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**PRAYER LINE**  
  
 Know someone who needs a prayer, or maybe you need a prayer? Call the **St. Canice Prayer Lines** - Margie Wagner at 273-4397 or Patti Favetti at 432-0665. We're praying for you!

**St. Canice Catholic Church**  
**October 1st, 2023**  
**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**Alleluia, alleluia.**  
 My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord;  
 I know them, and they follow me.  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**ST. PATRICK AND ST. CANICE PARISH PICNIC**  
  
**Annual CHURCH PICNIC**  
 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14  
 Western Gateway Park Penn Valley  
 Bring your blankets, chairs, change of clothes for kids (who may want to play in the creek), and your favorite outdoor games and activities.  
 Lunch from 12:30-1:30  
 Activities from 1:30-3:30  
 Mass at 4:00  
 Dessert following Mass  
 Lunch, drinks, and dessert will be provided.  
 PLEASE NOTE:  
 THERE WILL NOT BE SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES OR CONFESION AT EITHER CHURCH ON SATURDAY EVENING.

**Baptizing Your Child this Fall?**  
  
 Parent & Godparent classes need to be scheduled  
 Welcoming Class Friday Evening October 13th In St. Patrick's Hall at 6:00.  
 Baptismal Catechesis Class Saturday Morning October 14th at 10:00.  
 Register at St. Patrick Parish Office  
 For more information contact Deacon. Rick at [faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org](mailto:faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org)

**Family Faith Formation**  
 Family Faith Formation at St. Patrick's Church is open to St. Canice Church families with children from Pre-K through High School.  
 For more information contact Deacon Rick at 530-273-2336 x3201  
[faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org](mailto:faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org)  


**317 Washington Street, Nevada City 95959**  
**Center: 236 Reward Street, Nevada City 95959**  
**(530) 265-2049**  
[www.stcanice.com](http://www.stcanice.com)  
**secretary@stcanice.org**

**Staff:**  
 Fr. Alexander Estrella Pastor  
 Fr. Jossy Vattothu Parochial Vicar  
 Ruth Collins Smith Bookkeeper  
 Maria Beltran Secretary  
 Cynthia Weir Music  
 Jeff Hebert Cemetery  
 Frank Lang Sr Immaculate Conception  
 Fr. James McKnight, Pastor Emeritus

**Mass Schedule**  
 Weekday (M-F) 7:30 AM  
 Saturday Vigil 5:30 PM  
 Sunday 9:00 AM  
 Immaculate Conception Church 11:30 AM

**Mass Live-Stream**  
 Sunday 11:00 AM from St. Patrick Church

**Confession**  
 Friday 8:00 AM  
 Saturday 4:00 PM (or by appt)

**Eucharistic Adoration**  
 Fri 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

**Rosary**  
 Wednesday 8:00 AM

LITURGICAL MINISTERS				
Oct 7-8, 2023	Ushers	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat @ 5:30 pm	Mike Blake Mike Cartan	Aidynn Salter	Meghan Salter	Kevin Foley, Christine Strohm, Meghan Salter
Sun @ 9:00 am	Scott McIntosh Ray James		Michelle McIntosh	Tom & Sharon Seck, and Judy Steffens

✠ ALTAR LINENS ✠	
Thank you Ladies Guild!	
Oct 1st & Oct 8th	Lil Glaeser
Oct 15 & Oct 22	Sharon Seck

Our Mission, as the Parish of Saint Canice Catholic Church, is to proclaim the teaching and wisdom of Jesus Christ throughout our entire Community, by our life and participation in the Sacraments and Traditions of His Holy Catholic Church.

Dear Family,

While I was away, I had the great opportunity to visit the Abbey of Montecassino where St. Benedictine lived, died and was buried. We visited on a Sunday, since I don't speak Italian I couldn't concelebrate but I had the chance to attend Mass there and receive Holy Communion. Normally a priest always self-communicates because he either celebrates or concelebrates when he is at Mass, this time I simply attended Mass and so I received Holy Communion as a congregant. After Mass ended I had the chance to briefly visit the tombs of St. Benedict and his twin sister, St. Scholastica.

It was a beautiful experience to be there at Montecassino both because of the spiritual side but also because of the historical side, Montecassino was a point of fierce battle during World War II. What really stood out was my reception of Holy Communion. When celebrating Mass, the Communion of the priest completes the sacrifice, and he begins immediately to distribute Holy Communion. Normally after Mass I will make my thanksgiving and savor that great encounter with the Lord. Because I wasn't distributing Holy Communion I had that time right after receiving our Lord.

I had forgotten what it was like to approach the Sacrament in this way and at the same time grateful that I would celebrate Mass for our group later that afternoon. It was a beautiful reminder of the great gift Holy Communion is and the disposition we should have when we receive our Lord in the great Sacrament of Love. When we take Holy Communion to one who is dying we call it "Viticum" from the Latin for the words, "with you on the way." This Communion is given so that the dying may have strength on the way home to eternity.

The beautiful tradition of pilgrimage is to remind us that we are traveling, we are on a journey and Holy Communion is our food, our strength for the journey that we travel. The strength that comes from Holy Communion can only be put into use if we receive Holy Communion worthily: in a state of grace and properly disposed. Confession will restore us to a state of grace if we have committed any mortal sins e.g. willfully or purposefully missing Mass on Sunday or a holy day of obligation, fits of rage, crude language etc. The proper disposition is to have prepared our hearts, approach with devotion and with intention. This worthy reception of Holy Communion is a gift we give ourselves and our Lord.

On a separate note, I will be away Monday-Thursday this week. Normally this time of year we have our fall retreat but every four years we have a different gathering called a "convocation." This is a gathering of all the priests and the Bishop to strengthen our fraternal bond and shared ministry. Please keep us in your prayers that our time together be fruitful for our whole local church.

Your Father in Christ,

Father Estrella

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

### Our Return to God

Last week Reg collection \$2,315

### Upcoming Collections

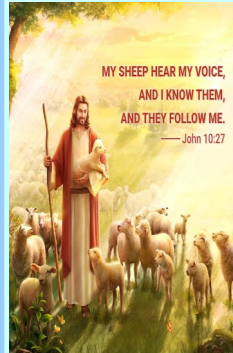
Oct 1 No 2nd Collection

Oct 8 No 2nd Collection

Oct 15 School of Religion



## Reflecting on the Gospel



How open are we to changing our minds? We are often told to stay in our camps in today's deeply divided political and social climate. Shouting matches replace civil debate in many pockets of the community. To some, changing one's mind is a sign of weakness or disloyalty. Jesus takes a different stance in today's gospel.

Changing one's mind is a point of growth for the first son. After an initial decline, he does as his father says and goes to work in the vineyard. The first son ultimately makes a good decision, even if he started off on a rocky foot. The second son, meanwhile, appears to be in alignment with his father's wishes. He gives a suitable answer, presumably because he knew what should be done. But in the end, his actions do not live up to his words. Talk is cheap when it is not followed up by actions. Today's gospel invites us to consider who is worthy to enter the kingdom of God and to beware that the answer might not be apparent at first glance.

Jesus celebrates when we change our minds. The one who God greatly exalted, who emptied himself and took the form of a slave out of love for us, longs for us to draw closer to him. Are there areas of your life that could use a change or a different answer? What will it take for such a conversion to happen? Let us ask the Lord for help and healing.

## Mass Intentions



Mon.	10/02/23	7:30 am	No Mass
Tues.	10/03/23	7:30 am	No Mass
Wed.	10/04/23	7:30 am	No Mass
Thurs.	10/05/23	7:30 am	No Mass
Fri.	10/06/23	7:30 am	No Mass
Sat.	10/07/23	5:30 pm	Ann and Sean Garrone (SI)
Sun.	10/08/23	9:00 am	Bill Roach (D)

## Readings for the Upcoming Week

Mon,	10/2	Zec 8:1-8(455)	Mt 18:1-5, 10
Tues,	10/3	Zec 8:20-23	Lk 9:51-56
Wed,	10/4	Neh 2:1-8	Lk 9:57-62
Thurs,	10/5	Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12	Lk 10:1-12
Fri,	10/6	Bar 1:15-22	Lk 10:13-16
Sat,	10/7	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29	Lk 10:17-24
Sun,	10/8	Is 5:1-7	Mt 21:33-43
		Phil 4:6-9	

## CULTURE OF LIFE

### On Defending Life



Never tire of firmly speaking out in defense of life from its conception and do not be deterred from the commitment to defend the dignity of every human person with courageous determination. Christ is with you: be not afraid! Saint Pope John Paul II



Join us TODAY, SUNDAY OCT 1ST, for the Life Chain held at McKnight Way and Freeman Lane from Target and Raley's at 2:15pm. We will

peacefully witness and pray for the end to abortion. 40 Days for Life Fall Prayer Vigil will begin on Sept 27 and go through Nov. 5. It is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses. There are two campaigns in our area, one in Yuba City and one in Sacramento. Have you ever wondered if you could do more to offer help and hope to women considering abortion? Maybe you could give one hour of prayer and silent witness to women who are walking into an abortion facility often scared, unsure, and sometimes pressured to be there. Often it just takes reading a sign that offers an alternative to encourage that mother to seek help and change her mind. To find out more go to 40daysforlife.com or the Sacramento Diocese scd.org. As Saint Pope John Paul II said, "Christ is with you: be not afraid."

Please consider being part of the Culture of Life Ministry. Our next meeting is Monday Oct 2 @ 6pm.

## MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAN POSITION

We are looking to recruit a custodian for St. Canice Church. The role is 5-10 hours a week.

For more details and a job description, please email Father Estrella [restrella@stpatrickgrassvalley.org](mailto:restrella@stpatrickgrassvalley.org)

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

As we continue our review of the Stewardship way of life, many have asked, "who is CSC and what do they do?" Good question. Three years ago, the Stewardship council and Fr Estrella decided to engage Catholic stewardship consultants (CSC) to assist our parish's growth in Stewardship. CSC is an organization based in Augusta, Georgia, owned by Eric and Lisa McArdle. For the past 25 years, CSC has been committed to the development of disciples of Jesus Christ through the practice of the Stewardship way of life. The organization is a Christ-centered consulting firm that provides services customized to the needs of individual Catholic parishes. They believe that the ultimate mission of the church is to bring people closer in their relationship with God, through Jesus Christ. When this happens, parishes and dioceses are transformed in mission, unity, and joy.

CSC's organizational foundation was founded in response to the 1992 Pastoral Letter (PL), written by the bishops of the United States entitled - Stewardship: A Disciple's Response. Along with the Holy Bible, the Pastoral Letter offers sound theological teachings and wisdom to guide Eric and Lisa and their services to parishes.

By working behind the scenes, CSC provides pastors and parish staff more time and freedom to serve the needs of the parish. The work of CSC and the Stewardship council is largely focused on bi-monthly newsletters; an Annual Stewardship Renewal; retreats; parish surveys; and Leadership Gatherings. CSC works very closely with our parish Stewardship Council and Fr Estrella in achieving our church's mission.

Parishes who decide to engage the services of CSC hope to see:

- Increase in communication, education, and evangelization.
- Increase in Mass attendance and reception of the Sacraments.
- Greater participation in hospitality, prayer and the sharing of gifts.
- Greater sense of parishioner ownership, and a sense of family or belonging.
- Greater commitment from parish and diocesan leadership.

Stewardship as a way of life flourishes because God's hand guides it. However, the emphasis must be on spirituality, on growing disciples, on bringing people closer to God, and on changing hearts – not on increasing numbers.

"Stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares his gifts and love of God and Neighbor."

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## BABY BOTTLE DROP OFF



IF POSSIBLE, ALL BABY BOTTLES SHOULD BE RETURNED AT THE SEPT 30 OR OCT 1 WEEKEND MASSES.

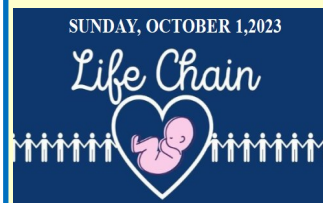
Bottles can be filled with spare change, a check or currency. Please do NOT leave bottles unattended in the church, they can disappear.

Bottles can be put in the basket in the church. If you missed the weekend of September 30/October 1st, you'll have three options:

1. You can call or text Marilyn Peters at 530 913-6583 and arrange to have her pick up your bottle.
2. Bring your bottle to St. Patrick/St. Canice Office.
3. You can drop your bottle directly at LivingWell Medical clinic- 105 Catherine Lane, Grass Valley. They are open Monday thru Thursday from 9-5.

Thank you for your support!

## NATIONAL LIFE CHAIN OCTOBER 2023



On one Sunday in October, churches nationwide gather to take a public stand and pray to end abortion. Participants hold a sign with a life-affirming message while they stand quietly and pray. Bring chairs for the elderly, hats, sunscreen, your rosary, and water.

When: Sunday, October 1, 2023 2:15-3:45pm. Signs will be available at tables.

Where: On the sidewalk along the road in front of the old K-Mart parking lot and extending to Raley's – every 10-20 feet apart.

We will stand in silent prayer from 2:30-3:30pm. Your prayers and your presence will speak loudly-more than words possibly can.

## CORNERSTONE RETREAT FOR MEN

NOVEMBER 10th AND 11th



Join us for 26 hours that can change and deepen your relationship with Our Lord. This retreat gives each of us the opportunity to see God's loving hand in our lives, and how, as Catholic men, we touch the lives of the people we love. Set aside the burdens of your life and through the stories, prayer and fellowship rest in Our Lord's arms and learn from Him. It will be the best gift you can give not only yourself, but also to your family



Not sure about your role as a Lay Catholic?

Learn about your vital mission in the Church with the Lay Mission Project. Visit [laymission.net](http://laymission.net)



← OR SCAN HERE