

The Catholic Daughters are taking donations for toiletries for One Safe Place Christmas stockings. For a list of items that are needed or more information, please call Ruth Smith at 243-8705. All donations can be dropped off at Our Lady of Mercy Parish Office. Thank you for any help you can give during the Holiday season.

Are you interested in learning more about end of life ethic and pastoral care for the sick and dying? The Diocese of Sacramento is hosting a special end of life care workshop at St. Mel Catholic Church (Parish Center) 4748 Pennsylvania Ave, Fair Oaks on **Saturday, December 2nd**, 9:30am–12:00pm The workshop is open to all, but is recommended especially for bereavement & health ministers, and ministers to the homebound, respect life ministers, and care takers. Discussion topics include Church teaching on end of life ethics, accessing quality palliative care, hospice care, advance healthcare directives, and pastoral care at the end of life. Space is limited. RSVP today! Contact Carolina Estrada at 916-733-0253 or cestrada@scd.org.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

We perform penance to shake ourselves free of our attachments to sin and the distractions that keep us from recognizing the presence of God in our lives. Reconciliation allows us to put God in the center of our lives. Attending an Advent Penance Service helps us prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child at Christmas.

Tuesday, December 5th – 7:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Church – Red Bluff

Monday, December 11th – 7:00pm
Our Lady of Mercy Church - Redding

Wednesday, December 13th – 7:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Church – Redding

Thursday, December 14th – 7:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Church, Anderson

ON LINE GIVING

myEoffering is a service our parish has teamed up with to give you the ability to send your offerings online in the same way that many of you already pay bills and purchase products. We chose to use myEoffering because they are part of a trusted, Christian family-owned company, who have been serving the needs of churches for nearly 100 years. Their product is solid, secure, easy, and convenient.

We would like every household to consider participating in this program designed to simplify weekly giving in our congregation.

Electronic giving will enable every household or individual to make their church offering using electronic funds transfer or credit card. You may already be using online bill pay for your mortgage, car payment, or insurance premium through an automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account.

We have teamed up with myEoffering to enable you to use the same process to give your offering electronically from your bank account, credit or debit cards. There is no cost to you for this new giving option. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue uninterrupted.

You can begin participating in the new electronic giving program immediately. Just visit our church website and look for the “Donate Now” button. Thank you for considering this new giving opportunity.

New Bulletin Deadline!
Please have your articles for the bulletin to the parish office by Tuesdays at 9am.

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Pope Pius XI instituted The Feast of Christ the King in 1925 for the universal church, in his encyclical *Quas Primas*. He connected the increasing denial of Christ as king to the rise of secularism throughout much of Europe. At the time of *Quas Primas*, many Christians (including Catholics) began to doubt Christ's authority and existence, as well as the Church's power to continue Christ's authority.

Pius XI, and the rest of the Christian world, witnessed the rise of non-Christian dictatorships in Europe, and saw Catholics being taken in by these earthly leaders. These dictators often attempted to assert authority over the Church. Just as the Feast of Corpus Christi was instituted when devotion to the Eucharist was at a low point, the Feast of Christ the King was instituted during a time when respect for Christ and the Church was waning, when the feast was needed most.

Pius hoped the institution of the feast would have various effects. They were: 1) That nations would see that the Church has the right to freedom, and immunity from the state. 2) That leaders and nations would see that they are bound to give respect to Christ. 3) That the faithful would gain strength and courage from the celebration of the feast, as we are reminded that Christ must reign in our hearts, minds, wills, and bodies.

Today, the same distrust of authority exists, although the problem has gotten worse. Individualism has been embraced to such an extreme, that for many, the only authority is the individual self. The idea of Christ as ruler is rejected in such a strongly individualistic system. Some even reject the titles of “lord” and “king” for Christ because they believe that such titles are borrowed from oppressive systems of government. However true these statements might be (some kings have been oppressive), these individuals miss the point: ***Christ's kingship is one of humility and service.***

Jesus said: “You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to become great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:42-45, NAB).

And, Pilate said to Jesus, “Are you the King of the Jews?”... Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here.” So Pilate said to him, “Then you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth” (John 18:33b, 36-37).

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Collection Summary

October 28/29: \$4,488
November 4/5: \$8,198
November 11/12: \$4,969
November 18/19: \$4,399

For fiscal year 2017–2018

Budgeted for Collections: **\$280,000**
Total for 21 weeks: \$104,051 weekly Goal: \$5,385
Average Weekly Collection: **\$4,955**

Second Collection

Please be generous in this week's second collection for the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development**. In the United States, one in six people lives in poverty. With this collection you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those who are struggling across the country. In addition, 25 percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.

TOYS FROM THE HEART

Toys From the Heart, a ministry of Anderson Cottonwood Christian Assistance, will be wrapping Christmas gifts for children on the following dates from 3pm to 6pm. Please join us on Monday, **November 27th**, Wednesday, **November 29th**, Monday, **December 4th** and Wednesday, **December 6th**. Please call or text Lynn Gillis, 949-9179 or Laura Horner, 591-0667 to verify we will be wrapping gifts on those days.

WEEKLY REFLECTION

Question of the Week

For Children: What can you do to be ready for God to come into your heart and your life?

For Youth: The Gospel tells us we don't know when the Son of Man will return. If he were to arrive today, would you be ready for him? What is one thing you can do during Advent to prepare for his coming?

For Adults: As you prepare to re-welcome Christ into your heart while you prepare for Christmas, what does Isaiah call you to do? What does Isaiah call us as a people to do?

Liturgy of the Word

Today's reading from Ezekiel is the perfect setup for the Gospel. In conclusion, the Lord God promises to judge between the sheep and the goats. That is where the Gospel story picks up. By what standard does the Son of Man judge? By whether we engaged in the corporal works of mercy! The Year of Mercy ended three hundred sixty-five days ago, but we must always remember to be merciful to our sisters and brothers.

WEEK AT A GLANCE
November 25th - December 3rd

Sat.	4:30 p.m.	Mass – Sacred Heart (Souls of the Faithful Departed†)
Sun.	8:15 a.m.	Mass – St. Anne (Souls of the Faithful Departed†)
	10:00 a.m.	Mass – Sacred Heart (Souls of the Faithful Departed†)
	11:15 a.m.	Choir Practice
	12:00 p.m.	Misa en Español (Souls of the Faithful Departed†)
Mon.	NO MASS	
Tue.	8:00 a.m.	Mass (Souls of the Faithful Departed†)
	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	11:00 a.m.	Rosary at Rosie DeLaTorre's home
Wed.	8:00 a.m.	Mass (Souls of the Faithful Departed†)
	8:30 a.m.	Hospitality in the parish hall
	6:00 p.m.	Children's Faith Formation Classes Grades 1 – 8
	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Thu.	8:00 a.m.	Mass (Souls of the Faithful Departed†)
Fri.	PARISH OFFICE CLOSED	
	8:00 a.m.	Mass (Tress Holdridge†)
	10:30 a.m.	Rosary at Oak River Rehab
	6:00 p.m.	Grupo de Juevenes
Sat.	3:00 p.m.	Confessions
	4:30 p.m.	Mass – Sacred Heart
Sun.	8:15 a.m.	Mass – St. Anne (People of Sacred Heart Parish)
	10:00 a.m.	Mass – Sacred Heart (Caroline Costanzo†)
	10:00 a.m.	Formación de Fe de los niños
	11:15 a.m.	Choir Practice
	12:00 p.m.	Misa en Español

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Mon.** Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20; Luke 21:1-4
- Tue.** Daniel 2:31-45; Luke 21:5-11
- Wed.** Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14; 16-17, 23-28; Luke 21:12-19
- Thu.** Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22
(*St. Andrew – Feast*)
- Fri.** Daniel 7:2-14; Luke 21:29-33
- Sat.** Daniel 7:15-27; Luke 21:34-36
- Sun.** Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

PRAYER CONCERNS

Shirley Straub, Sr. Janel, Katie Lewis, Mike Evans, Pattie Henderson, Martha Hitchcock, Rich Valles, Carolyn Greenwood, Yvonne Mantey, Kevin Rezak, Angelo Costanzo, Dixee Graham, Mary Rowe, Joe Fitzpatrick, Delaney Valles, Ross Clark, Melody Christenson, Mary Jarvis, Mary O'Keefe, Jay Burns, Stan MacIsaac.

MONTHLY SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Join us this **next Sunday, December 3rd** for our monthly Sunday Parish Breakfast, 9am to 12:30pm, in the parish hall. Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast prepared by our Knights of Columbus. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. Our Parish Nurse, Sandy Downing, will conduct **blood pressure screenings during the breakfast**. No appointment necessary.

Bake Sale: YLI will hold a bake sale in conjunction with the Monthly Sunday Breakfast next weekend. Come on over to the hall and enjoy a delicious breakfast and buy some goodies to take home.