



## ST. ISIDORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

222 CLARK AVENUE, YUBA CITY, CA 95991 | 530-6731573 | STISIDORE-YUBACITY.ORG

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass. ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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### MASS SCHEDULE | HORARIO DE MISAS

**Saturday Vigil/ Vigilia del sábado:** 6:00 pm  
Bilingual | Bilingüe, Indoors | Adentro  
**Sunday | Domingo:** 7:30 am, Bilingual | Bilingüe  
Indoors | Adentro  
Outdoors/al aire libre: 11:00 am English  
1:00 pm Español

Daily Masses are in the church/Las misas diarias son en la iglesia.

**Monday-Saturday | Lunes a Sábado:**  
12:00 pm, Bilingual | Bilingüe

### CONFESION SCHEDULE | HORARIO DE CONFESIÓNES

**Wednesday | Miércoles:** 11:00 am – 12:00 pm  
**Thursday, Friday, and Saturday | Jueves, Viernes y Sábado:**  
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Please be sure to check the parish website for any changes.

\*Por favor revise la pagina web de la parroquia para ver si ay algun cambio

Vespers in the Church, Sunday at 5:00 PM.

## Pastor's Corner

When was the last time you saw a rainbow? Since we've had a dry winter (a blessing for our outdoor Masses, but a concern for our fields) we may not have caught a glimpse of that majestic arc in the sky recently.

I'm trying to recall the last time I saw one—usually when I see them it's over the foothills as I drive across this vast valley in the North State. They're always a surprise: sometimes even shining as a double arc, a rainbow within a rainbow.

Today in our beautiful first reading we hear a conversation between God and Noah with his sons. Noah and his family have literally just saved the world—not only the human line, but also each species of animal first introduced by God in creation. While this is a moment of extraordinary triumph it's also one of profound sorrow. The entire world has just undergone its greatest trauma, seeming to collapse into the original chaos prior to creation. The waters above the heavens and the waters below the heavens crashed back together, reversing God's word on the second day of creation. All of the animals, and the human race originally created in God's image, were washed from the face of the earth—except those preserved in the ark.

Saint Peter in our second reading today identifies what the ark symbolizes for us: ". . . few persons, eight in all, were saved through water. This prefigured baptism, which saves you now." Our natural dynamic at the time of Noah meant disaster, being swept away. God's divine intervention, in the form of the ark, meant deliverance.

And this is what the rainbow points to. If you return to our first reading again, you'll see that God introduces the rainbow as a sign of a specific commitment on his part, divine intervention that supersedes our natural dynamic. "This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come," God says, "of the covenant between me and you and every living creature with you."

That's the word, the mystery, to hold onto today. God's covenant, first established in creation, culminating in the blood of Jesus, is the gift that brings you life instead of death, deliverance instead of destruction. Covenant is what we reaffirm, re-establish, each time we celebrate the Mass. Covenant, as we begin these 40 days of reinvigoration, is what we seek, asking God to reveal his divine intervention in our lives.

## Pray For...Oremos por...

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week: For those suffering illnesses, infirmity, and those in need of our prayers... Recordemos en nuestras oraciones de esta semana a todos aquellos que están enfermos, especialmente a:

**Helen Gomez, Joe and Luci Fisher, Charlotte Roberto, Hal Himenes, Mary Miller, and Cody Meyers**

For the following souls of the recently departed, that through the mercy of Christ, they may rest in peace... Oremos también por todos los fieles difuntos para que a través de la misericordia de Dios descansen en paz....

**Bill Schmidt, Victor Garcia Ramirez, Jose Huerta, Wayne Snook, Simplica Gacayan, Ramona McGrath, Don Turano, Jack Taylor, Mary Tomlison, and Ricardo Villamar**

## St. Vincent de Paul 2021 Can-a-Week Church Calendar

*Please clip and keep in a handy location!*



### February

28.....Canned Soup

### March

7..... Boxed Pasta Meals

14..... Tuna

St. Vincent de Paul Food Locker provides food to those in need in our community. In 2020, we provided much needed food assistance to over 1,500 hungry families in our area. By your generous support of our Can-a-Week program, you help stock the shelves of our parish food locker. Parish families are asked to bring ONE food item to mass each week (please, no glass containers). Please remember to bring one Can-a-Week to help feed those in need in our area. Thank you!

## Rincón Del Pastor

¿Cuándo fue la última vez que viste un arcoíris? Dado que hemos tenido un invierno seco (una bendición para nuestras Misa al aire libre, pero una preocupación por nuestros campos) es posible que no hayamos visto la majestuosa arca en el cielo recientemente.

No me acuerdo la última vez que vi uno. Los veo a veces al pie de las colinas mientras manejo por este vasto valle en el norte del estado. Siempre son una sorpresa: a veces incluso brillan como un arco doble, un arcoíris dentro de un arcoíris.

Hoy en nuestra hermosa primera lectura escuchamos una conversación entre Dios y Noé con sus hijos. Noé y su familia literalmente acaban de salvar al mundo, no solo a la raza humana, sino también a cada especie de animal que Dios introdujo por primera vez en la creación. Si bien este es un momento de extraordinario triunfo, también es de profundo dolor. El mundo entero acaba de sufrir el trauma grande, y al parecer colapsamos en el caos original antes de la creación. Las aguas sobre los cielos y las aguas debajo de los cielos volvieron a chocar, revirtiendo la palabra de Dios en el segundo día de la creación. Todos los animales, y la raza humana originalmente creada a la imagen de Dios, fueron borrados de la faz de la tierra, excepto los preservados en el arca.

San Pedro en nuestra segunda lectura de hoy identifica lo que el arca simboliza para nosotros: "... unos pocos, ocho personas, se salvaron flotando sobre el agua. Aquella agua era figura del bautismo, que ahora los salva a ustedes." Nuestra dinámica natural en la época de Noé significaba un desastre. La intervención divina de Dios, en la forma del arca, significó liberación.

Y esto es lo que el arcoíris simboliza. Si lees de nuevo nuestra primera lectura, verás que Dios presenta el arcoíris como un signo de un compromiso específico de su parte, una intervención divina que reemplaza nuestra dinámica natural. "Ésta es la señal de la alianza perpetua," dice Dios, "que yo establezco con ustedes y con todo ser viviente que esté con ustedes." Esa es la palabra, el misterio, al que debemos aferrarnos hoy. La alianza de Dios, establecido por primera vez en la creación, que culmina en la sangre de Jesús, es el regalo que te trae vida en lugar de muerte, liberación en lugar de destrucción. Alianza es lo que reafirmamos, restablecemos cada vez que celebramos la Misa. Alianza, al comenzar estos 40 días de revitalización, es lo que buscamos, pidiendo a Dios que revele su intervención divina en nuestras vidas.

Candles in the church for reflection and prayers are now \$5.00 per candle. Please drop the money for candle(s) ONLY in the locked box next to candles stands.

The black locked box that has been there is for DONATIONS ONLY. THANK YOU!

Las velas en la iglesia para reflexionar y rezar ahora cuestan \$5.00 por vela. Por favor deje el dinero ÚNICAMENTE para las velas en la caja cerrada con candado al lado de las velas.  
La caja negra que ha estado ahí es SOLO PARA DONACIONES. ¡GRACIAS!



## MASS INTENTIONS | INTENCIONES DE MISA

### SATURDAY

12:00 Noon	Manuel y Margarita Murillo (Anniversary) Tania Galilea Hernandez Garcia (Birthday), Chris Pendilla (SI), Pendilla Family (SI), Jesus Pacheco (SI)
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### SUNDAY

11:00 am	Alice Conejo†
1:00 pm	Gabriel Paredez y Amalia Lugui (IS), Angel Alexis Morales Cedeno†, Ana Cedeno (Healing), Miguel Morales (Healing), Miguel Morales Jr. (Healing)

### MONDAY

12:00 Noon	Alice Chesini (Birthday)
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### TUESDAY

12:00 Noon	Emmily Gobian y Familia (IS)
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### WEDNESDAY

12:00 Noon	Ash Wednesday
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### THURSDAY

12:00 Noon	Mark Chesini (Birthday)
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### FRIDAY

12:00 Noon	Jose Alejandro Cobian (IS)
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## EUCARISTIC ADORATION



There is a paradox here. Being temporarily deprived of that "living bread that came down from heaven" can have a positive side. Our hunger for the Eucharist only increases in time like this, even as we fall back on the alternative spiritual communion. Painful as it is, our frustration at not being able to attend Mass is a blessing in its own way."

PG. 4

## Family Faith Formation

For the past few weeks, our families have been listening to parables about the Kingdom of God. We have heard about how this kingdom begins small, but grows and grows. We have also heard about how beautiful and valuable this kingdom is, worth giving up everything for.

Jesus came to this world to gather the people around Him for His Kingdom, and he teaches us how to live. This week, many of our families are listening to the words of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Here He tells us to 'love your enemies' and 'pray for those who persecute you'. These things are not easy to do, but we don't have to do it on our own. We can ask Jesus for help and to show us how to live in the Kingdom of God.

Please pray for our Faith Formation families as they continue to come together in their homes to pray and learn about our Catholic faith. If you have any questions or would like to help with Family Faith Formation, please email Michelle Knox, [mknox@stisidore-yubacity.org](mailto:mknox@stisidore-yubacity.org)

## Formación de Fe Familiar

Durante las últimas semanas, nuestras familias han estado escuchando paráboles sobre el Reino de Dios. Hemos escuchado sobre cómo este reino comienza pequeño, pero crece y crece. También hemos escuchado sobre lo hermoso y valioso que es este reino, por el que vale la pena renunciar a todo.

Jesús vino a este mundo para reunir a la gente a su alrededor para su Reino, y nos enseña cómo vivir. Esta semana, muchas de nuestras familias están escuchando las palabras del Sermón del Monte. Aquí nos dice que "amemos a nuestros enemigos" y "oremos por los que os persiguen". Estas cosas no son fáciles de hacer, pero no tenemos que hacerlo por nuestra cuenta. Podemos pedirle ayuda a Jesús y que nos muestre cómo vivir en el Reino de Dios.

Ore por nuestras familias de formación de Fe mientras continúan reuniéndose en sus hogares para orar y aprender sobre nuestra fe católica. Si tiene alguna pregunta o le gustaría ayudar con la Formación Familiar de fe, envíe un correo electrónico a Michelle Knox, [mknox@stisidore-yubacity.org](mailto:mknox@stisidore-yubacity.org).

## ST. ISIDORE SCHOOL



We need more children in great Catholic schools and now is the time to focus on re-enrolling current students and registering new ones for the 2021-2022 school year.

Our application window to request Financial Assistance for the 2021-22 academic year is open until February 28. For more information contact Tracy Blankenship at 673-2217 or [tblankenship@stisidoreschool.org](mailto:tblankenship@stisidoreschool.org)



**SCRIP** is another easy way to help your parish school raise funds. Sign up at the following link and the proceeds, which vary from 2%-17%, benefit the school. Physical card orders and mobile e-gift cards can be purchased. I personally like the mobile app so that I can easily purchase at my point of sale retailer on the spot. God bless you for your care and support of the school.

### ST. ISIDORE SCHOOL

<https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Login>

## 40 Days for Life 2021 Spring campaign

The Spring 40 days for life campaign begins this Wednesday, February 17th, Ash Wednesday. We are calling upon all our parishioners to help support this campaign by signing up and coming to Planned Parenthood to Pray to End Abortion. For those who have done this before, please consider making another commitment and bring a friend. God truly blesses our efforts and touches those who are considering abortion. Sometimes we know who they are, and sometimes only God knows. You may sign up online at: [www.40daysforlife.com/yubacity](http://www.40daysforlife.com/yubacity), call Maureen 530-713-8579 or go onto the St. Isidore website – and use the 40 Days link. The babies and moms are counting on us to be there for them. Thank you!

## ESCUELA SAN ISIDRO



Necesitamos más niños en excelentes escuelas Católicas y ahora es el momento de enfocarnos en reinscribir a los estudiantes actuales y registrar a los nuevos para el año escolar 2021-2022.

Nuestra ventana de solicitud para solicitar asistencia financiera para el año académico 2021-22 está abierta hasta el 28 de Febrero. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Tracy Blankenship al 673-2217 or [tblankenship@stisidoreschool.org](mailto:tblankenship@stisidoreschool.org)



## RaiseRight™

by ShopWithScrip

**SCRIP** es otra manera fácil de ayudar a la escuela parroquial a recaudar fondos. Regístrese en el siguiente enlace y los ingresos, que varían del 2% al 17%, beneficiarán a la escuela. Se pueden comprar pedidos de tarjetas físicas y tarjetas de correo electrónico móviles. Dios los bendiga por su cuidado y apoyo a la escuela.

Enrollment code: 1D5B343922622

<https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Login>

## 40 Días por La Vida

La campaña de Primavera de los 40 Días por la Vida comienza este Miércoles, 17 de Febrero, que es el Miércoles de ceniza. Hacemos un llamado a todos nuestros feligreses para que ayuden a apoyar esta campaña registrándose y viniendo a la clínica Planned Parenthood para rezar para ponerle fin al aborto.

Para aquellos que han hecho esto antes, considere hacer otro compromiso y traer a un amigo. Dios verdaderamente bendice nuestros esfuerzos y toca a quienes están considerando el aborto. A veces sabemos quiénes son y, a veces, solo Dios lo sabe.

Puede inscribirse en línea

en: [https://www.40daysforlife.com/yubacity](http://www.40daysforlife.com/yubacity) llame a Maureen al 530-713-8579 o visite el sitio web de San Isidro y use el enlace de 40 Días. Los bebés y las mamás cuentan con que estemos allí para ellos.

¡Gracias!

### Readings for the week of February 21, 2021

**Sunday:** Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15  
**Monday:** 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19  
**Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15  
**Wednesday:** Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32  
**Thursday:** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12  
**Friday:** Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26  
**Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48  
**Next Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

### Observances for the week of February 21, 2021

**Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent  
**Monday:** The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle  
**Wednesday:** St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr  
**Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Lent

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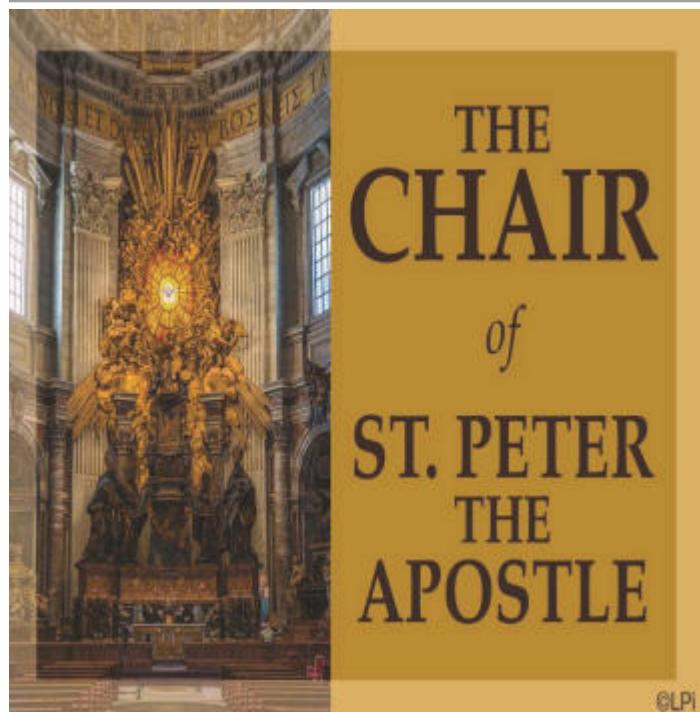
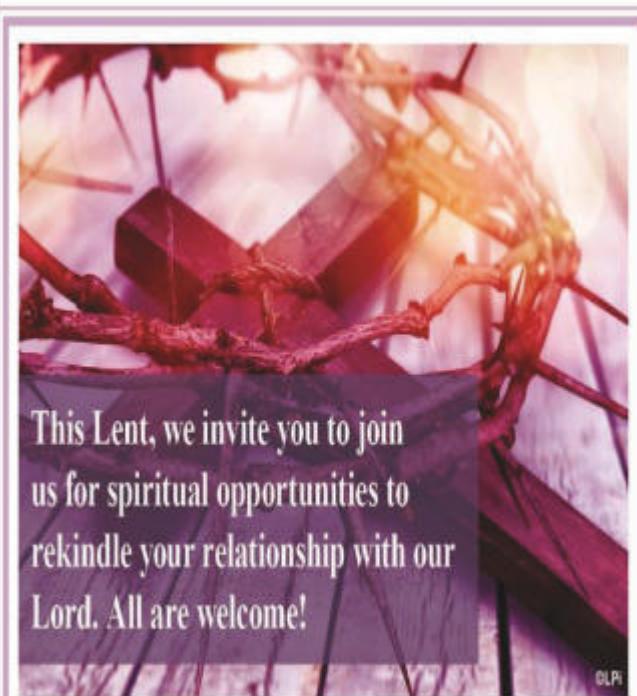
### Las lecturas de la semana del 21 de febrero de 2021

**Domingo:** Gn 9, 8-15/Sal 24, 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 [cfr. 10]/1 Pe 3, 18-22/Mc 1, 12-15  
**Lunes:** 1 Pe 5, 1-4/Sal 22, 1-3. 4. 5. 6 [1]/Mt 16, 13-19  
**Martes:** Is 55, 10-11/Sal 33, 4-5. 6-7. 16-17. 18-19 [18b]/Mt 6, 7-15  
**Miércoles:** Jon 3, 1-10/Sal 50, 3-4. 12-13. 18-19 [19]/Lc 11, 29-32  
**Jueves:** Est 12, 14-16, 23-25/Sal 137, 1-2. 2-3. 7-8 [3]/Mt 7, 7-12  
**Viernes:** Ez 18, 21-28/Sal 129, 1-2. 3-4. 5-7. 7-8 [3]/Mt 5, 20-26  
**Sábado:** Dt 26, 16-19/Sal 118, 1-2. 4-5. 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5, 43-48  
**Domingo siguiente:** Gn 22, 1-2. 9. 10-13. 15-18/Sal 115, 10. 15. 16-17. 18-19 [9]/Rom 8, 31-34/Mc 9, 2-10

### Las conmemoraciones de la semana del 21 de febrero de 2021

**Domingo:** 1er Domingo de Cuaresma  
**Lunes:** La Cátedra de san Pedro, apóstol  
**Martes:** San Policarpo, obispo y mártir  
**Domingo siguiente:** 2º Domingo de Cuaresma

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## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### The Unlikely Suspects

Have you ever taken a nature walk? Have you leisurely strolled through a forest or field, with no real destination in mind and your only objective being receptivity to and observation of all God's creation?

Sometimes, Scripture readings can feel like a nature walk. All of salvation history plays out against the backdrop of the natural world, with all elements of God's creation — plants and animals and the dust of the earth itself — turning in a supporting performance. How about Jesus in the hot and dusty desert, tempted, living "among the wild beasts?" Noah departed from his ark with the animals he rescued, observing God's sign in the very clouds of the sky. Even God Himself, offering us salvation from original sin through the waters of baptism.

How often do we remember that God speaks to us through all of His creation, even in the unlikeliest suspects?

Let's go back to the nature walk. It sounds like a lovely way to pass an afternoon, amongst wildflowers and butterflies, but don't forget the beating hot sun, mosquitos, and threat of rain on the horizon. Remember, we're not in heaven yet. Here on earth, God may be present in His creation, but that doesn't mean it's always easy to endure.

Lent is, essentially, a time to listen for the voice of God in places we may not expect: the mild irritations you experience when you're craving the chocolate you gave up, or the dull pangs of hunger during the Ash Wednesday fast. It's a golden opportunity to see the divine hand in all of creation, even those unlikely suspects.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS  
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## LA CORRESPONSABILIDAD DIARIA: RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

### Los Sospechosos improbables

¿Alguna vez has dado un paseo por la naturaleza? ¿Ha paseado tranquilamente por un bosque o campo, sin un destino real en mente y que tu único objetivo sea la receptividad y la observación de toda la creación de Dios?

A veces, la lectura de las Escrituras puede parecer un paseo por la naturaleza. Toda la historia de la salvación se desarrolla con el telón de fondo del mundo natural, con todos los elementos de la creación de Dios - plantas y animales y el polvo de la tierra misma - convirtiéndose en una actuación de apoyo. ¿Qué tal Jesús en el desierto caluroso y polvoriento, tentado, viviendo "entre las fieras?" Noé partió de su arca con los animales que rescató, observando la señal de Dios en las mismas nubes del cielo. Incluso Dios mismo, ofreciéndonos la salvación del pecado original a través de las aguas del bautismo.

¿Con qué frecuencia recordamos que Dios nos habla a través de toda su creación, incluso en los sospechosos más improbables?

Volvamos al paseo por la naturaleza. Suena como una manera encantadora de pasar una tarde entre flores silvestres y mariposas, pero no olvides el sol abrasador, los mosquitos y la amenaza de lluvia en el horizonte. Recuerda, todavía no estamos en el cielo. Aquí en la tierra, Dios puede estar presente en Su creación, pero eso no significa que siempre sea fácil de soportar.

La Cuaresma es, esencialmente, un tiempo para escuchar la voz de Dios en lugares que tal vez no esperemos: las leves irritaciones que experimentas cuando anhelas el chocolate que dejaste, o las punzadas del hambre durante el ayuno del Miércoles de Ceniza. Es una oportunidad de oro para ver la mano divina en toda la creación, incluso en esos sospechosos poco probables.

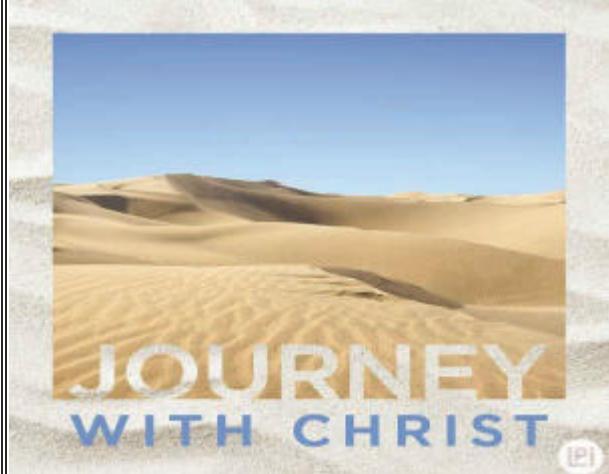
- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS  
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## ADJUST TO SCARCITY

February 12, 2021 • Rev. Mark Suslenko

For Sunday, February 21, 2021

1st Sunday of Lent



Genesis 9:8-15

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:12-15

Antoine de Saint-Exupery wrote, "I have always loved the desert. One sits down on a desert sand dune, sees nothing, hears nothing. Yet through the silence something throbs, and gleams..." Deserts are difficult places in which to survive. The conditions found in a desert are quite unlike what most of us know as normal. But the desert has always been seen as a place of spiritual enlightenment, where human beings have profound awakenings and encounters with the Divine. Rich wisdom from the experiences of our desert fathers and mothers are at the foundation of our Christian spiritual tradition. Wonderful surprises and soul learning can be found in the desert silence, which isn't really silent at all. It's simply an environment free of distraction and excessive stimulation where one can begin to listen more deeply and keenly to what is going on.

Lent invites us into the desert. As the Spirit drove Jesus into the desert, so that same Spirit drives us into that same place of peace filled scarcity. We live a simpler, more reflective life for forty days hoping to confront some of the demons that bind us to our weakness and imperfections. They weigh us down with their burdens and make life much heavier than it really needs to be. Freely choosing to limit our distractions, obsessions, illusions, dependencies, securities, and familiarities for forty days opens the door to greater self-awareness and freedom. Preparing a suitable desert place requires some brutal honesty with ourselves and a willingness and desire to grow and change.

It's easy to give up the chocolate, coffee, or wine for a time, but without some real soul searching, reflection, prayer, and perseverance what really changes at the end of these forty days? We learn little if we simply resume business as usual. The success of our Lenten desert journey will come to light when we acknowledge that God is making good on his promises without reservation. If we do not believe that God is real and actively involved with us on a personal level, then Lent will have little value. God's covenant has to mean something to us.

Whether we realize it, we struggle with two gods. One is real and the other is not. Our world and the life we create for ourselves can easily become our "god," requiring our daily allegiance. We can find that we get tired worshipping this god we have created and literally "sell our soul" as it demands. We even willingly sacrifice principles and morals. We run after this god as if on an endless treadmill, never quite catching up or getting where we think we need to be. Exhausted from all of the effort, we have little energy left to do much else.

The real God, however, is the God who created and fashioned us out of love and made a timeless covenant with us. He will be our God and we will be his people. It is this God whom we find in the desert and the very presence that "throbs and gleams" in the silence. It is when we are able to peel away all of the superficialities and unnecessary business of life that we learn to live with more scarcity and discover what is really needed for happiness.

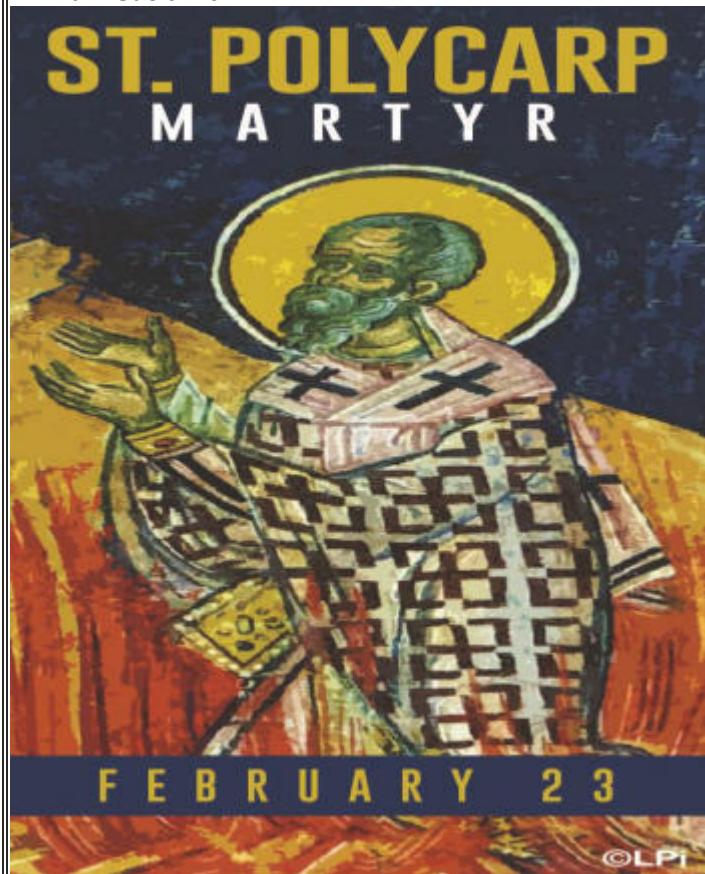
The desert brings us to courage and strength. It is easy to become apathetic amid the world's uncertainties and struggles. The flame of God's presence can lead us from the land of "why bother" to the land of hope and surprises. The desert teaches us what really matters, lessons like those we have learned during this time of pandemic. We begin to rely more on the inner strength that comes from God rather than the minimal and passing comfort provided by created things. Transformed by the desert winds and challenges, we can become more credible witnesses not of what the world can do for us, but what God can do and is doing! Getting to this point requires that we deal with an extremely important question. Are we willing to repent of any behaviors, attitudes, ideologies, agendas, or short-sighted opinions that directly oppose God's Will? Jean-Pierre de Caussade in "The Joy of Full Surrender," says that, "Nothing is essential, real, or of any value unless it is ordained by God, who adapts all things and makes them suitable to the soul. Aside from God's will, everything is hollow, empty, and vacant: there is nothing but falsehood, vanity, nothingness, shallowness, the letter of the law, death. The will of God is the salvation, health, and life of both body and soul, no matter what may be its ways of reaching us ... It is the will of God,

given in and through these things, that effectively works to renew the image of Jesus Christ deep within our hearts ... God's will is everything that is good and true in all things."

Repenting of the falsehoods and empty pursuits will produce within us the fruit of a holy Lent. The god of the world comes with many falsehoods, distractions, hollow promises, distorted ideologies, and things that compromise humanity. We need to separate from all of that and discover the truth. Jesus came out of the desert proclaiming the Gospel of God. How will we come out of our desert experience? What may change? What is known for certain is that God has not abandoned us or given up on all that he made. It is quite the contrary. God always starts new and fresh and desires nothing more than for us to love him. There is no better way to show that love than to choose the real God over the false one. God is paving the way for a new plan for humanity. Making that vision real will require that we become less of an image of ourselves and more of an image of Jesus Christ. Having met God in the desert, his presence will throb within us and our presence will reflect the glorious light of Christ!

Let us pray for a holy Lent. Our world is depending upon it and so is God.

Fr. Mark Suslenko



## Genuflecting & Kneeling

### Question:

**Does it matter what leg you kneel on when genuflecting?**

### Answer:

Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means “to bend the knee.” For many Catholics, it’s an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or row of seats at Mass. But, like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can also be an invitation for deeper reflection.

The practice of “bending the knee” is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. It has been said that the practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting, becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist. In our tradition, although many have been taught or prefer to genuflect by placing their right knee on the ground, there is no prescribed way to genuflect. This is especially important to keep in mind if physical limitations or age make certain movements difficult for us.

Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during eucharistic adoration). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. In churches or chapels in which the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar.

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**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER  
UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**  
**February 21, 2021, 1st Sunday of Lent**

St. Oscar Romero said, “Aspire not to have more, but to be more.” These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the “idol of the self,” keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It’s not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God’s love and how we can better imitate God’s loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn’t just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. “Being more” means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the “quality” of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God’s unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of “life in the good old days.” Lent isn’t about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It’s about becoming something new. It’s about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.

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**MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – ALENTAR  
UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE  
LA ESCRITURA (Gospel Meditations)**

**21 de febrero de 2021  
1er Domingo de la Cuaresma**

Preparados o no, estamos en el primer domingo de Cuaresma. El pasado miércoles, 17 de febrero, iniciamos la Cuaresma. La Cuaresma es un tiempo para llevar a cabo más tiempo de calidad en la oración, ayuno y limosna. Estas prácticas cuaresmales ayudan a llegar a la Pascua preparados y ligeros de equipaje. Este tiempo es un llamado fuerte a la conversión. “El tiempo se ha cumplido, el Reino de Dios está cerca. Renuncien a su mal camino y crean en la Buena Nueva”. (Marcos 1:15). El Evangelio de Marcos no explica las tentaciones de Jesús como Mateo y Lucas. Marcos solo lo especifica así: “Enseguida el Espíritu lo empujó al desierto. Estuvo cuarenta días en el desierto y fue tentado por Satanás. Vivía entre los animales salvajes y los ángeles le servían”. (Marcos 1:12-13).

“Es saludable contemplar más a fondo el misterio pascual, por el que hemos recibido la misericordia de Dios. La experiencia de la misericordia, efectivamente, es posible sólo en un ‘cara a cara’ con el Señor crucificado y resucitado ‘que me amó y se entregó por mí’. Un diálogo de corazón a corazón, de amigo a amigo. Por eso la oración es tan importante en el tiempo cuaresmal”. El hecho de que el Señor nos ofrezca una vez más un tiempo favorable para nuestra conversión nunca debemos darlo por supuesto. Esta nueva oportunidad debería suscitar en nosotros un sentido de reconocimiento y sacudir nuestra modorra. (Tomado del Mensaje de Cuaresma del Papa Francisco 2020). ¿Qué debo sacudir de mi persona en esta Cuaresma?

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### Services & Prayer Directory

**Bulletin Editor:** call the Parish Office **673-1573**, or email [bulletineditor@stisidore-yubacity.org](mailto:bulletineditor@stisidore-yubacity.org). **Deadline is 4:00 pm, Friday for next week's bulletin.**

**Mass Announcements:** Submit to Parish Office by Tuesday preceding weekend, or use online form: <http://www.stisidore-yubacity.org/pulpitbulletinform.htm>

- **Perpetual Adoration Ministry-** Ruth Pendilla 530-301-2174
- **Communion for the Sick and Homebound:** Call Parish Office, 673-1573.
- **Divine Mercy:** Meets 3rd Mon @ 6:30 p. m. in the Conference Room. Cathy, 673-1573
- **Knights of Columbus:** Gary Corrado (530) 788-2427
- **Legion of Mary:** Mon 4:15pm – 6:00pm in the Brides Room Both men and women are invited to attend.
- **Novena and Prayers to Our Mother of Perpetual Help:** Wednesday's at 11:45 before the Mass.
- **Faith Form:** Michelle Knox, 530-673-1573 or [fatiformation@stisidore-yubacity.org](mailto:fatiformation@stisidore-yubacity.org)
- **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):** Adult Baptism, Confirmation & First Communion. Helen Gomez: [rciacoordinator@stisidore-yubacity.org](mailto:rciacoordinator@stisidore-yubacity.org)
- **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Adapted for Youth and Teens (RCIA Adapted):** For youth 7 and older who have not been baptized, not baptized Catholic, or are missing sacrament. Helen Gomez, [rciacoordinator@stisidore-yubacity.org](mailto:rciacoordinator@stisidore-yubacity.org)
- **Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos (RICA):** Español-Bautismo Confirmación, Comunión de adultos. Llamar a Diácono Rubén Rojo, 673-1573.
- **Marriage Preparation:** Call Paige Westlake, 530-673-1573 or [pwestlake@stisidore-yubacity.org](mailto:pwestlake@stisidore-yubacity.org)
- **YLI:** Ginger Gerard, 530-751-9521.
- **Annulments:** Paige Westlake 530-673-1573 or [pwestlake@stisidore-yubacity.org](mailto:pwestlake@stisidore-yubacity.org)
- **A Woman's Friend:** Pregnant? Don't know where to turn? Call 741-0556
- **Prayer Blanket Ministry:** To receive a blanket at no charge, visit the parish office. For more information, to volunteer, or to donate, call Kathy Anderson 713-7022.

- **Cursillos:** Hilario Rivera # 790-7640. Ultreyas son el segundo y cuarto lunes del mes a las 7pm en el cuarto de conferencias.
- **Engaged Encounter:** 916-987-0747
- **Food Locker/St. Vincent de Paul:** 530-671-5154
- **Grupo de Oración:** miércoles a las 7 p. m. Eladio Ballesteros y Martin González #530-673-1573.
- **Relevant Radio:** 1620 AM
- **Marriage Encounter:** 893-2348 or 891-0426
- **Prayer Chain:** Serious illnesses or critical situations: 673-0556
- **Natural Family Planning:** Call Parish Office for referral
- **Rachel's Vineyard:** For those suffering emotional or spiritual pain from abortion, 888-HOPE-790
- **Respect Life/Yuba-Sutter Right to Life:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wed every month @ 7 p. m. in the Brides Room; Maureen, 673-1437
- **Troubled Marriage:** 800-283-5952/ [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)
- **Divina Misericordia:** Rudy & Guadalupe Rodríguez. Tel. 530-933-5282.
- **Chamoru Ministry:** (530) 673-1573
- **Filipino Ministry-** (530) 673-1573
- **Encuentro Matrimonial-** Pablo & Maria Rodriguez (530) 216-3884
- **Defensores de la Fe- Todos los lunes de 6:30-8:30 pm** Demetrio Méndez (530)933-4495
- **Guadalupanas -** Cora Garcia 671-4269
- **Padres y Madres Orantes:** Hora Santa todos los jueves de 5:30-6:30pm.530-673-1573
- **St. Paul Street Evangelization-** Greg Thompson, [530-713-9909](tel:530-713-9909) or [ggregandjill565@gmail.com](mailto:ggregandjill565@gmail.com)
- **Sutter Buttes Unbound Ministry-** Carla Consentino Team Coordinator: unboundministryscd@gmail.com
- **Adoracion Nocturna Seccion Femenina-Todos los viernes de 7 a 9 p.m. Junta de Turno:** Primer viernes del mes a las 6 p.m. en el cuarto de las novias.

Additional contacts are found on the parish website's "Contact Us" link

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Catholic Bible - available in the Parish Office \$10 each. Each family must have a Bible!

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