



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



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Frank Epperson, Rector
 Fr. Gabriel Sanchez, Parochial Vicar
 Rev. Bala Putchakayala, Parochial Vicar
 Rev. Jeffrey Keyes, In Residence
 Deacon Mike Heinzelman
 Deacon Gary Moore
 Deacon Russ Bowden

WEBSITES

Parish: www.steugenes.com
 School: www.steugenesch.org
 Email Comments/Suggestions to:
Office@steugenes.com

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office Phone	(707) 542-6984
Parish Office Fax	(707) 542-1621
Religious Education	(707) 326-3408
Finance Council – Marty McCormick	(707) 526-1700
Choir Directress – Pam Zieminski	(707) 578-8848
School Office	(707) 545-7252
Preschool Office – Tess Mellor	(707) 528-9133
Homeschool Academy– Jessica Warner	(707) 206-5579

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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: (707)542-3635 or Maria Vega (Spanish) at: (707)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 7:25 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 am- 4:30pm & Sun 8:30am-1:30pm, Closed Mon/Tues - Phone: (707)542-0250

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 7, 2023

PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY MAY 7

Masses – Cathedral – 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 noon,
1:30 pm (Latin) & 5:30 pm
RCIA – PLC – 10:30 am
Coffee Social – PLC – 8:00 am – 12:00 noon

MONDAY MAY 8

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

TUESDAY MAY 9

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

WEDNESDAY MAY 10

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Outdoor Rosary – Fatima Grotto – 6:00 pm
Bible Study – PLC – 7:00 pm

THURSDAY MAY 11

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Golden Opportunities Luncheon – PLC – 11:30 am

FRIDAY MAY 12

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

SATURDAY MAY 13

Morning Mass – Cathedral – 8:00 am
Confession – Cathedral 3:30 – 4:30 pm
Sunday Vigil Masses – Cathedral – 4:30 pm & 6:30 pm
(Spanish)

~ALZHEIMER'S FUND~

The Peter F. Bessone Alzheimer's Fund was established at St. Eugene's in honor of Mr. Bessone, a former parishioner who suffered from this debilitating disease. Upon his death, the Bessone family set up the Fund to provide financial assistance to parishioners who also suffer from Alzheimer's or who provide care for family members who have been afflicted. This monetary assistance is to help cover respite care expenses that are not already covered by private or public insurance. *If you find yourself in this position, please contact the parish office (707-542-6984) to inquire about any assistance the Fund may be able to provide to you.*

The bulletin submission deadline is Thursday @ 3:00pm for the Sunday after next bulletin. We reserve the right to edit or omit items. E-mail items to: office@steugenes.com.

Hearing Aid Users, Switch to T-Coil

ADMINISTRATION

For the Week of: 4/23/23

Sunday Donations Received:	\$10,814.
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Second Collection: <i>Catholic Home Missions</i>	\$3,213.
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~ CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS ~

May is the month of Mary, so our Special is 25% off all statues, pictures, and books of the Blessed Mother (sorry, no rosaries this month!). Stop in our store and get great deals! 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: 707-542-0250.

~VOLUNTEERS NEEDED~

Our Bookstore/Gift Shop is looking for a few volunteers with retail experience, who are customer-service oriented, self-starters (but willing to take direction) and able to work a minimum of 4 hours/week on Thursdays and Fridays. Interested? Stop in the bookstore and talk with Mary or Nancy.

~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.

SCHOOL NEWS

~REGISTRATION HAS STARTED~

St. Eugene's Cathedral School has started its registration process for the 2023-24 school year. We are proud of our students and our school. We offer an excellent academic education with a challenging curriculum integrated with gospel values. We are accepting applications for all grades. Come by the school office to pick up an application or call 545-7252, and we'll send an application to you. You can also go to: www.steugenesch.org - "Admissions". For those who would like to tour the school, please come to the school office at 9:00 am on May 12th.

SECOND COLLECTION INFORMATION

~TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM~

This weekend, May 6 & 7, our Second Collection will be for our Tuition Assistance Program. There will be no Second Collection next weekend, May 13 & 14. Thank you for your continued generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	May 6
8:00 am	In honor of and in reparation for the offenses against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus and for the living and deceased members of the Russell and Rinaldi families.
4:30 pm	Fr. Desmond Devine, deceased
6:30 pm (Sp)	Jesus Gomez Arroyo, deceased
Sunday	May 7
7:30 am	Kathy Moody, living
9:00 am	ICF Members, living & deceased
10:30 am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
12:00 pm	People of St. Eugene's
1:30 pm (EF)	David Ellis, deceased
5:30 pm	Hilaria Gutierrez, deceased
6:00pm Newman Ctr.	Fr. Jeffrey Keyes, living
Monday	May 8
6:45 am	Michael Tran, living
8:00 am	Esperanza Chavez, deceased
Tuesday	May 9
6:45 am	Pope Benedict XVI, deceased
8:00 am	Felicitas Zamora, deceased
5:30 pm (EF)	Ron Priore, deceased
Wednesday	May 10
6:45 am	The Casey family, living
8:00 am	A. Magdalena Ordonez, living
9:20 am (Sch)	Antonio Guerrero, deceased
Thursday	May 11
6:45 am	Vic & Maureen Fryling, deceased
8:00 am	Jose Maria Alvarez, deceased
Friday	May 12
6:45 am	Bert & Tony Carrera, deceased
8:00 am	Juan Jose Alvarez, deceased
12:00 pm (Hosp)	Mary Tran, living
Saturday	May 13
8:00 am	Daniela Pelaez, living
4:30 pm	George & Chris Schirle, deceased
6:30 (Sp)	Ricardo Olvera Galvan, deceased

~PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS~

"Heavenly Father, should You call some of us to the priesthood or religious life, help us to respond with courage and joy. Together, we make heaven our goal, and pledge, with Your grace, to help each other on life's journey to You. Through the intercession of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Amen."

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY

~VESPERS & BENEDICTION~

Please join us on Ascension Sunday, May 21, at 4:00 pm, in the Cathedral, for Vespers & Benediction. Light refreshments will be offered in the Parish Life Center afterward. For more details go to: www.soldiersofchrist.info and click the "Vespers and Benediction" link.

~ROSARY PROCESSION~

The Carmelite House of Prayer, invites you to join in a Rosary procession, Crowning and Benediction as they honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. The event takes place on Sunday, May 21, at 2:00 pm, at the Carmelite House of Prayer in Oakville (off Trinity Rd/Oakville Grade, between Highways 12 & 29).

SOCIAL ACTIVITY

~KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS~

The St. Eugene's Knights of Columbus is looking for a few good men! The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic fraternal organization that boasts almost 2 million members world-wide. Being a Knight means that you are a man of faith who seeks to help others. Our chapter at St. Eugene's meets on the third Thursday of each month from 6:00 p.m. until about 7:00 p.m. in the Becker Center. We generally precede the meeting with a dinner at 5:30 p.m. We are a very active chapter, If you are a Catholic man who would like to be a part of a Catholic brotherhood that seeks to help his parish and his parish community, please consider joining our local chapter! For more information, call: Chris Young at: 707-546-4910

SAVE THE DATE

~UPCOMING ORDINATION~

On Friday, June 9, at 6:00 pm, Bishop Robert F. Vasa will ordain Seminarians Christopher Girolo and Mauricio Rodriguez to the Transitional Diaconate at the Cathedral. Men who are to be ordained priests are ordained deacons prior to priesthood. These men are referred to as "transitional" deacons, because they are in the process of transition to the priesthood. All are invited to attend Holy Mass for this joyous occasion followed by light refreshments in the Parish Life Center.

~PLEASE PRAY FOR~

Those who are ill need your support and prayers: Tristan Humble, Samuel Agius, 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 Martentes, Jesus Navarro, Michael Boland, Stephen Warner, Aida Catapang, Bob Goldman, Pat Davenport, Paulita Castro, Jean L. Alfano, Theresa Pham, Rainey Olson, Michele Otten, Pauline Goslovich, Mary Gonzales, Nick Sidjakov, Sandi Picconi, Margaret Keifer, Joan Cosgrove, Denise Ealy, Becky Harber, Ernest Lanford, Daniel Bruce Moore, Megan Ingrassia and Art Haake.

MY CATHOLIC FAITH

DECLINE & ASCENT

~FROM THE PASTOR~

I'm re-running some articles from a few years ago because they address a problem that has only gotten worse with time. Basically, the problem is that churches are closing (primarily in the western world) and the number of Catholics who go to Mass each Sunday is dwindling as each year goes by. It is important to look at some of the root causes of why Mass attendance has gone down so much over the past 50 years or so. Also, it is important to look at one of the things that we can do to hopefully slow this horrible trend down, evangelization. The following articles are still timely and will hopefully refresh our memories a bit!

A HARD TRUTH

~HOW DID WE GET HERE?~

"I spend a lot of time thinking, reading, and praying about why the Church is decline in this country. The influx of immigrants from Latin America hides the number decline. Even with this influx, every measurable indicator is down: baptisms, confirmations, marriages, priestly ordinations, numbers of men's and women's religious, children in parochial schools and religion programs. It is grim. How did we get here?"

~DITCHING THE TRANSCENDENT~

"The major error was ditching the transcendent. We domesticated God. We became functional Arians. (This doesn't mean racist, that would be Aryans.) It means we act as if Jesus was merely human, that He is a guru, self-help teacher, social worker extraordinaire. To be sure, I am not talking about every parish. But as a Church in this country, we took our eyes off the ball. Mass started looking less like the worship of God and more like a pep rally. Our churches stopped looking Catholic and were overrun by iconoclasts. **We went from churches that exuded Catholic belief visually, to ubiquitous 'sacred spaces' that looked more like theaters.** Some places ran with the theater aspect. Worship transformed to entertainment. What I got out of it became much more important than what I put into

it. By ripping out the transcendent heart out of worship, we reduced Mass. It is little wonder that belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist plummeted. It is little wonder that priestly vocations plummeted. While the generation that ushered these things love them, the subsequent generations fled in droves."

~DEVOTIONAL LIFE~

"With worship emptied of the transcendent, Catholic life soon followed. Devotional life in parishes dried up. Parish churches became Mass stations. It has been heartening to see a rise in Eucharistic Adoration. With the focus off the transcendent, awareness also plummeted. Confession lines disappeared. Families shrunk as we started contracepting ourselves out of existence. The loud din of children gave way to seas of gray. Accommodation of the secular culture went largely unchallenged. Causes replaced action. The works of mercy declined as a false idea of social justice rose in its place."

~OBJECTIVE MORALITY WITHERED~

"In this milieu, it was easy for people to leave. **Without the transcendent, we offer nothing more than any fraternal order.** Without the transcendent, objective morality withers. With our eyes off the ball, 78% of Catholics simply quit coming to Mass. Without the source and summit that is the Eucharist, the Catholic life dies. It is starved to death. **But those who leave, even if they go nowhere else,** still have **that longing.** Many identify that as "spiritual but not religious." There is still an unrequited longing for the transcendent. If they cannot find it with us, they will look elsewhere, even if that means cobbling something together themselves. We can sneer and belittle them at our own peril. The fact they aren't drawn to a pep rally isn't on them - it is on us. How do we turn this around?"

~LET'S GET IT BACK~

"Let's start with focusing back on the transcendent again. In our structures, our worship, our music, our preaching, and our teaching. This doesn't mean we ignore the immanent. Not at all! The lessons from the transcendent must find a home in our lives. If God has placed a longing for Him, then that must be the focus at Mass. If we don't focus on God there, we will leave people no choice but to look

elsewhere."

~BE COUNTER-CULTURAL~

"Let us then, having established the prominence of God in our lives, revel in our being counter cultural. We are in the world but not of the world. We are yeast, light, salt, and whatever other transformative description Jesus uses to describe His people. If we look and act the same as the secular culture around us, then we can hardly be a witness to the throngs of people who are searching for something to fill that God sized hole in their souls. After all, St. Augustine reminds us that our hearts are restless until they rest in Christ. Our eyes need to be on the ball. Our eyes need to be on Christ. **Not on the congregation. Not only the priest. They need to be on Christ.** My duty as a priest, as a pastor of souls, is to be sure the focus is on Him." A Priest Explains the Hard Truth About Why the Church is in Decline, by Fr. Bill Peckman <https://churchpop.com/2017/05/08/a-priest-explains-the-hard-truth-about-why-the-church-is-in-decline/>

EVANGELIZATION

~BE A GOOD WITNESS~

"Evangelize? That's something Protestants and Jehovah Witnesses do, not Catholics!" Ever heard that before? Perhaps you have made a statement like this. The Truth is that Catholics are called to share their faith with everyone by their living witness as practicing Catholics, by taking the time to learn about their faith and to be ready to share it with everyone. This can be summed up in one word, evangelization. In fact, since Jesus founded the Catholic Church (Matthew 16:18). Catholics are the first Christians. Therefore Catholics are also the first who Evangelized and went forth to bring the truth of the Gospel (Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again!) to all nations (Mark 16:15). I find it ironic that any practicing Catholic could say that evangelization is not a "Catholic thing" but a "Protestant thing". I find it as ironic when I hear some Catholics try to say things like "the church forbids us to read the Bible" or "quoting the Bible to defend our faith is what Protestants do, not Catholics!" This is simply false and contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church to say the least. There is no doubt that Holy Mother Church exhorts us to read the Holy Bible. It is not just a "Protestant thing" but it is a long lasting tradition of the Catholic Church to give its people the Gospel message in the Holy Scriptures. In the past she has conveyed this

by doing plays and having the Bible told in the pictures of stained glass for all that could not read. She also made available to everyone the Bible for those who could read but could not afford a Bible. Yes as we have just seen, we can share and defend our Catholic faith using Sacred Scripture. As the Bible itself command us, "Be always ready to give a reason for the hope that is in you but with respect and gentleness" 1 Peter 3:15 which leads us back to evangelization." Giving Witness to Your Faith via Evangelization, For complete article go to <http://biblicalcatholic.com/apologetics/a3.htm>

QUOTES FROM THE SAINTS

~SHARING THE FAITH~

"If you truly want to help the soul of your neighbor, you should approach God first with all your heart. Ask him simply to fill you with charity, the greatest of all virtues; with it you can accomplish what you desire." –St. Vincent Ferrer

"It is absolutely necessary, both for our advancement and the salvation of others, to follow always and in all things the beautiful light of faith." – St. Vincent de Paul

"You are the salt of the earth! You are the light of the world! See to it that the people are edified by your example, by the purity of your lives, by the moderation of your conduct, and the brilliance of your holiness! God does not ask of you mere ordinary virtue. He demands downright perfection!" - Pope St. Pius V

~EVANGELIZING BY EXAMPLE~

"It is no use walking somewhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching." *St. Francis of Assisi*

"To see a priest making his meditation before Mass does more for an altar boy's vocation than a thousand pieces of inspirational literature." *Archbishop Fulton Sheen*

"The Christian should be an alleluia from head to foot." *Saint Augustine*

We must all try to be preachers through our deeds. *Saint Teresa of Ávila*

MI FE CATOLICA

DESCENSO Y ASCENSO

~DEL PASTOR~

Vuelvo a publicar algunos artículos de hace unos años porque abordan un problema que no ha hecho más que agravarse con el tiempo. Básicamente, el problema es que las iglesias están cerrando (principalmente en el mundo occidental) y el número de católicos que van a misa cada domingo disminuye cada año. Es importante analizar algunas de las causas fundamentales por las que la asistencia a misa ha disminuido tanto en los últimos 50 años aproximadamente. Además, es importante mirar una de las cosas que podemos hacer para frenar esta horrible tendencia, la evangelización. Los siguientes artículos siguen siendo oportunos y esperamos que nos refresquen un poco la memoria.!

UNA DURA VERDAD

~¿CÓMO HEMOS LLEGADO HASTA AQUÍ?~

"Paso mucho tiempo pensando, leyendo y rezando sobre por qué la Iglesia está decayendo en este país. La afluencia de inmigrantes de América Latina ocultó el declive numérico. Incluso con esta afluencia, todos los indicadores medibles han bajado: bautismos, confirmaciones, matrimonios, ordenaciones sacerdotales, número de religiosos y religiosas, niños en escuelas parroquiales y programas de religión. Es desolador. ¿Cómo hemos llegado hasta aquí?"

~ABANDONANDO LO TRASCENDENTE~

"El mayor error fue abandonar lo trascendente. Domesticamos a Dios. Nos convertimos en arrianos funcionales. (Esto no significa racistas, eso sería arios.) Significa que actuamos como si Jesús fuera meramente humano, que es un gurú, un profesor de autoayuda, un trabajador social extraordinario. Por supuesto, no estoy hablando de todas las parroquias. Pero como Iglesia en este país, hemos desviado la mirada. La misa empezó a parecerse menos a la adoración de Dios y más a una reunión de animadores. Nuestras iglesias dejaron de parecer católicas y fueron invadidas por iconoclastas. **Pasamos de iglesias que destilaban creencias católicas visualmente, a omnipresentes "espacios sagrados" que parecían más teatros.** Algunos lugares apostaron por el aspecto teatral. El culto se transformó en entretenimiento. Lo que yo sacaba era mucho más importante que lo que ponía de ella.

Al arrancar el corazón trascendente del culto, reducimos la Misa. No es de extrañar que la creencia en la Presencia Real de Cristo en la Eucaristía cayera en picada. No es de extrañar que las vocaciones sacerdotales cayeran en picada. Mientras que la generación que introdujo estas cosas las ama, las generaciones posteriores huyeron en tropel."

~VIDA DEVOCIONAL~

"Con el culto vaciado de lo trascendente, pronto le siguió la vida católica. La vida devocional en las parroquias se secó. Las iglesias parroquiales se convirtieron en puestos de misa. Ha sido alentador ver un aumento en la Adoración Eucarística. Con el foco fuera de lo trascendente, la conciencia también cayó en picado. Desaparecieron las colas para confesarse. Las familias se redujeron cuando empezamos a contraceptarnos a nosotros mismos. El estruendo de los niños dio paso a mares grises. La acomodación a la cultura secular quedó en gran medida sin respuesta. Las causas sustituyeron a la acción. Las obras de misericordia decayeron mientras una falsa idea de justicia social se alzaba en su lugar".

~LA MORAL OBJETIVA SE MARCHITÓ~

"En este milenio, era fácil que la gente se marchara. Sin lo trascendente, no ofrecemos nada más que cualquier orden fraternal. Sin lo trascendente, la moral objetiva se marchita. Sin lo trascendente, el 78% de los católicos simplemente dejaron de venir a misa. Sin la fuente y cumbre que es la Eucaristía, la vida católica muere. Se muere de hambre. Pero los que se van, aunque no vayan a ningún otro sitio, siguen teniendo ese anhelo. Muchos lo identifican como "espiritual pero no religioso". Sigue habiendo un anhelo no correspondido de lo trascendente. Si no pueden encontrarlo con nosotros, lo buscarán en otra parte, incluso si eso significa improvisar algo por sí mismos. Podemos despreciarlos y menospreciarlos por nuestra cuenta y riesgo. El hecho de que no se sientan atraídos por un acto de motivación no es culpa suya, sino nuestra. ¿Cómo le damos la vuelta a esto?"

~VAMOS A RECUPERARLO~

"Empecemos por volver a centrarnos en lo trascendente. En nuestras estructuras, nuestro culto, nuestra música, nuestra predicación y nuestra enseñanza. Esto no significa que ignoremos lo inmanente. En absoluto. Las lecciones de lo trascendente deben encontrar un hogar en nuestras vidas.

Si Dios ha puesto un anhelo por Él, entonces ese debe ser el foco en la Misa. Si no nos centramos en Dios allí, no dejaremos a la gente otra opción que buscar a Dios en otro lugar".

~SER CONTRACULTURAL~

"Entonces, habiendo establecido la prominencia de Dios en nuestras vidas, deleitémonos en nuestro ser contracultural. Estamos en el mundo, pero no somos del mundo. Somos levadura, luz, sal y cualquier otra descripción transformadora que Jesús utilice para describir a su pueblo. Si tenemos el mismo aspecto y actuamos igual que la cultura secular que nos rodea, difícilmente podremos dar testimonio a la multitud de personas que buscan algo que llene ese agujero del tamaño de Dios en sus almas. Al fin y al cabo, San Agustín nos recuerda que nuestros corazones están inquietos hasta que descansan en Cristo. Nuestros ojos tienen que estar en la pelota. Nuestros ojos tienen que estar en Cristo. No en la congregación. No sólo en el sacerdote. Tienen que estar en Cristo. Mi deber como sacerdote, como pastor de almas, es asegurarme de que la atención se centra en Él". Un sacerdote explica la dura verdad sobre por qué la Iglesia está en declive.

EVANGELIZACION

~SER UN BUEN TESTIGO~

"¿Evangelizar? Eso es algo que hacen los protestantes y los testigos de Jehová, ¡no los católicos!". ¿Ha oído eso alguna vez? Tal vez usted haya hecho una afirmación como ésta. La verdad es que los católicos están llamados a compartir su fe con todos mediante su testimonio vivo como católicos practicantes, dedicando tiempo a aprender sobre su fe y a estar dispuestos a compartirla con todos. Esto puede resumirse en una palabra: evangelización. De hecho, desde que Jesús fundó la Iglesia católica (Mateo 16:18). Los católicos son los primeros cristianos. Por lo tanto, los católicos también son los primeros que evangelizaron y salieron a llevar la verdad del Evangelio (¡Cristo ha muerto, Cristo ha resucitado, Cristo volverá!) a todas las naciones (Marcos 16:15). Me parece irónico que cualquier católico practicante pueda decir que la evangelización no es "cosa de católicos" sino "cosa de protestantes". Me parece igual de irónico cuando oigo a algunos católicos intentar decir cosas como "la Iglesia nos prohíbe leer la Biblia" o "¡citar la Biblia para defender nuestra fe es lo que hacen los protestantes, no los católicos!". Esto es sencillamente falso y contrario a las enseñanzas de la Iglesia católica, por no decir otra cosa.

No hay duda de que la Santa Madre Iglesia nos exhorta a leer la Santa Biblia. No es sólo una "cosa de protestantes", sino que es una larga tradición de la Iglesia Católica dar a su pueblo el mensaje del Evangelio en las Sagradas Escrituras. En el pasado ha transmitido este haciendo obras de teatro y contando la Biblia en imágenes de vidrieras para todos los que no sabían leer. También puso a disposición de todos la Biblia para los que sabían leer pero no podían permitirse una Biblia. Sí, como acabamos de ver, podemos compartir y defender nuestra fe católica utilizando la Sagrada Escritura. Como la misma Biblia nos manda: "Estad siempre dispuestos a dar razón de la esperanza que hay en vosotros, pero con respeto y mansedumbre" 1 Pedro 3:15 lo que nos lleva de nuevo a la evangelización". Dar testimonio de su fe a través de la evangelización.

CITAS DE LOS SANTOS

~COMPARTIR LA FE~

Si de verdad quieres ayudar al alma de tu prójimo, acércate primero a Dios de todo corazón. Pídele simplemente que te llene de caridad, la mayor de todas las virtudes; con ella podrás realizar lo que deseas. San Vicente Ferrer

Es absolutamente necesario, tanto para nuestro adelanto como para la salvación de los demás, seguir siempre y en todas las cosas la hermosa luz de la fe. - San Vicente de Paúl

Vosotros sois la sal de la tierra. Vosotros sois la luz del mundo. Procurad que los pueblos sean edificados con vuestro ejemplo, con la pureza de vuestra vida, con la moderación de vuestra conducta y con el brillo de vuestra santidad. Dios no os pide una virtud ordinaria. Exige la perfección. - Papa San Pío V, a los cardenales

~EVANGELIZAR CON EL EJEMPLO~

No sirve de nada caminar hacia algún lugar para predicar, a menos que nuestro caminar sea nuestra predicación. *San Francisco de Asís*

Ver a un sacerdote haciendo su meditación antes de la Misa hace más por la vocación de un monaguillo que mil piezas de literatura inspiradora *Arzobispo Fulton Sheen*

El cristiano debe ser un aleluya de pies a cabeza.. *San Agustín*

Todos debemos tratar de ser predicadores con nuestras obras. *Santa Teresa de Ávila*

MCCORMICK & CO.

Homes and Loans



DRE #01915244 / NMLS #1285687
www.mccormickloans.com

Office: 707-526-1700
 100 E. Street, Ste. 101, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

*"The miracle is not that we do this work,
 but that we are happy to do it" ~ Mother Teresa*

James M. McCormick
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