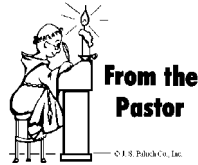


Dear Friends,



Happy Mother's Day to all our Moms. We all ask God to bless you on your special day in your special vocation. The vocation of a Mom is a life commitment. Mother's Day cards, that you can give to your Mom, are available in the back of church. Put her name, living or deceased, on the envelope and we will place her name on the altar for the next nine days, a novena of Masses for our Moms. Drop the envelope off at the office or in the collection. We honor all Moms so don't forget grandmothers, godmothers, foster mothers, step- mothers and mothers-in-law. I often hear stories from would-be moms, who all their lives, yearned to have a child but for one reason or another never could or never did. My heart goes out to them today because I believe they bring to our world what we honor today – the qualities of motherhood that make our world a better place. Maybe we have said it, and surely we have heard it, someone being described as my "second Mom". These too we honor today, so God bless each and every one of you ladies who have brought your unique love and caring to others.

One of the great things mothers do is to make us feel like we belong and coincidentally, today's readings are all about belonging. In the First Letter of John we read that those who keep his commandments will remain in Jesus Christ. In the passage from John's Gospel, Jesus himself says we must remain in him and "bear much fruit" or we will be thrown out and left to die. In contrast, the first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, depicts St. Paul's first attempts to join the church. He was still called Saul then, and his early reputation as a persecutor of Christians led the disciples to distrust him. He knew he needed to remain in Christ and belong to his church, but what could he do if they wouldn't even let him join? Just as Jesus says in the Gospel, it was by his fruits that Paul came to be known as a true disciple.

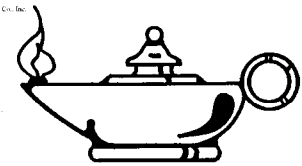
Fr. McNamara

**Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2009**

Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

— 1 John 3:18

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COMMITTED TO TRUTH

The Magnificat Intercessory Prayer Group will meet in the Veranda Room at 10:00 am on Thursday, May 14th.

Society of St. Vincent De Paul

We have designated **Sunday, May 31st**, as Bundle Sunday on behalf of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

The St. Vincent de Paul truck will be located by the School Pavilion from **8:00 am - 1:30 pm**.

We are asking you to please bring any **useable** clothing, shoes, linens, house wares or anything you can carry which is reusable. **The Society is in desperate need of furniture and large appliance. Call for pick up of heavy items at 323-224-6280 or 800-974-3571.**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul has been serving the needy in our Archdiocese through their center for homelessness, the summer camp for children and the SVdP Thrift Store with its free distribution program and low discount prices, for many years.

Please show your support by your generosity on **Sunday, May 31st**. Your contributions are tax deductible. We thank you for "Helping Us Help Others."

Retirement Fund for Archdiocesan Priests

Next weekend, **May 16 & 17th**, all parishioners will be asked to give generously to support the Retirement Fund for Archdiocesan Priests via a special collection. Please prayerfully determine the amount that you will give next week in support of our priests in true gratitude for their dedication and service for so many years to the People of God in our Archdiocese.



IMPORTANT DATES

- May 16/17** Food gathering for Guadalupe Center and Loaves and Fishes Pantry
- June 6/7** Sandwich Sunday. Bagged meals (sandwich, chips, dessert, fruit), water, socks and blankets will be collected at all the Masses for distribution to those in need in the San Fernando Valley.



Youth Ministry events are open to 9-12 graders

- Tuesday, May 12th:** Girls Only Night, 7-8:30 pm, meet at the Parish Office Wednesday
- Wednesday, May 13th:** Gospel Night, 7-8:30 pm, Parish Hall
- Sunday, May 17th:** The AfterMass 6:45-9 pm, Parish Hall (Pizza Dinner for \$5)

Confirmation Preparation Process

Sunday, May 17th: Year One

Catechetical Session,

3:15-5:15 pm, Parish Center

Year One Confirmation Candidates must also attend at least one Youth Ministry event per month in addition to their required Catechetical Sessions!



Tickets on sale after all masses today for the

St. Bernardine's May 16th Spring Grand Raffle ... "LOVE"

Win \$2,500, a Wine refrigerator or \$100 cash;

\$5 for one ticket, \$20 for a book of five; or \$50 for 4 books of five

Thank you in advance for supporting our school

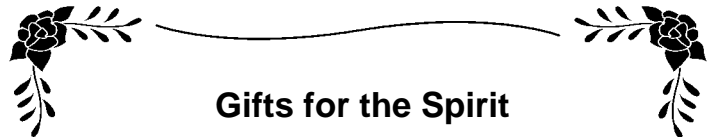


FOCUS ON DONATIONS

Here is a **WIN WIN** situation. Do you have some good quality, good condition (maybe a little dusty?) religious books taking up space? Why not consider donating them to the Parish Library? We get the books and you get a receipt for your tax donation plus the knowledge that others will benefit from your gift. Also, if you want to give a book to the Library in honor or in memory of someone, we will provide a bookplate to commemorate the occasion.

We need volunteers to staff the Library for an hour or so after Sunday Masses. Training is provided. **This is a great way to spend a little time in your library. Contact Maria, 818 884 2736 for times and hours available.**

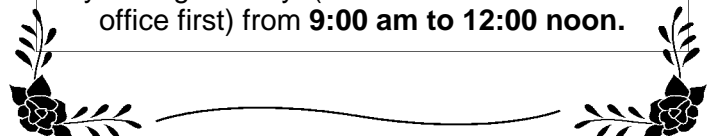
The Parish Library is open Monday—Friday, 9:00-11:30 am and most Sundays, after the 7:00 am, 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon Masses, as well as 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.



Gifts for the Spirit

Confirmation and Mothers' Day cards and gifts are available at your Parish gift shop. "Chicken Soup for the Soul" and "Living Catholic Faith" books still available. Great gift idea for R.C.I.A., Confirmation, Graduation or just to give a friend. Come and see. We also repair broken rosaries **"free of charge"**

Gifts For the Spirit is located upstairs in the Parish across from the Hall. The shop is open Sundays from **9:15 am until 1:30 pm** and Monday through Friday (check in the Parish Center office first) from **9:00 am to 12:00 noon.**



Would You Like to Become an Altar Server?

There will be **3 mandatory** Altar Server trainings on :

May 17th, 1:15 - 2:15 pm in the Library

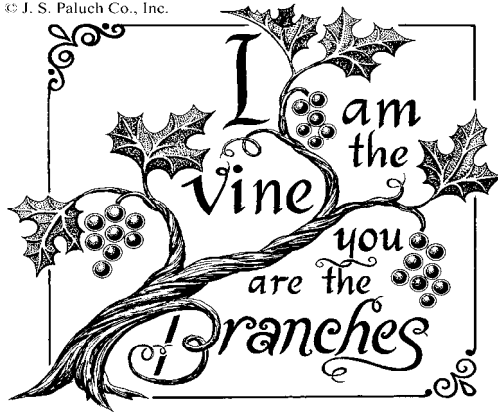
May 24th, 1:15 - 3:15 pm in the Church

May 31st, 1:15 - 3:15 pm in the Church

Anyone interested in becoming an Altar Server must be at least in the 4th grade and willing to attend all three meetings.

Please contact **Maria Giammatteo** in the Library at **818-8842-2736** for more information.

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In your charity please pray for the sick of the parish:

Sharon Roque, sister of Shirley Busta; Anna Mae Orlando; Aurelio Salazar, husband of Rose; Linda McClean;

Donald White; Kevin Cordasco; Trish Greens; John Bellere; Eileen Pratt; Dorothy Rice; James Doran; Mildred Jansen; Joyce Angelini; Mark Kaszynski; Dcn. Steven Ellms; Rita Pound; Vita Colella; Karen Stanton; Amelia Hunt; Josephine Ramsey; Marjorie Kluck; Kevin Tarwater; Marcella Johnson;



Please pray for the happy repose of the souls:
Patrick Fjelstad

Mass Intentions For The Week



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May 10 through May 16, 2009
SUNDAY

7:00 am Pro Populo

8:30 am Novena

10:00 am Joe Ettaro+

12:00 noon Maria Beltran+

5:30 pm Maria Fernanda &

Jorge Ortega Marcabo

MONDAY

6:30 am Novena

8:30 am Atilano Pinpin+

TUESDAY

6:30 am Kitty Gennaro+

8:30 am Novena

WEDNESDAY

6:30 am Novena

8:30 am Patricia Costigan+

THURSDAY

6:30 am Edith & Wendell Elliott+

8:30 am Novena

FRIDAY

6:30 am Novena

8:30 am Eric Reiner+

SATURDAY

8:30 am Novena

5:00 pm Joe Gilormo+

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every **Tuesday**, in the Chapel, beginning at **7:00 am** and ending with **Benediction** at noon.

Continuing Bible Study:

The Gospel of Mark

(through June 9)

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Parish Library

All are welcome!

Please bring your bible!

ALTAR CARE - May 15, 2009

Michele Croson, Norma Crowe,
Bernice Galbreath, Helen Robinson and
Judy Sabo

ST. BERNARDINE'S PARISH LEADERS

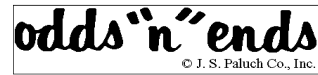
Parish Council	Cathy Borowski	348-5650
Altar Care	Lucy Kerecman	998-6701
Altar Servers	Maria Giammatteo	884-2736
Baptism Classes	Deacon Jerry Cellner	888-8200
Bible Study (Thurs Grp)	Shirley Grochalski	347-6228
Cross Bearers	Dave Goracke	347-0192
Detention Ministry	Rudy Vlasak	347-7144
Environment	Maria Giammatteo	884-2736
Eucharistic Ministers	Robert Nicholas	346-8244
(To Sick/Homebound)	Deacon Dale Taufer	888-8200
Festival Chairpersons	Michelle Sjolander	999-6169
	Todd Borowski	348-5650
Finance Committee	Kristin Pudwill	712-9991
Funeral Buffet	Shirley Grochalski	347-6228
Gift Shop	Jean Sampson	888-7073
Justice & Peace Ministry	Michael Miller	340-4193
Lectors	Jack Maranto	887-6310
Library	Maria Giammatteo	884-2736
Magnificat	Pat Dunlap	346-5460
Marriage Encounter	Ed/Anna Marie Pudwill	348-1632
Mommy & Me	Kari Lovequist	710-1484
Music Ministry	Marilyn Enos	710-9788
Nursery Care Program	MichelleReams/8:30 Mass	207-5441
	Carole Williamson/10:00	999-3764
OASIS	Monica Goudis	348-5100
Parent/Teacher Assoc.	June Hunter	713-8120
Pre-School	Charlene Barks	716-4730
RCIA	Steve & Sharron Ellms	340-2087
Religious Education	Eileen Fewless	340-1440
Retreats (Men's)	Jim Birkhead	348-4616
Safeguard the Children	Ray Barks	888-0833
Silverado Music Ministry	Jo & Rudy Vlasak	347-7144
School	Peggy Hill	340-2130
Scouting (Boy Scouts)	Gary Bishop	998-7917
(Cub Scouts)	Richard Robinson	703-7572
(Girl Scouts)	Kim Palkovic	992-0737
Senior Luncheon	Karen Brown	591-1520
Social Activities	Janet Barnett	348-6262
	Susan Bougetz-Aulbach	999-3138
Sunday Pre-School	Wendy Sciuto	592-0049
Ushers	Donna Forrester	712-9922
Welcoming Committee	Darma Trafecanty	884-1686
Women on the Journey	Jean Sampson	346-8116
Youth Ministry	Andrew Gafvert	710-1662

Give the Gift of Sight

During the entire month of May, the Peace and Justice committee will be collecting used eyeglasses for the needy. Please place any of your old glasses in collection box located at the back of the Church. Thank you for your continued support!



Crisis Pregnancy Hotline
(800)973-7334
Abortion Recovery Help
(877)467-3463 &
www.rachelsvineyard.org
Holy Family Adoption Services
(805)374-2785



For Catholic single women, ages 18-40, who are discerning a vocation to religious life.
Are you sensing a call to serve and to seek a deeper relationship with God as a Religious?
"Come and See" day on **Sunday, May 17th, 11:30 am-7:30 pm** at Sacred Heart Convent, Altadena. **RSVP-May 11th. Sr. Lovina 815-464-3873 or fsshvocations@aol.com**

The West San Fernando Valley District of the Los Angeles Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women will have its District meeting on **Monday, May 18th**, at:

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish,
18045 Superior St., Northridge.
Registration will begin at **9:00 am**. The speaker will be Sister Benedicta Marie. **11:30 am** mass, followed by a catered luncheon.
\$10.00 Pre-Paid. Please make checks payable to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish (Mark **ACCW Luncheon** on check). Deadline for reservations is **Thursday, May 14th**. For more information call **Helen Fitzpatrick 818-346-2837**

Crespi Carmelite High School is now accepting registration for summer school. First semester (A) is from **Monday, June 29th-Wednesday, July 15th**. Second semester (B) is from **Thursday, July 16th-Friday, July 31st**. For more info, please visit the Crespi Carmelite website at www.crespi.org or call **818-345-1672**



Working Together to Prevent Child Abuse

A hallmark of the Catholic Church is the protection of life and the dignity of all human persons no matter how young or old. Working to prevent child abuse is an important response of what we are called to do as Church. For more information on how you can become more informed and involved in keeping our children safe, please call the parish office or visit <http://www.archdiocese.la/protecting/index.php>. For particular help, you may call **Assistance Ministry at 213-637-7650**



Invisible Mother.....

It all began to make sense, the blank stares, the lack of response, the way one of the kids will walk into the room while I'm on the phone and ask to be taken to the store. Inside I'm thinking, 'Can't you see I'm on the phone?'

Obviously not; no one can see if I'm on the phone, or cooking, or sweeping the floor, or even standing on my head in the corner, because no one can see me at all. I'm invisible. The invisible Mom. Some days I am only a pair of hands, nothing more! Can you fix this? Can you tie this? Can you open this??

Some days I'm not a pair of hands; I'm not even a human being. I'm a clock to ask, 'What time is it?' I'm a satellite guide to answer, 'What number is on the Disney Channel?' I'm a car to order, 'Right around 5:30, please.'

I was certain that these were the hands that once held books and the eyes that studied history and the mind that graduated summa cum laude -but now, they had disappeared into the peanut butter, never to be seen again. She's going, she's going, she's gone!?

One night, a group of us were having dinner, celebrating the return of a friend from England. Janice had just gotten back from a fabulous trip, and she was going on and on about the hotel she stayed in. I was sitting there, looking around at the others all put together so well. It was hard not to compare and feel sorry for myself. I was feeling pretty pathetic, when Janice turned to me with a beautifully wrapped package, and said, 'I brought you this.' It was a book on the great cathedrals of Europe. I wasn't exactly sure why she'd given it to me until I read her inscription: 'To Charlotte, with admiration for the greatness of what you are building when no one sees.'

In the days ahead I would read -no, devour - the book. And I would discover what would become for me, four life-changing truths, after which I could pattern my work: No one can say who built the great cathedrals - we have no record of their names. These builders gave their whole lives for a work they would never see finished. They made great sacrifices and expected no credit. The passion of their building was fueled by their faith that the eyes of God saw everything.

A legendary story in the book told of a rich man who came to visit the cathedral while it was being built, and he saw a workman carving a tiny bird on the inside of a beam. He was puzzled and asked the man, 'Why are you spending so much time carving that bird into a beam that will be covered by the roof, No one will ever see it. And the workman replied, 'Because God sees.'

I closed the book, feeling the missing piece fall into place. It was almost as if I heard God whispering to me, 'I see you, Charlotte. I see the sacrifices you make every day, even when no one around you does. No act of kindness you've done, no sequin you've sewn on, no cupcake you've baked, is too small for me to notice and smile over. You are building a great cathedral, but you can't see right now what it will become. At times, my invisibility feels like an affliction. But it is not a disease that is erasing my life. It is the cure for the disease of my own self-centeredness. It is the antidote to my strong, stubborn pride.

I keep the right perspective when I see myself as a great builder. As one of the people who show up at a job that they will never see finished, to work on something that their name will never be on. The writer of the book went so far as to say that no cathedrals could ever be built in our lifetime because there are so few people willing to sacrifice to that degree.

When I really think about it, I don't want my son to tell the friend he's bringing home from college for Thanksgiving, 'My Mom gets up at 4 in the morning and bakes homemade pies, and then she hand bastes a turkey for 3 hours and presses all the linens for the table.' That would mean I'd built a shrine or a monument to myself. I just want him to want to come home. And then, if there is anything more to say to his friend, to add, 'You're going to love it there.'

As mothers, we are building great cathedrals. We cannot be seen if we're doing it right. And one day, it is very possible that the world will marvel, not only at what we have built, but at the beauty that has been added to the world by the sacrifices of invisible women.

