

# ST. MARY PARISH

Love ♦ Serve ♦ Grow

February 19, 2023

## Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM,  
11:00 AM, 5:00 PM

Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM

## Holy Days of Obligation

8:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 7:00 PM

## Confession

Saturday 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Or by appointment

## Adoration

First Sunday Holy Hour

12 Noon - 1:00 PM

First Fridays

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

## Infant Mary Chapel

Monday - Saturday

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

## Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Closed for lunch 12:30 - 1:30 pm



## 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those  
who persecute you." - Mt 5:44

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

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# PARISH INFO

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## Pastoral Staff

**Fr. Kavungal Davy, CMI, Pastor**

**Fr. George Thadathil, CMI, Parochial Vicar**

**Deacon George W. Kriske, retired**

**Ramon Aragon, Maintenance**

**Ben Billeci, Music Director**  
ben@stmarysacto.org

**Beckee Lienert, Office Manager**  
beckee@stmarysacto.org

**Alyssa McKrell, Facilities Coordinator**  
alyssa@stmarysacto.org

## Ministry Contacts

**Altar Servers, Ellie Ielati**  
altarserver@stmarysacto.org

**Altar Society, Michelle Mills**  
altarsociety@stmarysacto.org

**Bereavement Committee, Mary Kassis**  
(916) 383-5224

**Catholic Faith Formation, Cindy Blecha**  
cff@stmarysacto.org

**Edge (Middle School), Alyssa & Bryan McKrell**  
edge@stmarysacto.org

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**  
Janet Dumonchelle, em@stmarysacto.org

**Finance Council, Tim Frame**  
financecouncil@stmarysacto.org

**Lectors, Dale Walton**  
lectors@stmarysacto.org

**@LIFED (High School), Dominic Ielati**  
hsyouth@stmarysacto.org

**Pastoral Council, Frank Lienert**  
pastoralcouncil@stmarysacto.org

**Prayer Request Group, Lisa Van Handel-Lane**  
prayergroup@stmarysacto.org

**RCIA, George & Michelle Mills**  
rcia@stmarysacto.org

**St. Vincent de Paul, Alanna Butterworth**  
svdp@stmarysacto.org

**Ushers/Offertory, Joe Gutierrez**  
ushers@stmarysacto.org

## Sacrament + Formation Info

**Marriage:** Contact the Parish Office 6 months prior to desired wedding date.

**Infant Baptism:** Contact the Parish Office. Parents and godparents must attend class.

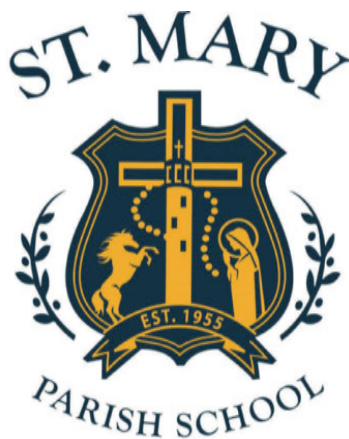
**Anointing of the Sick:** Contact the Parish Office regarding sick and elderly who are at home, hospitals or special care facilities.

**RCIA:** Process for adults and children (7+) who are interested in joining the Catholic Church, and baptized Catholics wanting to complete their Sacraments of Initiation. Please contact Michelle Mills at (916) 806-6876.

**CFF:** Catholic youth are formed through the Catholic Faith Formation program (CFF). Please contact Cindy Blecha at cff@stmarysacto.org.

## Our Mission Statement

St. Mary Parish prepares and sustains its members and guests for a life and eternity in the presence of God. In accomplishing our mission, we proclaim and celebrate our salvation through Jesus Christ enlivened by the Holy Spirit, nourish our sacramental life especially in the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist, and demonstrate our faith worshipping, educating, serving and encouraging vocations.



As a ministry of St. Mary Parish, guided by the life of Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother, we love with devotion, learn with passion and lead with faith.

Preschool/TK - 8th Grade

Principal: Mary DaRosa,

(916) 452-1100

www.saintmaryschool.com

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## Weekly Readings

- Sunday:** Lv 19:1-2,17-18; Ps 103:1-4,8,10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48
- Monday:** Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29
- Tuesday:** Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37
- Wednesday:** Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20—6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday:** Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
- Friday:** Is 58:1-9; Ps 51:3-6, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
- Saturday:** Is 58:9b-14; Ps86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

## Mass Trivia

The 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fill in the blank:  
When someone strikes you on your right cheek, \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) strike them back
- (B) fall down
- (C) tell everyone about it
- (D) turn the other one as well

Check page 4 for the answer!

## Mass Intentions February 18-25

### Saturday Vigil, February 18

5:00 PM Kim Elich (by Rena & Bill Zellars)

### Sunday, February 19

8:00 AM Christopher Golowski † (by Lincoln & Family)

9:30 AM Carla Clifford (by Lilian & Nick Clifford)

11:00 AM Ralph Astorino † (by Traci Peters)

5:00 PM For our Parishioners (by St. Mary Parish)

### Monday, February 20

8:00 AM Dawn & Gabriel Aragon (by Ramon)

Brian Benoit † (by M. Holler)

### Tuesday, February 21

8:00 AM Ann Smitka † (by Beckee Lienert)

Tony Bertacchi † (by Gloria & Linda G.)

### Wednesday, February 22 ASH WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM Mary Jane Cross (by Jean Connors)

12 Noon Barbara Carvalho-Lehmann (by Mary Kassis)

7:00 PM Andrew Huitt (by Lilian & Nick Clifford)

### Thursday, February 23

8:00 AM Judy Becker (by Mary Kassis)

Bob Justice † (by Martha Justice)

### Friday, February 24

8:00 AM Fr. George Thadathil (by Mary Kassis)

Bonnie Williams † (by Katarina Bilandzich)

### Saturday, February 25

8:00 AM Matthew Ielati (by Mom, Dad & Rebecca)

**To request a Mass Intention**, please download the Mass Intention Request Form from our website or visit the parish office during normal business hours. Per Canon Law (canon 953), Mass intentions may not be scheduled more than one year in advance.

## Online Worship Aid



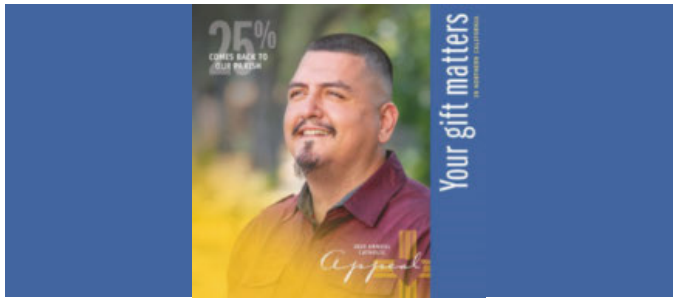
Scan the QR code to access to this week's Worship Aid, that provides all of the liturgical content used for the Mass (readings, music, etc).



## The Holy Father's Prayer Intention For the Month of February: For Parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Annual Catholic Appeal

We may not all be social workers, but through the Annual Catholic Appeal, the whole Catholic community leans in to help our Catholic charities- and our own parish- to sustain programs and ministries that help lift our neighbors out of the hardships of poverty. The Annual Catholic Appeal is dedicated solely to the social mission of the Church here in Northern California. Last year, 380,000 people were helped by Appeal-funded charitable works. In our parish, our own St. Mary School and St. Vincent de Paul ministry received support for another year because 25% of our donations came back to our parish. Please be as generous as you can. Every gift makes a profound difference in someone's life.



DONATE ONLINE

**If you are able to make a donation this year**, please use the envelopes that will be provided in Mass this weekend. We ask that you please do not use the envelope that was included with your regular monthly envelopes. If you give online, please do so directly to the diocese via the QR code, and not through St. Mary's online giving. Thank you!



## Parish Pastoral Council

At our February Pastoral Council meeting, we celebrated our outgoing members and welcomed our new members. We are grateful to Steve Alvarez, Julie Rogado and Alex Mayer for their dedication to our parish. We welcome Mike Smiley, Janine Orsi and Rebecca Ielati. Thank you to the outgoing Chair, Frank Lienert, and Secretary, Julie Rogado, for their time and hard work. We send prayers and best wishes for our newly elected office bearers: Bryan McKrell (Chair), Zuheit Whitney (Vice Chair), and Phyllis Williamson (Secretary).

## Clergy Corner



We are on the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time. This weekend's Readings explain why Christians are expected to be holy and how we are meant to become holy people. The First and Second Readings give us reasons why we should be holy, and the Gospel describes four ways of becoming holy people prescribed for us by Jesus, using three examples of graceful Christian retaliation when people offend us and violate our rights and privileges.

The First Reading, taken from the book of Leviticus, teaches us that we should be holy because it is the command given to us by God through Moses: "Be holy, for I the Lord, your God, am Holy." It also shows us the way to share in God's holiness: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

The Responsorial Psalm challenges us to be holy as our God is Holy by becoming kind and merciful and forgiving, as He is to us.

In the Second Reading, St. Paul gives us an additional reason to be holy. We are to keep our bodies and souls holy because we are the temples of the Holy Spirit, and the holy Spirit lives in us.

In the Gospel passage, taken from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches us four ways of becoming holy as God is holy. The first way is to abstain from all forms of retaliation. The second way of becoming holy as God is Holy is to take the offense gracefully and love the offender. The third way of sharing in God's Holiness is by unconditionally and whole-heartedly forgiving the offender without planning revenge in any form. The fourth way of becoming holy as God is Holy is to seal our determination to forgive our enemies by sincerely praying for their spiritual and physical welfare and for the grace they need for their conversion and renewal of life.

Thus, today's Scripture readings challenge us to become holy as our God is Holy by loving, forgiving, and blessing others, even our enemies, with graceful and magnanimous love, as our Holy God does for us.

Fr. George Thadathil, CMI  
Parochial Vicar

ST MARY PARISH  
**Crab Feed**  
Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**INCLUDES:**

- ALL YOU CAN EAT CRAB
- ANITPASTO
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- PASTA
- GARLIC BREAD
- DESSERT

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DOORS & BAR OPEN AT 6:00PM  
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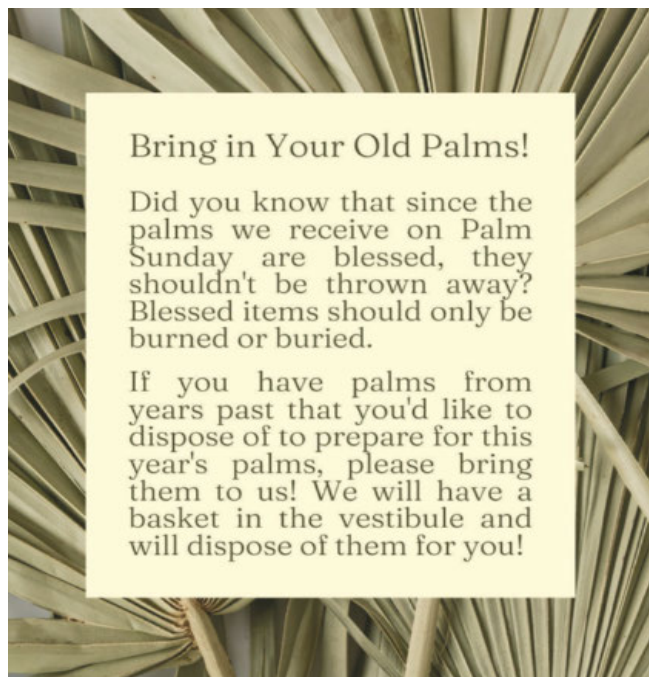
PRE-ORDER ONLY | TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY MARCH 5, 2023



Bring in Your Old Palms!


Did you know that since the palms we receive on Palm Sunday are blessed, they shouldn't be thrown away? Blessed items should only be burned or buried.

If you have palms from years past that you'd like to dispose of to prepare for this year's palms, please bring them to us! We will have a basket in the vestibule and will dispose of them for you!



**Mass Trivia Answer**

D. Turn the other one as well  
from today's Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

  
**LENT**  
**2023 SCHEDULE**

**Ash Wednesday**  
February 22  
(a day of fast + abstinence)  
Masses:  
8:00 am  
9:30 am (school only)  
12 noon  
7:00 pm  
Ashes Service: 4:00 pm

**Soup + Stations of the Cross**  
Every Friday February 24 - March 31  
(Fridays are days of abstinence)  
6:00 pm Soup  
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

**Fish Fry**  
Friday, March 10  
5:30 pm  
Stations of the Cross immediately following

**Parish Mission**  
Monday, March 20 - Wednesday, March 22  
After the 8:00 am daily Mass and 6:30-7:30 pm  
Retreat Preacher: Fr. Jack Conley, CP

**Penance Service**  
Thursday, March 23  
6:00 pm

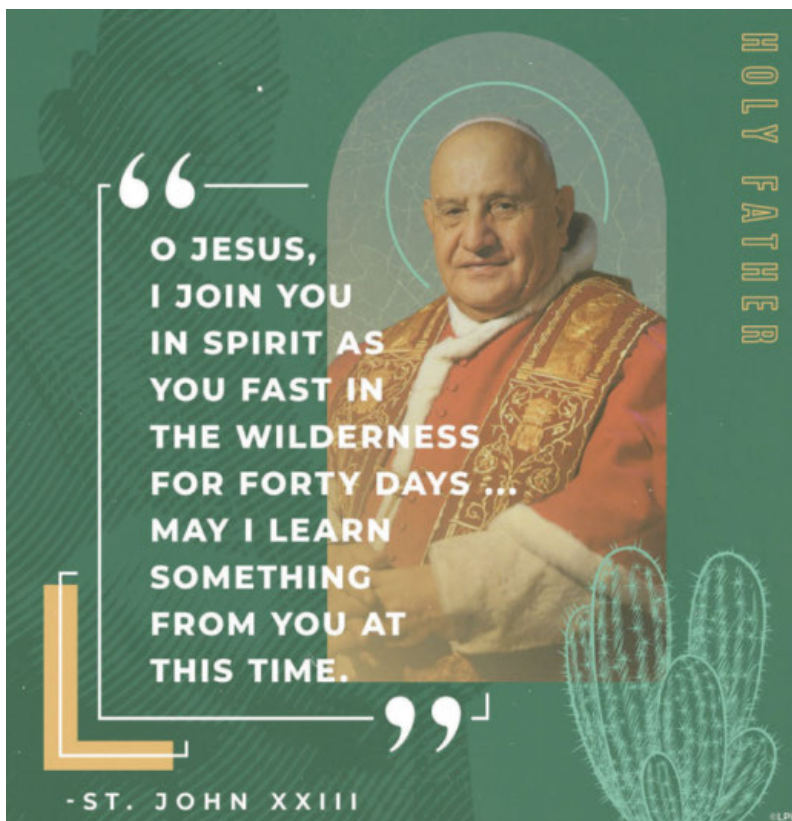
**Tenebrae Service**  
Monday, April 3  
7:00 pm

## Gospel Reflection

Of all the things Jesus says which seem totally crazy, this one might take the cake: “But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you.” An enemy is someone who desires the destruction of you, your projects, or those you care about. To love and pray for them is to want their health, strength, and flourishing. But if they thrive, they are more likely to hurt you and others. So, aren’t you indirectly willing your own destruction, or that of your friends? If you doubt that this problem is embedded in this teaching, when was the last time you actually prayed honestly for the people you really hate?

How can we solve this riddle so we might actually live this command? Recall that enemy-love is the surest sign that you love someone with God’s love, and not with indirect egotism. After all, if my love for my enemy ends up hurting me or my loved ones, it can’t be for me. Enemy-love costs more because there are no tit-for-tats. No reciprocity — just loved poured out, and often pain in return. That’s why it is so precious and rare. “What is unusual about that?” asks the Lord about love for our friends. Jesus wants us to experience the unusual love which only comes from him.

When Jesus was being killed on the cross, he was loving his executioners. In fact, he was holding them in being as they nailed him to the cross. He loved those who were spiritually piercing his Mother’s heart, while they were doing it. And when he rose from the dead, he showed us that this kind of love is always worth it. It’s stronger than death. Real love is unusual. -Fr. John Muir for @LPI



## Saint of the Week

Venerable Félix Varela Morales was born on November 20, 1788, in Havana, Cuba. After being orphaned at a young age, he moved to St. Augustine, Florida, to be raised by his grandparents. At the time, St. Augustine was under Spanish rule and his grandfather was the commander of the city’s Spanish troops. Instead of following in his grandfather’s footsteps, he decided to pursue the priesthood. After attending the San Carlos Seminary in Havana, he was ordained in 1811 and began his ministry as a professor at the same seminary. He was quickly revered as a scholar and was elected to represent Cuba in the Cortes Generales of Spain in 1821.

While part of the Cortes, Father Varela petitioned for the independence of Latin America. He also published an essay arguing for the abolition of slavery in Cuba. Not long after, though, the government of Spain was overthrown by France, the Cortes dissolved, and he was sentenced to death for his positions. He escaped to New York where he went on to launch the first Spanish-language newspaper in the U.S., and fostered cooperation between English and Spanish speaking communities.

While in New York, he founded and pastored a parish, The Church of the Immigrant, and was a theological consultant to the Committee of American Bishops as they drew up the Baltimore Catechism. He learned Gaelic and was able to assist with the influx of Irish refugees coming to the US as he played a significant role in shaping how the American Church welcomed them.

Father Felix Varela died in 1853 in St. Augustine. He was declared Venerable by the Vatican’s Sacred Congregation for the Causes of Saints on Easter Sunday, April 8, 2012. @LPI

Italian Catholic Federation Br. 45

# Chicken & Polenta Dinner

Join us for our first event of 2023 on  
Sunday, February 26th in Giovanni Hall!

Branch Meeting 4:30 pm | Dinner 6:00 pm  
(You don't have to be a member/attend the Branch Meeting  
to attend the dinner! All are welcome!)

## Menu includes:

Salad, roll, polenta with our homemade  
meat sauce, ½ chicken, dessert, and beverages  
(pasta is available by pre-order only at time of reservation)

## Price:

\$22 for members  
\$30 for non-members

For reservations or for more information,  
please call Janine at 916-508-1199 by Tuesday, February 21st

Proceeds from the dinner benefit St. Mary School 8th grade,  
high school and college scholarships

Thank you for supporting ICF!



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