

FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED: Hearing aids for use are in the sacristy—please return them after Mass.

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness (Sirach 15:15-20).  
**Psalm** — Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Psalm 119).  
**Second Reading** — God's wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Corinthians 2:6-10).  
**Gospel** — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-37 [20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37]).

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

Saturday	February 15	Blessed Virgin Mary
5:30pm	Anthony's family & Sophie Zimnox by Bob Anthony	
Sunday	February 16	
8:00am	Ron Renaldi (dec) by his family	
10:00am	Nancy Valenzuela (dec) by the Hicks family	
12:00pm	St. Theresa parishioners	
7:00pm		
Monday	February 17	The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
8:00am	Christie Russell (special intention) by her parents	
Tuesday	February 18	
8:00am	Patrick & Catherine Hurley (dec) by the Hurleys	
Wednesday	February 19	
8:00am	Irmegard Otto (dec) by Gabby	
12:00pm	All souls	
Thursday	February 20	
8:00am	Gerald Hurley & Kathleen Carlson (dec) by Hurleys	
Friday	February 21	St. Peter Damian
8:00am	Ramses Sa-Onoy (dec) by his family	
Saturday	February 22	The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
5:30pm	Justin Spencer (birthday) by his family	



**DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP**  
 Wednesdays 10:30a.m. in the Church with the Rosary, Divine Mercy chaplet, and novena prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**FOR PARISHIONERS ON ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY**

Phillip Gaston | Corbett Martin | Zachary Martin | Erik Townsend

**FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL**

Bill Barboni | Lauren Bates | Romie Enriquez | William Foster | Jerry Kirvida | Ophelia Kirvida | Kel Lohmeier | Matthew Morisky | Simon McQuarrie | Byron Melrose | Jamie O'Malley | Tony Russo | Barbara Talbott | Gloria Walkowiak

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

If you would like to add to the prayer list, please send an email with your loved one's name along with your name and phone number to [tahoecatholicbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:tahoecatholicbulletin@gmail.com).

**WEEK AT A GLANCE**

Monday, February 17	8am Mass; 4pm-5:30pm Bread & Broth Meal
Tuesday, February 18	8am Mass; 9am book study; 6:30pm RCIA in English
Wednesday, February 19	8am Mass; 12noon Mass
Thursday February 20	8am Mass; 11am-1pm viewing; 1pm Funeral for Ramses Sa-Onoy; 7pm RCIA in Spanish
Friday, February 21	8am Mass; 3pm Food Pantry; 4pm Second Serving Meal
Saturday, February 22	4pm confessions; 5:30pm Vigil Mass; Annual Catholic Appeal Commitment Weekend
Sunday, February 23	8am, 10am, 12 noon & 7pm (in Spanish) Masses; Annual Catholic Appeal Commitment Weekend



**FREE CONTENT ONLINE**

Now every parishioner can experience hundreds of hours viewing, reading, and listening to the best Catholic content. Enjoy more than 300 episodes of beautiful and compelling video series, feature-length movies, moving and spiritually-enriching eBooks, and over 40 hours of audio content. Register your family account by going to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and use our parish account (case-sensitive) **QKK7X3** or URL **sainttheresasouth-laketahoe.formed.org**

**SIGN UP TODAY!**

2020 LENTEN DAILY REFLECTIONS FROM BISHOP BARRON  
 Spend your time with Christ in the Gospel this Lent alongside Bishop Barron and the Word on Fire community. The link is [www.lentreflections.com](http://www.lentreflections.com)

And/or

Join **Dynamic Catholic for Best Lent Ever**

Sign up for Best Lent Ever, a FREE, video-based email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and New York Times bestselling author Matthew Kelly.

Are you ready for your best Lent ever?

The link is [dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever](http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever)

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
**FRIDAYS during Lent at 6PM**

**STEWARDSHIP IN OUR PARISH**

2/09	<b>REGULAR COLLECTION</b>	5088.76
	<b>NO SECOND COLLECTION</b>	

Second collection this week: **NO SECOND COLLECTION**

Second collection next week: **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

Second collection Feb. 29/Mar 1: **NO SECOND COLLECTION**



### BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASSES

Call or visit the Religious Education Office  
530.544.4788 Find the **2019 SCHEDULE**:  
<http://www.tahoecatholic.com/baptisms>



### RESPECT LIFE PREGNANT? NEED HELP?

We offer practical help to any women with a crisis pregnancy. We have a special concern for you and your unborn child. For any help with a troubled pregnancy, 544-3533.



### KNIGHTS' CORNER

*Men of the Parish are you looking for something more in your life? We do men's Catholic Fellowship! We take our Faith seriously but.....Come join us for some*

*fun and always a good time!*

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST** – Mar. 1st after the 8am and 10am

Masses. It always taste's right when cooked by a Knight. Your help and support is always appreciated.

**Become a better version of yourself. Become a knight!**

Call Frank Dixon 530 318 1574

### LIVING THE MIRACULOUS LIFE

**"My brothers, count it pure joy when you are involved in every sort of trial." —James 1:2**

For about thirty years I have taught the Lord's command to consider various trials "all joy." Today I read this in my hospital room. I haven't been allowed to eat or drink even water or ice chips for about a day. I've had an IV stuck in me for hours. And I have had four enemas. It has never been more clear to me that the command to consider trials "all joy" is truly a miracle.

This command is not a burdensome challenge to our will-power but a call to rise above ourselves and live in the supernatural dimension by utterly depending on the Lord.

This grace strengthens our faith, producing perseverance which can result in our becoming "fully mature and lacking in nothing" (Jas 1:4). How privileged we are to be commanded to do things that we cannot do! How blessed we are to move from grace to grace and not just from human limitation to human limitation! May we let the Lord repeatedly do the impossible in our lives. Let us rejoice in sufferings (Col 1:24; 1 Pt 4:13), love our enemies (Lk 6:27, 35), deny our very selves (Lk 9:23), and generally do things we cannot do. Live the new, abundant, eternal life in the Lord.

*Prayer: Father, fill me with joy in living in You.*

*Promise: "If any of you is without wisdom, let him ask it from the God Who gives generously and ungrudgingly to all, and it will be given him." —Jas 1:5*

*Praise: In the year 1240, seven prominent men of Florence withdrew from society for a solitary life of prayer with direct service to God. Out of this came the Order of the Servites.*

<https://www.presentationministries.com/obob/obob.asp?lang=en&d=2/17/2020>

### LIVING THE IMPOSSIBLE

**"I tell you, unless your holiness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees you shall not enter the kingdom of God." —Matthew 5:20**

Jesus has higher standards than anyone who has ever lived. He has the highest standards for harmony in relationships (Mt 5:22), purity in sexuality (Mt 5:28), faithfulness in marriage (Mt 5:32), truth in speech (Mt 5:34), and love for enemies (Mt 5:39, 44). In Jesus, we don't just control our tempers but crucify them (Gal 5:24). Jesus commands us to destroy our bodies rather than look lustfully at someone else's body, and to divorce ourselves from unforgiveness and sin rather than from our spouses. Jesus commands us to express the truth rather than express our own agenda. We are to treat our enemies even better than we treat our friends (see Lk 15:20ff).

Jesus' standards are intentionally impossible. Humanly speaking, we cannot meet these standards, no matter how hard we try. Jesus is not into self-improvement, but self-denial. We're not concerned with behavior modification but rebirth. We don't try to educate our old nature but drown it in the waters of Baptism. We're not trying to make ourselves better, but to let Him make us new (Rv 21:5).

*Prayer: Father, by Your grace may I live the impossible and prove that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life (Jn 14:6).*

*Promise: "Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it so much as dawned on man what God has prepared for those who love Him." —1 Cor 2:9*

*Praise: Thank You, Jesus! You were "handed over to death for our sins and raised up for our justification" (Rm. 4:25).*

<https://www.presentationministries.com/obob/obob.asp?lang=en&d=2/16/2020>

### PROMOTING LIFE

#### Pope Benedict's Encyclical - "God is Love"

Pope Benedict XVI says the following words in his first encyclical letter "God is Love": "In sacramental communion I become one with the Lord, like all the other communicants. As Saint Paul says, "Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Cor 10:17). Union with Christ is also union with all those to whom he gives himself. I cannot possess Christ just for myself; I can belong to him only in union with all those who have become, or who will become, his own. ... Love of God and love of neighbour are now truly united: God incarnate draws us all to himself. ... Here the usual contraposition between worship and ethics simply falls apart. "Worship" itself, Eucharistic communion, includes the reality both of being loved and of loving others in turn. A Eucharist which does not pass over into the concrete practice of love is intrinsically fragmented" (n. 14). These words remind us of our calling to love all our neighbors, born and unborn.

<https://www.priestsforlife.org/liturgy/liturgicalresource-cycles.aspx?id=164>

**A NEW WAY TO BE HUMAN** | The love of God is an unconditional love, and only that love can empower us to live together without violence. When we know that God loves us deeply and will always go on loving us, whoever we are and whatever we do, it becomes possible to expect no more of our fellow men and women than they are able to give, to forgive them generously when they have offended us, and always to respond to their hostility with love. By doing so we make visible a new way of being human and a new way of responding to our world problems. <https://henrinouwen.org/meditation/a-new-way-to-be-human/>

## REFLECTIONS

### THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR 2020

<https://www.popesprayer.va/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/THE-HOLY-FATHERS-PRAYER-INTENTIONS-2020-ENG2.pdf>

#### FEBRUARY | Universal prayer intention - Listen to the Migrants' Cries

*We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.*

### WHAT'S THE SMOKE FOR?

Dear Johan,

**I can't believe what people are wearing to church these days. Can't you do something about that?**

Gentle Reader,

Believe me, I have tried, but people just don't like to be told what to wear. That will, however, not keep me from opining on the matter.

Shortly before I moved to the United States I was invited to join a group of other soon-to-be expats for an evening at the Belgian-American Foundation. The goal of the evening was to facilitate the transition from life in Europe to life in the United States. In addition to teaching us how to shop we were told what to wear. One of the points the American instructor made was that Europeans are much more formal than Americans. So, we were advised not to bring too many suits and formal outfits. Over the past 25 years, I have realized, however, that even if the majority of Americans are less formal than Europeans, there are different levels of informality. People tend to wear specific clothes to different events. Baseball games, picnics, fine dinners, and Sunday Eucharist require their own sets of clothes. Recently I have noticed, though, that some people come to church wearing Viking purple or Packer green. I suppose I should take consolation in the absence of the fake Viking hair and hats.

The reason for wearing certain clothes for certain occasions, be they formal or informal, is that clothes not only cover the body but they also communicate a message, whether intended or not. Most important they communicate how the wearer feels about the event that takes place.

And of course, you are correct: there is indeed appropriate and inappropriate dress for worship, especially for liturgical ministers. Last week one of our servers wore tennis shoes that light up at every step. These were inappropriate for two reasons. First, tennis shoes should be worn for tennis and not for church. Second, they were distracting to the assembly. Rather than gazing at the cross the server was carrying, parishioners stared at his fancy footwear.

I know that the last thing people want me to say is that their outfit is inappropriate for church. So I won't. But just so you know, when I get up on Sunday morning and decide what to wear, I always ask myself if my attire is fitting for the celebration of the Eucharist, rather than mindlessly throwing on shorts, a Grateful Dead T-shirt, and flip-flops.

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### CENTERING PRAYER WORKSHOP AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

We would like to invite you to an introduction to Centering Prayer workshop on Saturday February 29th from 11:00 to 2:15 at St. Francis Of Assisi at the Corner of State Route 431 & Kelly Drive, Incline Village, NV, 89450.

The Centering Prayer workshop will teach a method of silent prayer that is rooted in the Christian contemplative heritage. It is a gentle, silent method of consenting to God's presence and healing action within us. By taking time to "rest in God" each day. We open our awareness to the gift of God's presence. Come and learn more about this prayer method. There will be two follow-up sessions of 2 hours each from 4:00 to 6:00 pm on Mondays thereafter (March 2nd & 16th.)

The workshop is free. Donations will be greatly appreciated. Coffee and tea will be provided. You could bring a snack to share. The book *Open Mind Open Heart* by Father Keating for \$23 will be available along with his other books for purchase. Bring Cash or check for the purchases. The program will be given by certified presenters of Contemplative Outreach: Deacon Dennis Schreiner, Patty Schreiner, and Therese Coen.

Contact person for registration: Ann Demolski 775 831 2537 or Marianne Mika 742-4713: For more

Information visit contemplative outreach spiritual network: [www.contemplativeoutreach.org](http://www.contemplativeoutreach.org) or

[www.contemplativeoutreachnnv.org](http://www.contemplativeoutreachnnv.org)

### CATHOLIC HUMOR

A Jewish couple has a son who is a holy terror. When he gets to be of age, he's kicked out of every school they put him in. Finally, desperate, the father goes to the Rabbi for advice and the Rabbi says put him in the Catholic school.

Shocked, the father asks if the Rabbi sure. "Yes" is the reply, so the father takes him to the nuns and leaves.

An hour goes by, then two hours, lunch time and finally at three the son comes in says "Good afternoon Papa, good afternoon Mama," goes to the table and starts on his homework. The father is amazed and finally ask why he stayed in school all day and why he is behaving so well. His son looks up and says "Papa when you left, the Mother Superior told me that they did not allow rowdy boys, then she took me to my room. Papa they mean business! They've got a Jew nailed on a Cross in every room!"

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**ASH WEDNESDAY | February 26**  
**Masses: 8am, 12noon, 6:00pm & 7:30pm (Spanish)**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
**FRIDAYS during Lent at 6PM**

**A Day of Reflection with guest speaker**  
**Tim Staples**  
Director of Apologetics at Catholic Answers  
Saturday April 18, 2020

**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL | February 22/23, 2020 | <https://www.scd.org/annual-catholic-appeal>**

*Be there for others through the Annual Catholic Appeal*

On the weekend of February 22, we will once again have the opportunity to walk with others as Jesus asks us to do. Together as Catholics, the Appeal is a way we can all help in a powerful way. Many of our sisters and brothers in the North State have endured catastrophic natural disasters. Others still struggle on the margins of communities. Let us remember them and that each of our gifts, no matter the amount, really do make a difference in someone's life. Please prayerfully consider what you can give this year.

**THE APPEAL IS SOLELY DEDICATED TO THE SOCIAL MISSION OF THE CHURCH. YOUR GIFT MATTERS IN 2020.**

Together we bring Christ to others | The 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal emphasizes that the finest gifts we have to offer are the mercy and joy of the Lord Jesus. Bishop Soto reminds us that whenever we share in the mission of Jesus, we do so as His friends and companions. We become messengers of mercy and heralds of hope for others

**Thank you for your heartfelt response in 2019.** | 2019 results demonstrate once again that God's people in the Diocese of Sacramento are committed to ensuring that, here in Northern California, our neighbors in need can experience His healing presence. \$3.9 million in commitments were received from 24,000 Catholics. Detailed results will be sent to parishes in the coming weeks.

**You make the difference. 261,000 were helped last year.** | Prayerfully consider a gift in 2020 with an online donation or through your parish. Your gift helps ensure that throughout the year, a helping hand and the love of Christ can be extended to thousands of our brothers and sisters in need.

### **EVERYONE BENEFITS FROM YOUR GIFT**

**The Poor and the Vulnerable** | Your generosity enables Catholic charitable organizations and parish ministries to assist people who are in desperate need. Not everyone can be on the front lines providing assistance. Through the Annual Catholic Appeal we can all provide resources that go directly to the organizations in need of support. We can all be there for others through the Appeal.

**Seminarians and Catholic Education** | The Appeal provides critical support to offset the rising cost of education for seminarians currently in formation to serve as priests in our diocese. The Appeal also provides funds for Catholic School tuition assistance in our most economically challenged communities.

**Parish Social Service Ministries** | 25% of funds contributed to the Appeal are returned to each parish for its own social service ministries. Your participation in the Annual Catholic Appeal has enabled parishes to add new ministries, expand existing programs or support local Catholic community charities.

**Each of Us** | The Annual Catholic Appeal is an opportunity for each of us to go forth and proclaim the Gospel in our lives by sharing our resources with others in need.

**ASH WEDNESDAY | February 26, 2020 | Masses: 8am, 12noon, 6:00pm & 7:30pm (Spanish)**

**We need old palms that you might have kept from previous Palm Sundays. Please put them in the basket found in the vestibule.**

### **Ashes**

The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts.

His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance. <https://www.catholic.org/lent/ashwed.php>

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION | Friday, February 28 from 4pm to 6:00pm.**

**What significance does this reservation of the Eucharistic have for the life of Catholics?**

"Eucharistic is reserved in churches or oratories to serve as the spiritual center of a religious community or parish community, indeed of the whole Church and the whole of mankind, since it contains, beneath the veil of the species, Christ the invisible Head of the Church, the Redeemer of the world, the center of all hearts, 'by whom all things are and by whom we exist'"<sup>1</sup> "He is in the midst of us day and night; He dwells in us with the fullness of grace and of truth. He raises the level of morals, fosters virtue, comforts the sorrowful, strengthens the weak and stirs up all those who draw near to Him to imitate Him, so that they may learn from his example to be meek and humble of heart, and to seek not their own interests but those of God."<sup>2</sup> Notes: 1. Pope Paul VI, *Mysterium Fidei (MF) (On The Mystery of Faith)* (September 3, 1965), no. 68, <http://www.vatican.va> (accessed September 2004). 2. *MF*, no. 67.



# 16 DE FEBRERO DE 2020 | SEXTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

PARA PROBLEMAS DE ESCUCHA: hay audífonos disponibles en la sacristía. Favor de devolverlos después de Misa.

¡Bienvenidos a todos! Nos reunimos con Jesús. Cristo es quien nos invita al banquete celestial. Qué esta liturgia les traiga paz. Si están visitando nuestra iglesia por la primera vez, ójala que se sienten como en familia, una parte de la familia mundial del Señor. Les damos la bienvenida cordialmente y celebramos y contemplamos el misterio de la Eucaristía y rezamos que su viaje a su casa será seguro y que regresen pronto.

## LECTURAS DE HOY

**Primera lectura** — Dios nos permite tomar decisiones, pero no debemos optar por la injusticia o el pecado (Sirácide 15:16-21).

**Salmo** — Dichosos los que caminan en la voluntad del Señor (Salmo 119 [118]).

**Segunda lectura** — La sabiduría de Dios es misteriosa y escondida (1 Corintios 2:6-10).

**Evangelio** — Jesús no ha venido a abolir la ley ni los profetas, sino a darles plenitud (Mateo 5:17-37 [20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37]).

## INTENCIONES PARA LAS MISAS

15 de febrero   sábado   Bienaventurada María Virgen	
5:30 pm	Anthony's family & Sophie Zimnox by Bob Anthony
16 de febrero   domingo	
8:00 am	Ron Renaldi (dec) by his family
10:00 am	Nancy Valenzuela (dec) by the Hicks family
12:00pm	St. Theresa parishioners
7:00pm	
17 de febrero   lunes   Los Siete Santos Fundadores de la Orden de los Siervos de María	
8:00 am	Christie Russell (special intention) by her parents
18 de febrero   martes	
8:00 am	Patrick & Catherine Hurley (dec) by the Hurleys
19 de febrero   miércoles	
8:00 am	Irmegard Otto (dec) by Gabby
12:00pm	All souls
20 de febrero   jueves	
8:00 am	Gerald Hurley & Kathleen Carlson (dec) by Hurleys
21 de febrero   viernes   San Pedro Damián	
8:00 am	Onoy
22 de febrero   sábado   La Cátedra de san Pedro	
5:30 pm	Justin Spencer (birthday) by his family



## DEVOCIÓN A NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PERPETUO SOCORRO

Cada miércoles a las horas de 10:30 am con la "coronilla de la Divina Misericordia". Rosario y oraciones especiales al Perpetuo Socorro.

## ¡GRACIAS POR SU GENEROSIDAD!

2/09	Colecta Regular	5088.76
	NO HAY COLECTA	

Segunda colecta— 15/16 de febrero: NO HAY COLECTA

Segunda colecta— 22/23 de febrero: Llamado Católico Anual

Segunda colecta— 29 de febrero/ 1 de marzo:  
NO HAY COLECTA

## MIÉRCOLES DE CENIZA | 26 de febrero

### Misas:

8am, 12 mediodía, 6pm y 7:30pm (en Español)

## VÍA CRUCIS

Los viernes de cuaresma el Vía Crucis a las 7pm. Pueden llegar temprano para ser parte de la cena de Sopa que se estará ofreciendo después del Vía Crucis en inglés y antes del Vía Crucis en español

## ADORACIÓN EUCARÍSTICA

**Viernes 28 de febrero de 4pm a 6:00pm**

"La Iglesia y el mundo tienen una gran necesidad del culto eucarístico Jesús nos espera en este sacramento del amor No nos negamos el tiempo para ir a encontrarlo en la adoración, en la contemplación llena de fe y abierta a reparar las faltas graves y delitos del mundo. No cese nunca nuestra adoración". (CIC 1380)

## LLAMADO CATOLICO ANNUAL | 22 & 23 DE FEBRERO

*Esté allí para otros a través del Llamado Católico Anual*  
El fin de semana del 22 de febrero, una vez más tendremos la oportunidad de caminar con otros como Jesús nos pide que hagamos. Unidos como católicos, el Llamado Católico Anual es una forma en que todos podemos ayudar de una manera poderosa. Muchos de nuestros hermanos y hermanas en el norte del estado han sufrido desastres naturales catastróficos. Otros todavía luchan al margen de las comunidades. Recordemos que cada uno de nuestros regalos, sin importar la cantidad, realmente hacen una gran diferencia en la vida de alguien. Por favor, considere en oración lo que pueda donar este año.

## PETICIONES POR ESTAS PERSONAS

### POR LOS FELIGRESES—ACTIVOS CON EL SERVICIO MILITAR

Phillip Gaston | Corbett Martin | Zachary Martin | Erik Townsend

### POR LOS QUE ESTÁN ENFERMOS

Bill Barboni | Lauren Bates | Romie Enriquez | William Foster | Jerry Kirvida | Ophelia Kirvida | Kel Lohmeier | Matthew Morisky | Simon McQuarrie | Byron Melrose | Jamie O'Malley | Tony Russo | Barbara Talbott | Gloria Walkowiak

## LISTA DE LOS ENFERMOS

Si desea conservar su ser querido en la /lista, por favor, envíe un correo electrónico con el nombre de su ser querido, junto con su nombre y número de teléfono a [tahoecatholicbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:tahoeatholicbulletin@gmail.com)

## EN BUSCA DE LA VERDAD

"Jesús, suspirando profundamente, dijo..." (Marcos 8:12)

Después de que Jesús multiplicó panes y peces dos veces, había sanado a innumerables personas con enfermedades diferentes y liberado a muchos endemoniados, los fariseos querían que Jesús les diera una señal (Mc 8:11). Obviamente, los fariseos no eran sinceros. Estaban probando a Jesús (Mc 8:11). Jesús se negó a seguir su juego. "Y dejándolos, volvió a embarcarse hacia la otra orilla" (Mc 8:13).

"Se le acercaron los sumos sacerdotes y los ancianos del pueblo para decirle: '¿Con qué autoridad haces estas cosas?' (Mt 21:23) Jesús hubiera respondido a su pregunta si le hubieran respondido a la Suya. Empero, estaban más preocupados con las relaciones públicas que con la verdad (ver Mt 21:25-26). Como resultado, Jesús se negó a responder su pregunta.

"Herodes se alegró mucho al ver a Jesús. Hacía tiempo que deseaba verlo, y esperaba que hiciera algún prodigio en su presencia. Le hizo muchas preguntas, pero Jesús no le respondió nada" (Lc 23:8-9).

Poncio Pilato sabía que Jesús era un rey (Jn 18:37), pero se negó a atestiguar la verdad. Pilato le preguntó: "¿Qué es la verdad?" (Jn 18:38) Pilato "dijo a Jesús, '¿de dónde vienes?' Pero Jesús no le respondió nada" (Jn 19:9).

Jesús es muy misericordioso con los que buscan la verdad. Jesús tiene poco que decir a los que no. Busca la verdad. Busca a Jesús.

**Oración:** Padre, que sacrifique todo en busca de la verdad.

**Promesa:** "Si obras bien, podrás mantenerla erguida; si obras mal, el pecado está agazapado a la puerta y te acecha, pero tú debes dominarlo" (Gn 4:7).

**Alabanza:** En busca de la verdad, Jorge leyó los escritos de los padres de la Iglesia y así se convirtió a la Iglesia Católica.

<https://www.presentationministries.com/obob/obob.asp?lang=es&d=2/13/2017>

## VIDA EN EL ESPÍRITU O MUERTE EN EL MUNDO

"Dios nos reveló todo esto por medio del Espíritu, porque el Espíritu lo penetra todo, hasta lo más íntimo de Dios" (1 Corintios 2:10).

Hay cierta sabiduría que no es ni de esta época ni de los gobiernos de este tiempo quienes van rumbo a la destrucción (1 Co 2:6). Sin esta sabiduría, quedaremos tan necios como para crucificar al Señor de gloria (1 Co 2:8; Heb 6:6). La única manera de recibir esta sabiduría es mediante el Espíritu Santo.

El Señor nos exige tener santidad que sobrepase a la de los escribas y fariseos (Mt 5:20). Incluso, nos manda ser santos como él es santo (1 Pe 1:16). No debemos enfadarnos con nuestros hermanos y hermanas sino reconciliarnos (Mt 5:22-24). Debemos ser sexualmente puros no solo en hechos sino en pensamientos (Mt 5:28ss). Nuestros matrimonios y conversaciones deben estar bajo el señorío de Jesús (ver Mt 5:32, 37). Nosotros aun debemos amar a nuestros enemigos como Jesús los ama (Mt 5:44). Jesús espera que nosotros siempre alcancemos el estándar más alto de la moralidad. Esto lo haremos no por nuestro poder, sino únicamente por el Espíritu que nos hace santos (ver Zac 4:6).

Necesitamos del Espíritu Santo para ser sabios, santos, puros y libres. Sin el Espíritu Santo, no podemos agradar a Dios (ver Rom 8:8-9). Por lo tanto, arrepíentete y ora por el Espíritu, el cual hemos recibido en el bautismo y la confirmación, para ser convertidos en flama (2 Tim 1:6-7). ¡Ven, Espíritu Santo!

**Oración:** Padre, me arrepiento de apagar (1 Tes 5:19) y afligir al Espíritu (Ef 4:30).

**Promesa:** "Ante los hombres están la vida y la muerte: a cada uno se le dará lo que prefiera" (Ecl 15:17).

**Alabanza:** Alabanza a Ti, Jesús, por resucitarnos a una nueva vida y por enseñarnos como vencer el pecado y la muerte. ¡Aleluya!

<https://www.presentationministries.com/obob/obob.asp?lang=es&d=2/12/2017>

## PROMOVIENDO LA VIDA Benedicto XVI: Deus Caritas Est

El Papa Benedicto XVI, en su primera encíclica, "Dios es Amor" dice las siguientes palabras: "En la comunión sacramental yo me hago uno con el Señor, al igual que los otros comunicantes. Como dice San Pablo, "Porque hay un solo pan, nosotros aunque somos mucho somos un solo cuerpo, porque todos participamos de un pan" (1 Cor 10:17). La unión con Cristo es también la unión con todos aquellos a quien él se da a sí mismo. No puedo poseer a Cristo para mí mismo; puedo pertenecer a él sólo unido a todos aquellos que son o serán de él...El amor a Dios y el amor al prójimo están ahora totalmente unidos: El Dios encarnado nos atrae a sí mismo... Aquí la usual contraposición entre culto y ética simplemente desaparece. "El Culto en sí mismo, la comunión Eucarística, incluye la realidad de amar y ser amados. Una Eucaristía que no va más allá de la práctica concreta del amor, está intrínsecamente fragmentada" (n. 14). Estas palabras nos recuerdan nuestro llamado de amar al prójimo, nacido o no nacido.

<https://www.priestsforlife.org/spanish/liturgia/liturgicalresource-cycles.aspx?id=164>

## LOS SIETE SANTOS FUNDADORES DE LA ORDEN DE LOS SIERVOS DE MARÍA

17 de febrero

La fiesta litúrgica de hoy honra a los siete santos fundadores de la Orden de los Siervos de Santa María Virgen cuyos nombres eran: Alejo, Amadeo, Hugo, Benito, Bartolomé, Gerardino y Juan; un grupo de comerciantes que renunciaron a la vida de negocios, dejaron lo necesario para sus familias, repartieron lo demás entre los pobres y se dedicaron por entero a la veneración de María Virgen, yéndose a vivir a una montaña italiana y posteriormente, asumiendo una vida ermitaña, esto es, de oración, ayuno extremo y penitencia. Tiempo después, a petición del delegado del Sumo Pontífice, todos, excepto uno, se ordenan sacerdotes. El hermano Alejo, por considerar el sacerdocio como algo muy grande para él, decide permanecer como hermano. La Congregación fue aprobada en 1304 y la fiesta litúrgica se enmarca el día de hoy, precisamente porque en este día murió el último de ellos, el hermano Alejo, de quienes los jóvenes novicios escucharon el testimonio de santidad que dio de sus compañeros así como de su vida misma.

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