



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

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD – MARCH 28, 2021

PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY MARCH 28

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.

MONDAY MARCH 29

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

TUESDAY MARCH 30

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

WEDNESDAY MARCH 31

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Thrift Store – Open – 9:30 am – 2:30 pm
Parish Penance Service (Individual Confession) - Cathedral – 7:00 pm

THURSDAY APRIL 1

Parish Office Closed for HOLY THURSDAY
Morning Prayer (Lauds) - Cathedral-8:00 am
Mass of the Lord's Supper – Cathedral – 7:00 pm
Eucharistic Adoration until 12:00 Midnight
Night Prayer (Compline) – Cathedral – 11:30 pm

FRIDAY APRIL 2

****Day of Fast and Abstinence****
Parish Office closed for GOOD FRIDAY
Morning Prayer (Lauds) - Cathedral – 8:00 am
Good Friday Devotions – Cathedral – 12:30 pm
Confessions – Cathedral - 1:00 – 2:30 pm
Good Friday Services - Cathedral- 3:30 pm (Latin),
7:00 pm (English/Bishop Vasa),
7:30 pm (Spanish) - Becker Ctr.

SATURDAY APRIL 3

****Day of Fast and Abstinence until sundown****
Tenebrae-Cathedral-6:00 am
Morning Prayer (Lauds) - Cathedral – 8:00 am
**No Confessions scheduled*
No 4:30 or 6:30 pm Masses on this day
Easter Vigil Mass w/Bishop Vasa – Cathedral – 7:30 pm

~ SECOND COLLECTION ~

This weekend, March 27 & 28, there will be no Second Collection. On Good Friday, April 2, there will be a collection taken up for the Holy Land. As always, we thank you for your continued generosity!

Hearing Aid Users, Switch to T-Coil

ADMINISTRATION

For the Weeks of: 3/14/21

Sunday Donations Received:	\$11,471.00
Collection Revenue Received for: School Tuition Assistance	\$455.00

~A MESSAGE FROM FR. EPPERSON~

As some of the more observant of you have noticed, I have been hobbling around for quite awhile due to knee pain. I have been dealing with this for over ten years and after trying all of the different remedies the time has come to accept the fact that I must get a total knee replacement. I will be undergoing this surgery in mid-April, therefore I will be away from the parish for 6-8 weeks for surgery, rehab and physical therapy. I ask for your prayers during this time away. Also, during this time, Fr. Kris Lewandowski will be here to help out. Many of you will remember Fr. Lewandowski, as he was the Parochial Vicar here several years ago. God bless you and thank you for any prayers you can offer for a successful surgery and quick healing!

~CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS~

During the month of April, all in-stock missals are 25% off! Whether you attend the Ordinary Form or the Extraordinary Form, we have missals for Sunday and for daily Mass. To own a missal is to become engaged at the moment where time and eternity meet during the perfect prayer of the Most Holy Mass. 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.

~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 27
8:00 am	Dennis & Carol McKay, deceased
4:30 pm	Meghan McCurry, living
6:30 pm	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Sunday	March 28
7:30 am	Lisa Tran, living
9:00 am	Jose Loyola, deceased
10:30 am	People of the Diocese
12:00 pm	People of St. Eugene's
1:30 pm	Stephen Pavlich, deceased
5:30 pm	Dennis & Carol McKay, deceased
6:00 pm	Estella Contreras, deceased
(Newman Ctr.)	
Monday	March 29
6:45 am	Dennis & Carol McKay, deceased
8:00 am	Antonio H. Ordenez, living
Tuesday	March 30
6:45 am	Robert Mann, deceased
8:00 am	Rudy Sarmiento, living
5:30 pm (EF)	Mario E. Ordenez, deceased
Wednesday	March 31
6:45 am	Rose Tenaglia, deceased
8:00 am	Deirdre McCormick, deceased
Thursday	April 1 – Holy Thursday
6:45 am	No Mass
8:00 am	No Mass – Morning Prayer
7:00 pm	Bishop's Intention
Friday	April 2 – Good Friday
6:45 am	No Mass
8:00 am	No Mass – Morning Prayer
Saturday	April 3 – Holy Saturday
6:30 am	No Mass – Tenebrae
8:00 am	No Mass – Morning Prayer
7:30 pm	Bishop's Intention

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.

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

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES

~FROM THE PASTOR~

As you may have noticed, we did not do an "Easter Mailing" this year. I would therefore like to take the opportunity here to wish all of you a very happy and holy Easter. Our Lenten journey is finally nearing its end and hopefully our journey of self-denial and penance has been a fruitful one. We are continually involved in spiritual warfare for our very souls (whether we realize it or not), and penance, fasting and abstinence are good ways for us to be better prepared for the battle! There is an old saying: "First the fast, then the feast." As we finish with the rigors of Lent, we know that the great Feast, Easter, is right around the corner! By His death and resurrection, Our Lord has truly saved us from the darkness of death and promises us the light of eternal life if we will but heed His invitation and follow Him. May God bless you all on this holiest of weeks and most especially on the day of His glorious resurrection from the dead!

~PARISH PENANCE SERVICE~

Please come to the Cathedral this Wednesday, March 31, at 7:00 pm, for our Parish Penance Service. If you have not yet done so, this would be a great opportunity to complete an important part of your Easter duty. **Please note that we will not have Confession time scheduled on Holy Saturday. Opportunities to have your confession heard are at the Penance Service and on Good Friday, between 1-2:30 pm. (Please be in line BY 2:30 pm at the latest.)**

~GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES~

You may have noticed that Good Friday has several scheduled liturgies. Please read the following so that you may choose the one you would like to attend.

12:30 pm Good Friday Devotions: Dn. Michael Heinzelman will preside. The devotions are as follows: Stations of the Cross, The Seven Last Words and the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.

3:30 pm Good Friday Service (Latin/Extraordinary Form). Fr. Jeffrey Keyes will preside over this Traditional Good Friday Service as per the 1962 Missal

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service (English/Ordinary Form). Bishop Vasa will preside. "The Passion of the Lord" - we begin with the Liturgy of the Word, followed by the Adoration of the Holy Cross and Holy Communion.

~EASTER MASSES~

There will be no 4:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. Masses on Holy Saturday, April 3, because of the Easter Vigil with Bishop Vasa, which will take place at 7:30 p.m. on that day. Also, our usual Confession Schedule on this day is cancelled. Our schedule on Easter Sunday is: 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m., 12:00 noon, 1:30 (Latin), 5:30 p.m. and (Spanish) 7:00 p.m.

**THE MASS, THE PRIESTHOOD
& RESURRECTION**

~FROM THE PASTOR~

Holy week is the time for us to contemplate so many things! Let us take a look at some articles and quotes that will hopefully inspire you to have a good and holy ... Holy Week !

~HOLY THURSDAY~

The Passover meal that Jesus began in the upper room on Mount Zion was not finished there. The 4th cup of the Passover meal, the cup of consummation, is not mentioned in the Gospels. The meal broke up after the cup of blessing was drunk and a hymn was sung (Matthew 26). Jesus even said that He would not drink again of the fruit of the vine until later. In the Garden of Gethsemane, he prayed in Matthew 26:39: "*My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt.*"

~GOOD FRIDAY~

Finally, on the cross, Jesus drank the sour wine and said in John 19:30: "It is consummated." The Passover meal started in the upper room was finished on the cross, forever tying the Eucharist to the crucifixion of Christ. (Also, Jesus the bridegroom, consummates his marriage to mankind).

~THE PRIESTHOOD~

It is important to remember that in the Mass, Jesus is both priest and victim. We learn in Hebrews 6:20 that Jesus is a high priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek. Melchizedek, the King of Salem (shalom, or peace) and the High Priest, in Genesis 14:18, offered blessed bread and wine to Abraham in honor of his victory over his enemies and the rescue of Lot. After the golden calf incident, priests in the Old Testament were according to the order of Levi, and they offered sacrifices for sin, only they offered animal sacrifices instead of bread and wine. God commanded these animal sacrifices because the Israelites, while slaves in Egypt for 400 years, had begun to imitate the Egyptians and worship cattle, sheep, and goats. These animal sacrifices came to a halt with the destruction of the Jewish Temple in 70 AD, and Judaism stopped having

priests offer sacrifices. Now, Judaism only has rabbis, or teachers. But Jesus said he came to fulfill the Old Testament, in Matthew 5:17, not to do away with it. So now HE is the new eternal high priest and king of peace (salem, or shalom), continually offering up the one same divine sacrifice of 2000 years ago to each new generation in the Mass, in the form of bread and wine, like Melchizedek. If he wasn't doing this, then He wouldn't be a high priest forever. In Revelation 5:6, John says He sees a lamb standing as though slain, which perfectly describes a priest standing who is also a victim. To read the entire article go to: <http://www.catholicbible101.com/the-mass-what-is-it>

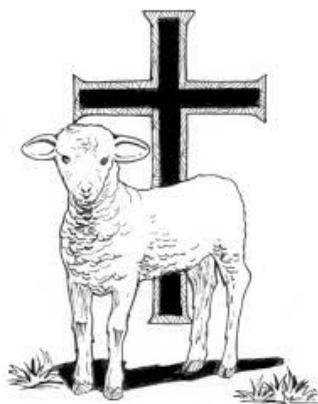
~RESURRECTION~

Francis Fernandez from his *In Conversation with God: Daily Meditations*, Volume Two, explains why this feast is so pivotal: The glorious resurrection of the Lord is the key to interpreting His whole life, and the ground of our faith. Without this victory over death, says St. Paul, all our preaching would be useless and our faith in vain. Furthermore, the guarantee of our future resurrection is secured upon the resurrection of Christ, because although we were dead through sin, God, full of mercy, moved by the infinite compassion with which he loved, gave us Christ...and He raised us with him. Easter is the celebration of our Redemption, and therefore the celebration of thanksgiving and joy. It now remains for the faithful to understand how the body, when raised from the dead, although substantially the same body that had been dead, shall be vastly different and changed in its condition. Not only will the body rise, but whatever belongs to the reality of its nature, and adorns and ornaments man will be restored. For this we have the admirable words of St. Augustine: There shall then be no deformity of body; if some have been overburdened with flesh, they shall not resume its entire weight. All that exceeds the proper proportion shall be deemed superfluous. On the other hand, should the body be wasted by disease or old age, or be emaciated from any other cause, it shall be repaired by the divine power of Christ, who will not only restore the body unto us, but will repair whatever it shall have lost through the wretchedness of this life.

For entire article, do to: <http://www.catholicapologetics.info/thechurch/catechism/ApostlesCreed11.shtml>

~EASTERTIDE~

Eternity in Heaven is the true Pasch: hence, our Pasch, here on earth, is the Feast of feasts, the Solemnity of solemnities. The human race was dead; it was the victim of that sentence, whereby it was condemned to lie mere dust in the tomb; the gates of life were shut against it. But see the Son of God rises from His grave and takes possession of eternal life. Nor is He the only one that is to die no more, for, as the Apostle teaches us, He is the first-born from the dead.' The Church would, therefore, have us consider ourselves as having already risen with our Jesus, and as having already taken possession of eternal life. The holy Fathers bid us look on these fifty days of Easter, as the image of our eternal happiness. They are days devoted exclusively to joy; every sort of sadness is forbidden; and the Church cannot speak to her divine Spouse without joining to her words that glorious cry of heaven, the Alleluia, wherewith, as the holy Liturgy says, the streets and squares of the heavenly Jerusalem resound without ceasing. We have been forbidden the use of this joyous word during the past nine weeks; it behooved us to die with Christ: but now that we have risen together with Him, from the tomb, and that we are resolved to die no more that death, which kills the soul, and called our Redeemer to die on the Cross, we have a right to our Alleluia. Extracted from *The Liturgical Year* by Dom Prosper Guéranger.



MEDITATIONS FOR HOLY WEEK

/~THE SAINTS SPEAK~

Do you find yourself feeling too overwhelmed or too busy at the end of Lent? Do you already know that you won't have too much free time to participate in many (or any) Holy Week activities? Here are some powerful and inspiring saint quotes to contemplate and meditate on this Holy Week.

"While the world changes, the Cross stands firm." - St. Bruno

"Unless there is a Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday." - Ven. Fulton Sheen

"The Divine Heart is an ocean full of all good things, wherein poor souls can cast all their needs; it is an ocean full of joy to drown all our sorrows, an ocean of humility to drown our folly, an ocean of mercy to those in distress, an ocean of love in which to submerge our poverty." - St. Margaret Mary

"He will provide the way and the means, such as you could never have imagined. Leave it all to Him, let go of yourself. Lose yourself on the Cross, and you will find yourself entirely." - St. Catherine of Siena

"Fasting cleanses the soul, raises the mind, subjects one's flesh to the spirit, renders the heart contrite and humble, scatters the clouds of concupiscence, quenches the fire of lust, kindles the true light of chastity." - St. Thomas Aquinas

"The death of the Lord our God should not be a cause of shame for us; rather, it should be our greatest hope, our greatest glory. In taking upon himself the death that he found in us, he has most faithfully promised to give us life in him, such as we cannot have of ourselves." - St. Augustine

"True reverence for the Lord's passion means fixing the eyes of our heart on Jesus crucified and recognizing in him our own humanity." - Pope St. Leo the Great

"Mount Calvary is the academy of love." - St. Francis de Sales

"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us." - St. Augustine

INTERESTING FACTS

~DID YOU KNOW ...~

1. On Holy Thursday, all the hosts that are expected to be consumed on Good Friday are consecrated. This is known as the "Mass of the Pre-Sanctified" because Good Friday is the one day of the year when Mass is not celebrated.
2. A tradition in ancient times was to wash the altars with water and wine and then sprinkle them with hyssop before the Holy Thursday Mass.
3. The liturgical color for Good Friday was formerly black, but is now red.

CATEDRAL DE ST. EUGENE'S — 28 de Marzo del 2021

Domingo de Ramos

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.

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

Confesiones Sábados de 3:00 a 4:30pm.

~ SERVICIO DE PENITENCIA ~

Este miércoles 31 de marzo a las 7:00 pm será nuestro Servicio de Penitencia Parroquial o mejor conocido como *Confesiones*. Si aún no lo ha hecho, esta sería una gran oportunidad para completar una parte importante de su deber de Pascua. Tenga en cuenta que no tendremos confesiones el Sábado Santo. Las oportunidades para que se escuche su confesión son en el Servicio de Penitencia y el Viernes Santo, de 1 a 2:30 pm. (Esté en la fila a las 2:30 pm.).

~ SERVICIOS DE VIERNES SANTO ~

Es posible que haya notado que el Viernes Santo tiene varias liturgias programadas. Favor lea lo siguiente para que pueda elegir al que le gustaría asistir.

12:30pm Devocionales del Viernes Santo: Dn. Michael Heinzelman presidirá. Las devociones son las siguientes: Vía Crucis, Las Siete Últimas Palabras y los Misterios Dolorosos del Rosario.

3:30pm Servicio de Viernes Santo (Latín/Forma Extraordinaria). P. Jeffrey Keyes presidirá este servicio tradicional del Viernes Santo según el Misal de 1962

7:00pm. Servicio de Viernes Santo (Inglés/Forma Ordinaria). Mons. Vasa presidirá. “La Pasión del Señor” - comenzamos con la Liturgia de la Palabra, seguida de la Adoración de la Santa Cruz y la Sagrada Comunión.

7:30pm. Servicio de Viernes Santo (Español) en el Becker Center

~ MISAS DE PASCUA ~

No habrá 4:30 p.m. o 6:30 p.m. Misas del Sábado Santo, 3 de abril, con motivo de la Vigilia Pascual con el Obispo Vasa, que tendrá lugar a las 7:30 pm. En ese día. Además, nuestro horario de confesiones en este día está cancelado.

Nuestro horario del Domingo de Resurrección se mantendrá como de costumbre: 7:30, 9:00 y 10:30 a.m., 12:00 mediodía, 1:30 (latín), 5:30 p.m. y **(Español) 7:00 p.m.**

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 ~

(Continuación el pasado boletín).

~ EL PACTO ABRAHÁMICO ~

Entonces Dios restablece Su pacto con Abram, a quien le cambia el nombre de Abraham, pero bajo una condición dolorosa. Debido a que Abram rompió el acuerdo del pacto inicial, que se hizo sobre el corte de animales, Abram ahora tendrá que cortarse a sí mismo para volver a esa relación de pacto con Dios. De ahí el rito de la circuncisión. Es por eso que todo descendiente de Abraham hasta la época de Jesús tuvo que someterse a este doloroso procedimiento. Era una señal del pacto que alguna vez se rompió pero ahora se restauró. Con el transcurso del tiempo, Dios cumplió el deseo de Abraham de tener un heredero, a quien llamó Isaac. Isaac es una figura inmensamente importante en la historia de la salvación porque representa a Cristo en el Calvario. Como prueba de la fe hasta ahora débil de Abraham, Dios le ordena sacrificar al heredero que tanto había deseado. Habiendo aprendido de sus errores anteriores, Abraham obedece este mandato hasta que Dios envía un ángel para detenerlo en el último momento posible. Génesis registra que este sacrificio se llevaría a cabo en el monte Moriah. Lo que es crucial entender aquí no es solo que Abraham estaba dispuesto a sacrificar a su único hijo, sino también que Isaac mismo parece haber consentido voluntariamente en este sacrificio. Esto se debe a que Abraham era un hombre anciano y débil en este momento, mientras que Isaac es claramente lo suficientemente fuerte como para llevar la madera para el sacrificio por muchas millas montaña arriba. Si Isaac hubiera querido escapar de su padre, seguramente podría haberlo hecho. Parece más bien que Isaac realmente es un tipo de Cristo en su disposición a morir por el amor de Dios, mientras que Abraham es un tipo de Cristo en los mismos tres roles que Adán y Noé: sacerdote, profeta y rey.

~ EL PACTO MOSAICO ~

Pasan varias generaciones. El nieto de Abraham, Jacob, pasa a llamarse Israel por Dios. Sus descendientes eventualmente se convertirán en las doce tribus de Israel. Mientras tanto, sin embargo, uno de los hijos de Israel, José, es vendido como esclavo en Egipto por sus hermanos que le tienen envidia por el favor de Israel hacia él como hijo de su segunda esposa, Raquel. A través de una complicada serie de eventos registrados en Génesis 37-48, José es nombrado la mano derecha del Faraón y salva a sus hermanos y a su padre de siete años de severa hambruna. Unos cientos de años más tarde es donde entra Moisés. Finalmente, demostrará ser un tipo de Cristo al sacar a los israelitas de la esclavitud, así como Cristo saca a su pueblo de la esclavitud espiritual del pecado. También calificará como sacerdote, profeta y rey, al igual que los principales tipos bíblicos de Cristo antes que él. Después de que pasó el hambre, los hijos de Israel decidieron quedarse en Egipto, en contra de la voluntad de Dios de luchar por la tierra que Él le había prometido a Abraham.

Con el tiempo, los hijos de Israel se multiplicaron exponencialmente y se integraron a la sociedad egipcia. ¿Qué tan malo podría ser eso? Bastante mal, ya que los israelitas también adoptaron la adoración de dioses paganos y se convirtieron en esclavos de los egipcios. Al reconocer la necesidad de liberar a su pueblo de Egipto para cumplir sus promesas a Abraham, Dios eligió a Moisés como el instrumento a través del cual conduciría a los israelitas a la tierra prometida. La secuencia de eventos que condujeron a esto se puede encontrar en Éxodo 1-14. Una vez que los israelitas han sido liberados de la esclavitud, Moisés asciende al monte Sinaí, donde Dios le da los Diez Mandamientos escritos en dos tablas de piedra. La piedra en sí es una representación de cuán endurecidos estaban los corazones de la gente. Esta dureza se demostró cuando Moisés regresó y descubrió que, en su ausencia, la mayoría de la gente había regresado a la adoración de los dioses paganos de Egipto. Enfurecido por el espectáculo, Moisés rompe las tablas en el suelo para simbolizar que el pacto acaba de romperse y ordena a los fieles a Dios que maten a los ídólatras. Debido a que la tribu de Leví eran los que llevaban a cabo esta tarea, Moisés declaró que de ahora en adelante el sacerdocio debería ser entregado a los levitas y no a los israelitas en general. De ahí el sacerdocio levítico del Antiguo Testamento en los días de Jesús. Cabe mencionar que Juan el Bautista, quien bautizó a Jesús en el Jordán River, él mismo era un levita. Con los ídólatras muertos, Moisés vuelve al monte Sinaí e intercede a favor del pueblo, "recordando" a Dios de su promesa a Abraham. Por lo tanto, el pacto se renueva y se le da a Moisés un segundo juego de tablas. También es durante este momento, como se registra en Éxodo 36-37, que Dios encarga a Moisés que construya el Arca de la Alianza, en la que más tarde se alojará el maná (Éxodo 16), el bastón de Aron (Éxodo 7: 8-13), y las mismas tablas de piedra. El Arca, por supuesto, es un tipo de la Santísima Virgen María, como el recipiente en el que mora la presencia de Dios entre su pueblo. Dentro del Arca está el maná, que es en sí mismo una figura de la Eucaristía. Desafortunadamente, debido a la dureza del pueblo y la propia falta de confianza de Moisés en Dios, los israelitas se vieron obligados a vagar por el desierto durante 40 años sin entrar a la tierra prometida. Solo después de que la generación original liberada de Egipto había muerto, Dios los trajo a la tierra que le había prometido a Abraham hace tanto tiempo. El Pacto Mosaico permaneció esencialmente inalterado desde la época del sucesor de Moisés, Josué, hasta la llegada del Rey David. Una alteración significativa en el Pacto Mosaico que debe notarse después de que se rompió inicialmente fue la introducción de sacrificios de animales. A la mayoría de las personas hoy les parece extraño que Dios ordene la matanza de animales como sacrificios. Pero la razón de esto fue realmente pedagógica. Dios quería enseñar a los israelitas a dejar de adorar a los dioses paganos de los egipcios. La forma más sencilla de romper con este hábito era ordenar a los israelitas que mataran a los animales que representan a estos dioses. Además, eran una prefiguración del sacrificio de Cristo.