación, veremos que una y otra vez, cada pacto se rompe por otra manifestación más de la triple lujuria combinada con el deseo de "ser como Dios" al definir el bien y el mal ”.