



SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH
PARROQUIA DE SAN FRANCISCO DE ASÍS

FEBRUARY 18TH, 2018

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



VISION

Saint Francis of Assisi is a welcoming, intergenerational and multi-cultural Catholic community which embraces the teachings of Jesus Christ to foster Spiritual growth.

MISSION

The mission of Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is to develop a welcoming and dynamic parish. Through liturgical gatherings, faith formation, and the grace of the Holy Spirit, we confidently live out the Gospel message in service to the community and to the Diocese of Oakland.

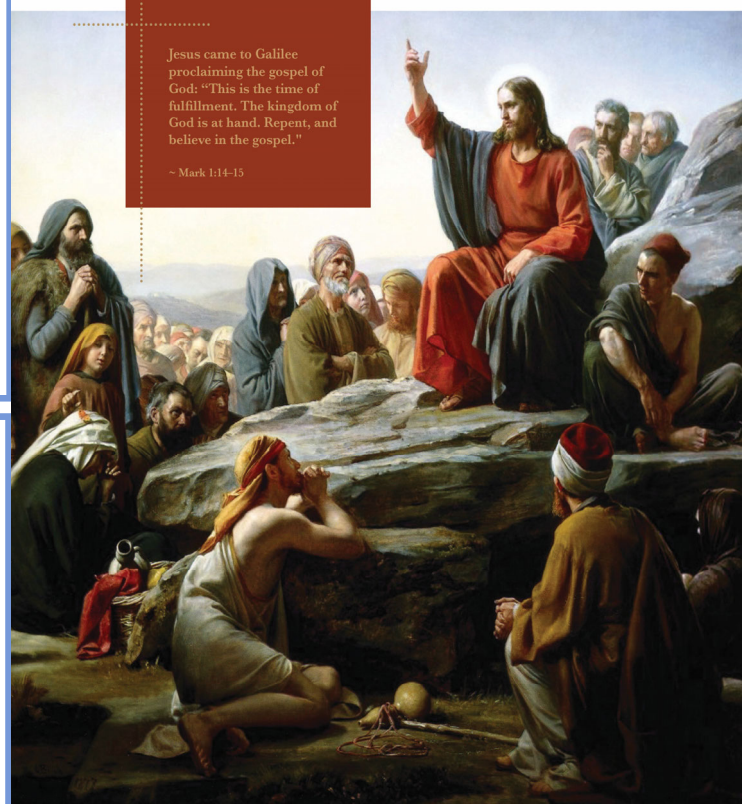
LA VISIÓN

La parroquia de St. Francis es una comunidad católica acogedora, intergeneracional, y multicultural. Toma a pecho las enseñanzas de Jesucristo para promover el crecimiento espiritual.

LA MISIÓN

La misión de La Iglesia de St. Francis es de desarrollar una parroquia acogedora y dinámica. Por medio de las asambleas litúrgicas, la formación de la Fe, y las gracias del Espíritu Santo, nosotros con confianza vivimos el mensaje de Evangelio en servicio a la comunidad y a la Diócesis de Oakland.

FEBRUARY 18, 2018 | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



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."

- Mark 1:14-15

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The Rev. Ismael Gutierrez
Pastor

The Rev. Rafal Duda
Parochial Vicar

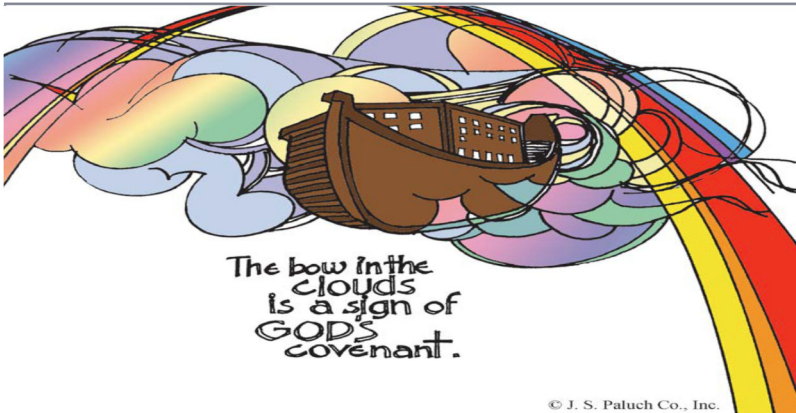
The Rev. Mr. Charles Palomares
The Rev. Mr. John Mazibrook
Deacons/Diáconos

ADDRESS/ DIRECCION

860 Oak Grove Road, Concord, CA 94518
Telephone (925) 682-5447 • Fax (925) 682-5491

OFFICE HOURS / HORAS DE OFICINA

Monday (Lunes) to Friday (Viernes) 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM
www.sfaconcord.com



**First Sunday of Lent
February 18, 2018**
Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths.
— *Psalm 25:4*

**Primer Domingo de Cuaresma
18 de febrero de 2018**
Descúbrenos, Señor, tus caminos,
guíanos con la verdad de tu doctrina.
— *Salmo 25 (24):4*

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass

5:30PM (English), 7:30PM (Portuguese)

Sunday (Domingo)

English 7:00AM; 10:00AM; **Spanish** 8:00AM; 1:00PM;
11:30AM; 5:30PM 7:00PM

Daily Mass

8:30AM Mon—Sat (English)
Tuesday, 7:00 PM (Spanish)

Reconciliation/Reconciliación

Tuesday (Martes) 6:00PM to 7:00PM (Español)
Saturdays (Sábados) 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

**Sacrament of the Sick/Unción de Enfermos
Holy Anointing/Prayers and Pastoral Care for the Sick.**
Call/Llamar (925) 682-5447

Eucharistic Adoration/Adoración Eucarística
Mondays (Lunes) 7:30-8:30PM in the Chapel/Capilla

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS
Monday to Friday, after the 8:30AM Mass.

St. Vincent de Paul/San Vicente de Paul
Monday, Wednesday & Fridays 9:30AM –11:30AM
For those who need food or assistance/*Para aquellos que
necesiten comida o asistencia*
(925) 682-5811

St. Francis of Assisi School
866 Oak Grove Rd., Concord CA 94518
Phone:(925) 682-5414 FAX (925) 682-5480

PARISH OFFICE NOTICE
ATTENTION. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PARISH
OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED EVERY TUESDAYS FROM 11AM
TO 1:00PM. THIS IS TO ALLOW THE STAFF TO HOLDING
MEETINGS AND THEIR PRAYER GROUPS AT A SET TIME
AND DATE EACH WEEK. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDER-
STANDING.

**Reminder: Adoration is also held on Monday's
at 7:30pm in the Chapel.**

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 17TH, 2018 (Vigil)
5:30 PM- + Joe Streich

Sunday, February 18th , 2018—**1ST SUNDAY IN LENT**
7:00am Sp. Int. — *Jim Baldrige*
8:00AM + **Ignacio Avila**
10:00AM + *Mary Ann B. Torres*
11:30AM + *Lee Dulac*
1:00pm + **Gabriela Cantu**
5:30PM + *Rodolfo Bautista*
7:00PM + **Maria Diaz**

Monday, February 19th, 2018
6:30am Parishioners of St. Francis
8:30am + *Margie Wedia*

Tuesday, February 20th, 2018—
6:30am + *Sister James Marian Dyer*
8:30am + *Ellyn Lowe*
7:00PM **Guillermo Cuevas Nepita**

Wednesday, February 21ST, 2018 –
6:30am + *Peter Le Luong*
8:30am + *Venancio M. Gaddi*

Thursday, February 22ND, 2018
6:30am + *Kelli Zachary*
8:30am + *Rosa Calles*

Friday, February 23RD, 2018
6:30am Parishioners of St. Francis
8:30am + *Ann Dallosto*

Saturday, February 24th , 2018
8:30AM + *Sharon Awand*
5:30PM (Vigil Mass) + *Isabel Gutierrez*

Sunday, February 25th, 2018– **2ND SUNDAY IN LENT**
7:00am Sp. Int. — *Cabe family*
8:00 AM **Parishioners of St. Francis**
10:00am + *Frank Tompkins*
11:30am + *Martha & Pedro Sanchez*
1:00PM + **Alicia Alvarez Pulido**
5:30PM + *Floro & Librada De La Pena*
7:00PM + **Michael Cordova**

Bold masses in Spanish

**The Parish Communal Reconciliation Ser-
vice on Monday, March 5th at 7:00PM**
The Parish Office will be closed on Mon-
day, Feb. 19th for the Presidents' Day Holiday.
The office will reopen on Tuesday, Feb. 20th at
9:00am.

St. Vincent de Paul Ministry

The fire damaged St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store on Contra Costa Blvd. is still under construction and cannot accept donations until late February or early March. We will be notified of its reopening.

DONATIONS MUST BE TAKEN TO THE STORE AT THAT TIME—WE CANNOT ACCEPT DONATIONS AT ST. FRANCIS CHURCH OR AT THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY. (ALL DONATIONS MUST BE CLEAN AND GENTLY USED TO BE SALEABLE.)

Thank you for your cooperation.

Memo from the Diocese to all Parishioners.

During this flu season it is important to promote healthy practices for the safety of all. You are reminded that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass does not apply to those who are ill. We will have dispenser of hand sanitizers in the baptistery for those who wish to use. We will also not have the communal chalice for the Blood of Christ until further notice.

Sacred Communion is fully received by participation in one or both species. During the sign of peace, handshaking can be discontinued and a simple nod of your head to your neighbor should be enough. We pray for the health and recovery of all who are ill and not with us today.



We will have a 6:30am Mass or Liturgy of the Word— Monday through Friday, starting February 14th to March 30.

On Fridays in Lent, we will also have Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm followed by a simple Soup Supper in the Pope John Paul II Center. All are welcome.

PARISH FINANCE REPORT

WEEKLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Coll: Feb. 10 & 11	\$ 11,590.
Faith Direct e-giving	\$ 3,465.
TOTAL	\$15,055.

YTD Shortfall (\$12,171.)

Reminder: The Parish now needs \$16,000 each week just to meet expenses. Thank you to all who use envelopes and Faith Direct Contributions.

January expenditures: \$85,764.

YOUTH GROUPS

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FOR TEENS

Sunday, **Feb. 18th** from 3-6:30pm in the Pope JP II Center
Sunday, **Mar. 4th** from 3-6:30PM in Church with Sponsors

TEEN MASS AND TEEN SOCIAL

Sunday, **Feb. 18th**—Teen Mass -5:30pm in Church
NO Teen Social—Due to President's Day Holiday

Sunday, **Mar. 4th**—Teen Mass 5:30pm

No Social after Mass due to Candidate/sponsor Event

Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry Group for Gr. 7th –12th meets on
Monday Nights from 7-9PM in the Gym and Y/R.

No Meeting Feb. 19th due to President's Day Holiday

Teen Sacraments of First Rec. and First Communion for all 7th –12 Graders:

Year I—Meets Tues.— 4-5:30pm in the POC

Year II—Meets Wed.— 4-5:30pm in the POC

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES—

Every **Sunday** from 8 –10am and 1-3pm

Help K of C distribute food outside the JP II Center.

Fridays (Feb. 23, Mar. 2,9,16,& 23) from 6-9pm—JP II

Helping to serve at the Lenten Soup Suppers

Sat. Mar 17th from 6-10PM in the FC/Gym

Serve at St. Patrick's Dinner

If you have any questions, you can contact our Youth Minister & Teen Sacrament Coordinator, Kathy De Lemos on her direct line (925) 375-1057 or office at (925) 682-5447 Ext 29, or at Youth@SFAconcord.org.

End-of-life issues workshop Learn how to navigate end-of-life issues through your Catholic faith, including healthcare forms, choosing a healthcare decision maker, how to find practical living advice and knowing when to request the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. **To register or find more information, visit www.oakdiocese.org/catholics-care or call 510.267.8392.** Workshops will be offered as follows:
Feb. 21, 1-2:30 p.m. – Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood
Feb. 22, 7-9 p.m. – **St. John Vianney, Walnut Creek Feb. 24, 10 a.m.-noon** – St. Lawrence O'Toole, Oakland
March 10, 10 a.m. -noon – St. Joseph Basilica, Alameda.

LifeSHIFT: Work and the Christian Journey with Thomas Bachhuber and Jim Briggs, March 2-4. **Retreat for Men** March 2-4 – Mercy, A Disciple's Response with Father Mark Weisner San Damiano Retreat Center, 710 Highland Dr., Danville Matthew Remington, 925-672-4006, m_remington@sbcglobal.net Joe Talarico, 925-680-7767, j_talarico@hotmail.com StBonaventure.net/mens-spiritual-network

COULD YOU BE A FRIEND TO THE CARING HANDS PROGRAM? If you have just an hour or two each week to offer friendship and occasional rides to a senior in your neighborhood, Caring Hands would love to talk with you. Enriching matches and deep relationships have been created. These seniors treasure a friendly visit, a walk, or a social outing or rides to the doctors. Providing occasional respite care are services for the non-medical volunteers that can make a big difference. The program is flexible. For more information about this program, contact Stacy Appel, Volunteer coordinator at (925) 952-2999 or email them at: cainq.hands@johnmuirhealth.com

Carondelet High School's annual Mother-Daughter Retreat is a special time for women to explore, affirm and celebrate their unique bonds in a renewing, relaxing and spiritually-enriching atmosphere. It is open to all mothers, grandmothers, aunts, alumnae and their daughters who are in 8th grade, high school, college or beyond. Sunday, Feb. 25 at Carondelet's Garaventa Center. Tickets on sale now at www.CarondeletHS.org/MotherDaughter.

Help end Child Sex Trafficking: Our Bishop has made this a major priority in Alameda and Contra Costa County for the protection of our children. There are 1500 homeless children living on the streets on any given night and they are at risk from predatory sex traffickers who target them to be victims in the heinous sex trade right here in the San Francisco Bay Area. Catholic Charities of the East Bay is looking for volunteers to serve a mentor in their new programs— Day Star, Mentoring & CSEC Education. For more information, call Joy Thompson at (510) 773-6159 or email her at joythompson@cceb.org.

PLEASE PRAY WITH US!

Please prayerfully consider standing for Life in conjunction with other Christians and like minded people during the 40 Days for Life campaign, set for February 14 through March 24. 40 Days for Life is not a "protest" group. It is a world-wide organization that promotes 40 Days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You are invited to stand and peacefully pray for a one hour period during the 40-day vigil in the public right of way outside the Planned Parenthood in Walnut Creek at 1537 Oakland Blvd. We will be praying from 7 a.m. through 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday, during the 40 Day vigil. Please sign up for an hour or two, and join us! Sign up on the website: 40DaysForLife.com/walnutcreek or call Ann Vaccaro (925) 212-7938 with questions. Thank you.

Please mark your calendars for the week of March 19th when St. Francis will again be volunteering at the Martinez Family Homeless Shelter. Sign-Ups will be held at all masses on Mar. 3 & 4. Many food, kitchen, household and personal items are needed. We may also have openings for volunteers to serve on teams purchasing food and preparing and serving dinners. More information, call 827-3619.

CALLING ALL WOMEN!!!

**Magnificat SOTI, a Ministry for Catholic Women invite all to join them at their Prayer Breakfast
February 24, 2018 9:30-12:30
Crowne Plaza**

45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, CA

Please join us for a morning of Praise, Prayer, and Inspiration by our speaker Patricia Sandoval!

Patricia is a well-known guest and prolife speaker on EWTN. Her autobiography, *Transfigured*, tells the story of her life as a Planned Parenthood worker and three harrowing years on the streets as a homeless drug addict and is a testament to the forgiveness and healing love of Jesus Christ.

Men are always welcome to attend!

Tickets are \$33/\$40 after February 17th.

For more information go to: <https://magnificat-ministry.net/chapters/chapter-states-a-d/ca-walnut-creek/>

Go to Magnificatsotirsvp@gmail.com for reservations or call Kim Sullivan (925) 683-8220

An Invitation to a Workshop on Centering Prayer

Have you ever wondered what Centering Prayer is all about? Come join us for a workshop to explain and experience Centering Prayer. This workshop will be held at **St. Agnes Church on Saturday, February 24th at Cauchi Hall from 9:30AM to 12:00 noon.**

Our presenter will be Eileen Halliburton, a Spiritual Director, who is a graduate of Holy Names University of Oakland. She has been practicing Centering Prayer since 1993 and is the past Coordinator of Contemplative Outreach of Oakland/East Bay. Eileen has facilitated Centering Prayer Introductory Workshops and retreats throughout Northern California.

Many of our well-loved saints practiced this method of prayer seeking the presence of God directly. The aim is to be present to the Lord, to just be with God. Come join us and experience God's presence and love in a special way. Please RSVP no later than: February 17th Marie Rojo @ (925) 639-9901 Marieroj@ymail.com OR Gloria Schafer @ (925) 209-6912 Gaschafer@sbcglobal.net

Retrouvaille... A lifeline for marriages. Do you feel lost, frustrated, hurt, or angry with your spouse? Retrouvaille helps married couples heal and renew their marriages. The Retrouvaille Program begins with an initial weekend: Friday February 23, 2018 7:00pm to Sunday February 25, 2018 5:00pm. There are 12 follow up sessions over six Saturdays: March 3, March 10, March 24, April 7, April 21 & May 5, 2018 from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Register at www.HelpOurMarriage.com or contact Gus and Edda Rivera at (510) 709-6063. Retrouvaille provides marriage help!

The Annual Bishop's Appeal begins soon— The Theme this year is "Lighting the Way" Beginning . In March there will be cards and envelopes to accept your pledge. This helps support vital diocesan ministries and services provided by the Bishop's Appeal. Consider a gift or pledge proportional to your means. Your gift makes a difference!

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — Dios estableció una alianza con Noé y sus hijos y les prometió que nunca más habría un diluvio devastador (Génesis 9:8-15).

Salmo — Tus sendas, Señor, son misericordia y lealtad, para los que guardan tu alianza (Salmo 25 [24]).

Segunda lectura — Aquella agua representaba el bautismo que ahora nos salva (1 Pedro 3:18-22).

Evangelio — Después de los cuarenta días en el desierto, Jesús viene a Galilea proclamando el Evangelio de Dios (Marcos 1:12-15).

Salmo responsorial: *Leccionario Hispanoamericano Dominicano* © 1970, Comisión Episcopal Española. Usado con permiso. Todos los derechos reservados.

PERSONAS DE LA ALIANZA

La palabra que sobresale en las lecturas de hoy es la palabra “alianza”. La fidelidad y la bondad de Dios nos sirven como ejemplo de cómo debemos vivir. En Génesis aparece el relato de Noé y de la alianza de Dios no sólo con las personas sino con la naturaleza. Las aguas purificadoras del diluvio nunca más descargarán su poder destructivo en toda la tierra otra vez. La señal, el recordatorio para Dios y la naturaleza, es el arco iris en el cielo.

El salmo nos recuerda esta compasión de Dios y le implora a Dios que se acuerde de nosotros, no por nuestra bondad, sino por la bondad de Dios y su fidelidad a la promesa. Dios nos muestra cómo ser buenos, no por decreto,

AGRADECIMIENTOS

El ministerio de salud desea agradecer a los feligreses que donaron o compraron repostería en nuestra venta del Día de San Valentín. Su generosidad y apoyo nos hace posible proveer la vacuna contra la influenza a los feligreses que la necesitan.

Muchas Gracias

OFICINA PARROQUIAL

La oficina parroquial esta cerrada el **lunes 19 de febrero** en observación del día de los Presidentes Estadounidenses.

PRACTICAS CUARESMALES

“**El ayuno**...debilita nuestra violencia, nos desarma, y constituye una importante ocasión para crecer. Por una parte, nos permite experimentar lo que sienten aquellos que carecen de lo indispensable y conocen el aguijón del hambre; por otra, expresa la condición de nuestro espíritu, hambriento de bondad y sediento de la vida”.

(Papa Francisco, *Mensaje para la Cuaresma*, 2018)

Las siguientes regulaciones en referencia al **ayuno** y la **abstinencia** son las que se observan en todos los Estados Unidos: los católicos mayores de 14 años deben abstenerse de comer carne el **Miércoles de Ceniza**, el **Viernes Santo** y los **Viernes de Cuaresma**.

Todas las personas entre 18 y 59 años están obligadas a ayunar (comer únicamente una comida completa) el Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo. Comer otras dos porciones pequeñas, para mantener las fuerzas necesarias, es permitido; pero no se debe comer nada entre comidas. Estas prácticas, sin embargo, no son obligatorias para aquellos cuya salud corre peligro o para quienes podrían ver su trabajo seriamente afectado.

EN CUARESMA

El tiempo litúrgico de Cuaresma inicia con el miércoles de Ceniza (14 de febrero). Durante este tiempo tendremos nuevamente las misas a las 6:30 a.m., en inglés.

- **Vía Crucis:** Todos los viernes de cuaresma, estaremos meditando el Vía Crucis de nuestro Señor a las 7:00p.m.
- **Sopas en Cuaresma:** Todos los viernes después del Vía Crucis, la sopa será servida en el salón Juan Pablo II.
- **Sacramento de la Reconciliación o Confesiones.** Las confesiones de la parroquia son todos los martes de 6-7p.m., y los sábados de 4-5p.m. También tendremos **Confesiones Comunitarias el lunes 5 de Marzo a las 7:00p.m.**

TEMPORADA DE GRIPE

GRIPE Durante el tiempo de la gripe (a) o Influenza no habrá distribución de la Sangre de Cristo, solamente el Cuerpo de Cristo. Para el saludo de la Paz y la oración del Padre Nuestro favor de abstenerse de dar o tomarse de las manos.

Juguetes de los niños en la Capilla, debido al alto nivel de gripe, los juguetes para los niños han sido removidos hasta nuevo aviso. Agradecemos su comprensión.

DONACIONES DE ROPA SAN VICENTE DE PAUL

El ministerio de San Vicente de Paul y su tiendita de ropa no estará aceptando ropa debido al reciente incendio ocurrido en el establecimiento de Pleasant Hill, por el momento todo esta bajo construcción hasta finales de febrero o principios del mes marzo. Las donaciones deberán ser llevadas al 2815 Contra Costa Blvd. Pleasant Hill.

Gracias por su cooperación.

GRUPO DE ORACION

Le invita a sus reuniones todos los martes iniciando con la Santa Misa a las 7:00p.m., seguida por oración y alabanza a las 8:00p.m.

Martes 27 de febrero tendremos Misa Carmática, a las 7:00 p.m., con el Rev. Rafael Chávez.

Para más información llamar a Margarita al (925) 323-3654 o a Cesar al (562) 505-3639.

CARIDADES CATOLICAS

IMIGRACION ES COMPLICADO
¡ NOSOTROS PODEMOS AYUDAR!

Con Cita previa: El primer paso para abrir un caso es la consulta inicial. Esta consulta determina si su caso califica par nuestros servicios legales. Llame para hacer una cita.

Concord 3540 Chestnut Ave. (925) 825-3099

Oakland 433 Jefferson Street

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

La Cuaresma tiene sus raíces en la preparación para el Bautismo de adultos y en el arrepentimiento de pecadores públicos. Ambas se concentran en la conversión y en especial en los tres pilares de la misma. La Cuaresma nos da la oportunidad de encontrarnos de manera fuerte y vital con estos tres pilares: ayunar, ayudar y orar. Éstas son las prácticas cuaresmales que la Iglesia ha ido proclamando y practicando desde tiempos antiguos. Son prácticas que los cristianos deberíamos emplear todos los días de nuestra vida, pero con mayor fervor durante la Cuaresma para poder celebrar dignamente las fiestas de la Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

La conversión es un proceso por el cual regresamos a participar de la vida divina que recibimos en el Bautismo. Dios Padre mandó a su Hijo para salvarnos. He allí el por qué, el ayuno, el altruismo y la oración es colaborar con Dios. Dios mismo colabora con nosotros derramando su Espíritu en nuestros corazones. Con el poder del Espíritu Santo podemos practicar el ayunar, ayudar y orar de manera vital.

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gluz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Stgo 1:1-11; Sal 119 (118):67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mc 8:11-13
Martes: Stgo 1:12-18; Sal 94 (93):12-13a, 14-15, 18-19; Mc 8:14-21
Miércoles: Jl 2:12-18; Sal 51 (50):3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Jueves: Dt 30:15-20; Sal 1:1-4, 6; Lc 9:22-25
Viernes: Is 58:1-9a; Sal 51 (50):3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Sábado: Is 58:9b-14; Sal 86 (85):1-6; Lc 5:27-32
Domingo: Gn 9:8-15; Sal 25 (24):4-9; 1 Pe 3:18-22; Mc 1:12-15

RETIRO PARA SERVIDORES PARROQUIALES

Servidores parroquiales favor de guardar la fecha del 10 de Marzo.