

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Roman Catholic Church



2 | 15 | 26

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

LET YOUR "YES"
MEAN "YES"

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays at 8:00am

Saturday

8:00am, 5:00pm Vigil

Sunday

8:00am, 10:00am,
11:30am

1:00pm Misa En Español

Holy Days

8:00am, 12:00pm and
6:00pm

7:00pm Misa En Español

Confession

Saturday 3:30-4:30pm
Or by appointment

Our Mission

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, rooted in the Eucharistic Lord, is a community where we come together as one family to engage and actively live out the Word of God.



Follow us at [goodcounselnj](https://www.goodcounselnj.org)

973-839-2447

GOODCOUNSEL.ORG

155 WEST PARKWAY

POMPTON PLAINS, NJ 07444

PARISH INFORMATION

2 | FEBRUARY 15, 2026

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Darwin Lastra

frdarwin@goodcounsel.org

Pastor Emeritus

Msgr. Patrick J. Scott

Deacon

Marc Mackin

deaconmarc@goodcounsel.org

Parish Secretary

Jennifer Herd

churchoffice@goodcounsel.org

Parish Sacristan

Nadine Petryna

sacristan@goodcounsel.org

Ministry Assistant/Bookkeeper

Patti Perugino

ministryassistant@goodcounsel.org

bookkeeper@goodcounsel.org

Spanish Mass Secretary

Carolina Guevara

spanishmass@goodcounsel.org

Music Director

John Zisa

musicministry@goodcounsel.org

Coordinator GIFT Ministry and Youth Protection

Laura Shamber-Coordinator

973-839-5247

youthministry@goodcounsel.org

Family Faith Coordinator

Lisa Denninger

973-839-5247

familyfaith@goodcounsel.org

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Please contact the office at

973-839-2447 or

churchoffice@goodcounsel.org

Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance.

Baptism: Usually celebrated on the first and third weekends each month. Saturday at 12 Noon or Sundays at the 10AM or 11:30AM Masses. Requests for other dates and/or times will be honored as possible. Arrangements should be made at least three months in advance.

Anointing of the Sick: Those of advanced age and those seriously ill should be prepared to receive this Sacrament. Please contact the parish office to make arrangements.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 14th

5:00PM Ignacia Trueno + Greg Renza + John Marciniak + Robert Berger +
Albino Castillo + Jack Moran +
Special Intentions for Glenn and Mary Clare Diehl and Family

Sunday, February 15th

8:00AM Richard Heins +
10:00AM Joann Vitulli +
11:30AM Vince Gallipoli +

Monday, February 16th

8:00AM Patricia Cahill +

Tuesday, February 17th

8:00AM Marie Blake + Sister Adria Turrill +

Wednesday, February 18th

8:00PM People of our Parish

Thursday, February 19th

8:00AM M. John Scanlan +

Friday, February 20th

8:00AM People of the Parish

Saturday, February 21st

8:00AM Joseph J. McHugh + The Beers Family +

Special Daily Intentions for Cindy Nosti, Carol Barry, Carley Marookian, Cindy Parr, Vincent Anello, Don Melnick, Gavin Brady, Edward Vannelli, Margie Boharnchyk, Michael Casapulla, Mary Treuer Deloho, Cadence Dabice, Sheryl O'Brien, Pat Smithling, Ed Barbarito, Marcia Doyle, Margaret Ingenito, and Donald Marciano

PRAYER REQUESTS *For the Sick*

Sheridan Anne
Susanna Amato
Vincent Anello, JR.

Luca Ataide
Emma Avis
Sofia Ayers
Edward Barbarito
Carol Barry
Bill Baxter
Bill Beardsley
Sandra Bellomo
Marilyn Beneventine
Ben Beneventine
Tony Bertuna
Giacomo Biancamano
Anastasia Borovskis
The Bower Family
Gavin Brady
Thomas Burns
Melissa Finn Cabreja
Connie Callaghan
Evelina Capelli
Mark Cardigno
Michael Casapulla
Lou Ceretta
Patricia Cheff
Yolanda Chevitz
Albert Cialone
Richard Cronin, Jr.
Tom Crowe
Cadence Dabice
Frank Dalton
Royce Dauwen
Debbie Deignan
Steve Deignan
Mary Treuer Delojo
Everest Delima

Joseph DeLuca
Valie DeMaria
Joyce De Muro
Mary DeWitt
Kira Dille
Traci Dyer
Frank Elefante
Joyce Englehardt
Shannon Flannery
Anthony Florio
Debby Flower
Nancy Faro
Candelario Garcia
Samantha Goetz
Angie Gorman
Catherine Gosnel
MaryAnn Greff
Michelina Guliano
Mr & Mrs. B Guliano
Kathleen Hart
Mikayla Hatfield
Ryder Heckman
James Horvath
Joseph Michael Iwan
Jen Jacobs
Ted Jantas
Ethel Jachera
Daria Jebbia
Barbara Karg
Maureen Karsen
Richard Kennedy
Zeke Kilbride
Nancy Klein
Jennifer Kraft
Steve Janowicz
Mary Larkin
Carol Lembo

Sienna Leone
Christine Luciano
Marc Lymych
Don Malone
Donald Marciano
Carley Marookian
Barbara Marszelewska
Rita Matits
Regina McAloney
Ken McCaffrey
Nancy Meenen
Don Melnick
Deanna Melone
Thomas Meola
Thomas Meola, Sr.
Linda Travisano Miller
Tiffany Minieri
Lilly Misciagna
Donald Moore
Geraldine Moore
Jane Moore
Barbara Moran
Jesse Morella
Maureen Morella
Anthony Mortla
Camille Motta
Bill Neurouter
Megan O'Neill
James O'Neill
Daria Pacosa
Karen Palestini
Cindy Parr
Max Peters
Lisa Pieffer
Rama Rai
Robert Rienzi
Glen Riva

Philip Ribauda
Susan Ripley
Geri Robinson
Mark & Debra Romberger
Bill Rowan
Perry Russo
Jeanne Sabido
Tricia Sampson
Emily Sancyk
Bernice Sauers
Rosemarie Saviello
Scott Scarfile
Elizabeth Scriffignano
Ken Scholts
Suzy Sellingman
Katie Sido
Kara Skafalstad
Genevieve Smith
Pat Smithling
Angela Sparduto
Antonio Stella
Philip Teresi
Ronald & Lee Tomko
Donna Torok
Jeff Van Grover
Edward Vannelli
Marilyn Vasta
Chary Villa
Mark Waldele
Charlie Waller
Christine Wells
Marion White
Jessica Whitehorne
Walter Witke
Alice Woodson



PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

SSGT Christopher J Bachorik
PFC Christian Baxter
MAJ Daniel J. Ciccarelli
SGT Andrew Tucker
1st Lieutenant Kevin P. Keaveney
Warrant Officer Megan Cobb

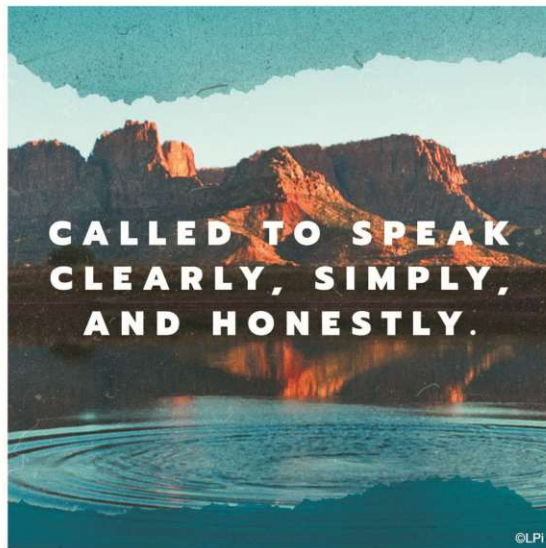
LT Col Makoto Jacobs
Pvt James Koller
Officer Anthony Saveriano
FC Petty Officer Jake Rothman
PO Russell Bonadonna

HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?

When requested, names will be included on the "Pray for the Sick" list for 4 weeks.

If you would like the name added again or, if someone's name can be removed sooner, please contact us. **Also, let us know if you have a loved one serving in the armed forces.**

Call **973-839-2447** or email **churchoffice@goodcounsel.org**.



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A few years into my priesthood, I hit a wall. I had taken on too many commitments: Masses, meetings, ministries, projects. I couldn't keep up. I was double-booking, forgetting things, running late, and letting people down. My boss at the time, a wise priest, and our shared secretary, noticed. For my birthday, the two gave me a stack of 100 flashcards, each with one word printed in a different language: "NO." It was funny, but also painfully true. If I couldn't say no, my yes was in danger.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says, **"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the Evil One"** (Matthew 5:37). He's not just giving advice about polite speech. He's showing us something about the freedom of Christian discipleship. The follower of Christ is called to speak clearly, simply, and honestly. There is joy in that kind of freedom.

The Church Fathers often linked this kind of straightforward truthfulness with spiritual maturity. The devil is the father of lies, but Jesus is the Word made flesh. When we hedge, flatter, exaggerate, or avoid, we open space for the shadows to creep in. That little stack of flashcards reminded me that God does not want us enslaved to the expectations of others or to the fear of disappointing them. He wants us to enjoy the peace of saying yes and meaning it, and saying no, and meaning it, too.

Lenten Challenge: Practice one moment of honest, peaceful speech this week. Maybe it's a sincere "yes" to something important, or a humble "no" to something you cannot do. Let it be a quiet step into the freedom Jesus offers.

— Father John Muir



DIVINE MERCY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH
3PM IN THE CHURCH

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 18, 2026

Mass will be celebrated

8:00 AM

12:00 NOON

6:00PM

7:00 MISA EN ESPANOL

GOD BLESS AMERICA

PRESIDENTS' DAY

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY,
2/16 IN OBSERVANCE OF THE HOLIDAY.



*Sanctuary Candle Will
Burn in Loving Memory of*

ALBINO CASTILLO

Thank you for Your Generosity!

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS:

February 8 \$7,002

WESHARE:

February 1: \$1,803

PENNIES FOR THE POOR:

CANDLE MONEY: \$52

2026 DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT:

Collected To Date: \$78,598

Collected 1/11/26: \$13,977

Balance Owed to Diocese: \$625

The next collection for this year will be taken
up on **March 15, 2026**

The Diocesan Assessment is a must-pay-in-full obligation to the Paterson Diocese. This financial commitment helps all of us within the Catholic Community in a myriad of ways, including support of religious educational initiatives, pastoral support, and community outreach programs.



COMING IN MARCH:

Confirmation classes for grades 8, 9 & 10 are on Sunday, March 8th from 7-9pm.



Session 6:

- Sunday, March 8, 2026
- Following the 10am Family Mass
- OLGC School
- Parents and Students attend

We are looking for donations of laptops to use in our new Family Faith Formation program! Pathways uses lots of Audio/visual elements and we want our students to have the most fulfilling experience. If you have a laptop you are no longer using, please reach out to Laura Shamber at youthministry@goodcounsel.org or Lisa Denninger at familyfaith@goodcounsel.org to make arrangements.



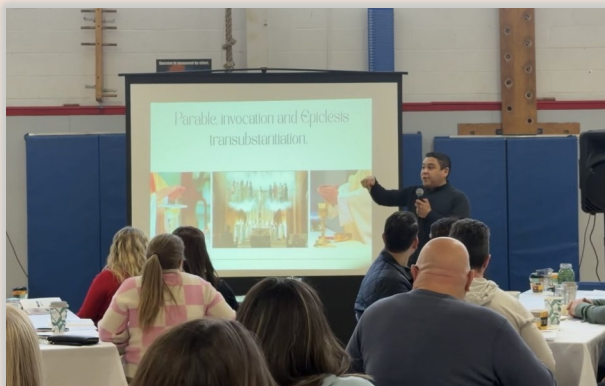
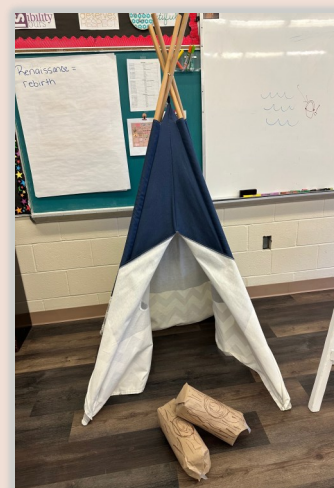
Antioch-Prayer Tree



Starting this weekend, our Antioch Prayer Tree will be on display in the church gathering area. The names of all the participants of this Confirmation retreat are written on the “leaves” of the tree. We encourage parishioners to take a leaf and pray for that person. Antioch weekend will be held February 21-22 here at the parish. Please keep everyone in your prayers for a fruitful retreat experience!

Last Sunday at our Family Faith Formation session, we talked about how Jesus is close to us, especially as the Real Presence in the Tabernacle in church.

Students made a tent as an example of a dwelling place, to make the connection that Jesus dwells in the Tabernacle, while parents heard a talk by Fr. Darwin about what happens at Mass during the consecration. We look forward to seeing families in grades K-7 for our Lent Family Faith Formation session on Sunday, March 8th!



Food Bingo



Food Pantry Bingo:

For Lent this year, we once again will be collecting donations for our local Food Pantry using “Bingo” cards in order to collect the most needed items. This counts as Christian Service for Confirmation students but is open to all parishioners. Click here and scroll down to the Food Pantry Bingo documents for details: <https://goodcounsel.org/gift-ministry>

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: The law of Moses was like a good deck, admirably built. You could say “*Raqa*,” your heart filled with anger, and the law didn’t break. But that anger treads heavily. Over time, it becomes too much to bear. And that board — that law, that heart — it’ll break. Just you wait

The Carpenter and the Law

My husband and I couldn’t believe our luck: our new house had a deck. It was more than a couple of broke millennials had ever dared to dream. Lounging in our patio furniture drinking coffee and watching the cars drive past, we felt like Kennedys at Hyannis Port. We had arrived.

Well, until it started falling apart.

To be fair, my husband knew this was going to happen all along, because he’s a person who uses words like “joist” and “weight-bearing” correctly. He took one look at the deck at the open house and knew it wasn’t up to code. “We’re going to have to reinforce this at some point,” he told me. “Whatever!” I replied, daydreaming about twinkle lights and porch parties.

Sure enough, our second summer in the house, he had to rip the rotting surface boards off. The biggest issue was that the joists were too far apart; when we stepped on the boards, they bowed and almost cracked, lacking adequate support beneath. But we weren’t going to redo the whole deck — we’re not *actually* Kennedys. We (okay, *he*) simply ripped the surface boards off, added the necessary joists, and replaced the decking with newer, better, stronger wood.

Simply put, my husband did not come to abolish the deck, but to fulfill it.

The law of Moses was like a good deck, admirably built. You could say “*Raqa*,” your heart filled with anger, and the law didn’t break. But that anger treads heavily on boards not adequately supported. Over time, the anger becomes too much to bear. And that board — that law, that heart — it’ll break. Just you wait.

And when it does, you’ll see why: there wasn’t anything beneath, holding it up.

So God sent a Carpenter to reinforce the law. The Carpenter crafted joists from prudence, fortitude, justice and temperance — strong virtues that can withstand a lifetime of battery, if properly maintained.

And the law still holds.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained



Question:

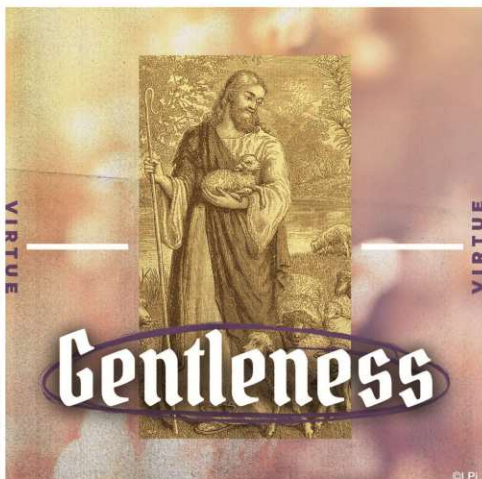
Why is the Church against stem cell research, especially if it offers the possibility of cures for diseases like Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s?

Answer:

Like so many issues, the truth about stem cell research is more complicated than a few sound bites and vague promises of cures. For the Church, the problem is with *embryonic* stem cell research, not the research itself. The destruction of human life, even for a seemingly noble cause, is never acceptable. The ends cannot justify the means. Stem cells can be obtained in other ways, including from the placenta as well as from adults. So research is possible without the destruction of other life.

On the other hand, stem cell research shows much promise, but no concrete results. Some scientists also dispute what diseases might be cured by new discoveries. The research is still in its early stages. The question for our country is whether we should invest a lot of money in research now, looking for cures that will probably remain out of reach for most people, or should we invest that money in other programs with more immediate benefits, especially those that stress prevention and education. It is indeed a complex issue that requires close scrutiny and investigation before we jump to inaccurate conclusions or make decisions based on good, but misinformed, intentions.





Virtues, Explained!

Gentleness disposes us to receive the inspirations of the Spirit, who "reveals to men who Jesus is" (CCC 152). In cultivating a spirit of gentleness, we more closely resemble Christ, who was unfailingly gentle, even in the face of violence and death

Blessing of Love

Heavenly Father,
Ignite us with Your love.
Reveal to us Your will,
guide us in Your path.
Pour Your blessings upon us,
You who are the giver of every
good thing.
Help us to live, work, act, and
speak
in ways that bring honor and
glory to You.
Amen.



Life! What a beautiful choice.



The Pregnant Students' Rights Act, a Republican-backed bill introduced by Sen. Ashley Moody, recently failed in the Senate after a party-line cloture vote of 47-45 fell short of the required 60 votes.

The legislation would have required colleges and universities participating in federal student aid programs to inform prospective and enrolled students about their rights and resources to carry a pregnancy to term, according to the bill's text.

As disappointing as this is, organizations like Standing With You (standingwithyou.org) are doing the work to make sure that: **"You should never have to choose between your child and your dreams and now, you don't have to!"**

From their website:

Prior to 1972, most schools across the U.S. had little to no policies in place regarding the rights of pregnant and parenting students on campus. There were no guidelines that help to regulate how many credit hours pregnant or parenting students are able to miss, help secure scholarships awarded to students who later become pregnant, or allow pregnant and parenting students to make up coursework they may have missed. In 1972, Title IX was passed to help curtail sex discrimination and, thankfully, a margin of this legislation is allotted to help curtail discrimination against pregnant women.

Title IX ensures that any school (e.g. high school) or university that receives federal funding cannot discriminate against students who are pregnant and/or parenting. This means that all schools must give pregnant and parenting students the same access to school programs and educational opportunities that are available to other students. It also means professors and administrators cannot influence pregnant or parenting students to alter their educational plans due to their added responsibilities.

In the interest of presenting young women with ALL of their options, especially those guaranteed her by law, we have created the **Pregnant on Campus Bill of Rights**. If the following applies to you or someone you know, please call or text 1-877-910-0096.



May God Richly Bless You!

Heather



CALLING ALL ANTIOCH ALUMS



PLEASE JOIN US AT THE CLOSING MASS FOR ANTIOCH XXII TO CELEBRATE THIS MINISTRY THAT HAS GIVEN SO MUCH TO THE YOUTH OF OUR PARISH.

TIME: 3PM

DATE: SUN. FEB. 22ND

PLACE: OLCG CHURCH

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



ALTAR SERVER APPRECIATION DAY

Bishop Navagh Columbiettes would like to thank you for your service

You are invited to a pizza and ice cream reception

Sunday, February 22nd

St. Joseph's Church

Halloran Hall

216 Comly Road, Lincoln Park

1:30- 3:30 PM

You are invited to bring your parents and siblings with you.

Please RSVP to Dot Lynch by phone at 973-715-4960 or to

altarserve@goodcounsel.org

with your name, parish and the number attending, no later than

February 17th

Please let Dot Lynch know if you have any dietary restrictions.

Please join us for some food, fun and to let us thank you!

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CHURCH

16TH ANNUAL FISH FRY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH | 5-7PM
TAKE OUT ONLY



\$24 ADULT TICKET | \$14 CHILD TICKET
(10 YEARS AND UNDER)

CHICKEN AVAILABLE BY REQUEST

Brought to you by Tastelessly British

Please purchase tickets in advance, limited amount will be available at the door.
Pickup located at the school.

ORDER ONLINE: GOODCOUNSEL.ORG,
NEWS AND EVENTS PAGE, CLICK ON THE FLYER!

VENMO
@DARWIN-LASTRA-BARRAZ
PLEASE SPECIFY FISHFRY2026
ITEMS ORDERED, PHONE, AND
YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.

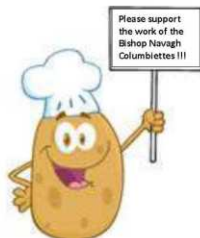
Baked Potato Night

WHEN: Saturday, February 28, 2026
6:30PM - 8:30PM

COST: \$12 for one potato per person
\$15 for two potatoes per person

Includes: salad, fixin's bar, coffee and dessert

BYOB



Reservations Required.

Limited number of tickets at the door.



Sponsored by the Bishop Navagh Columbiettes

Halloran Hall
St. Joseph Parish
216 Comly Road
Lincoln Park, NJ

To reserve, call or Email Janet or Linda at:

Janet Taylor: 201-280-9362; Email: janetmtaylor32@gmail.com

Linda Lawrence: 862-221-2663; Email: lindamlaw@icloud.com

NO LATER THAN: Wednesday, February 25th



Lenten Mission

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
17 POMPTON AVENUE, POMPTON LAKES, NJ 07412

Fr. Ricky Manalo, CSP

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL PARISH MISSION!
BEYOND THE DAYS: A LENTEN JOURNEY OF IDENTITY, ENCOUNTER AND TRANSFORMATION
BY FR. RICKY MANALO, CSP

SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST: 7:00 P.M.
MONDAY MARCH 2ND: AND TUESDAY, MARCH 3RD:
ABBREVIATED MISSION AFTER NOON MASS: FULL MISSION AT 7:00 P.M.

Fr. Ricky Manalo, CSP, is a Paulist Priest and a pioneering voice in Catholic Liturgy, music, and theology, recognized internationally for his contributions to intercultural ministry and pastoral leadership. His work has significantly shaped Asian American Catholicism and deepened the Church's engagement with sociological disciplines and artificial intelligence, political polarization and artificial intelligence.



Volunteers NEEDED!

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

WILL BE HELD ON

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026,
AT 7:00 P.M.

High School students interested in participating, please contact Angela Spasevski 973-557-3080
akspasevski@gmail.com.



DID YOU KNOW THAT WE SELL SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS IN THE PARISH OFFICE?

WE HAVE \$100, \$50, AND \$25 DENOMINATIONS. YOU CAN PAY BY CASH OR CHECK.

PROCEEDS DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE PARISH!



Bloomin' 4 Good Program

Our Lady of Good Counsel Food Pantry will receive a \$1 donation for every specially marked \$11.99 Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet sold during the month of February at our local store, 500 State Rt. 23 in Pompton Plains!

MISA EN ESPAÑOL

NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL BUEN CONSEJO



Iglesia católica romana

2 | 15 | 26

6º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

**QUE SU “SI”
SEA “SI”.**

HORARIO DE LAS MISAS

MISA SEMANAL LOS
MIÉRCOLES A LAS 19:00 H,
SEGUIDA DE LA EXPOSICIÓN
DEL SANTÍSIMO SACRAMENTO.

MISA DOMINICAL EN ESPAÑOL
A LAS 13:00 H

CONFESIONES:
SÁBADOS DE 15:30 A 16:30 H

PARA LAS INTENCIONES POR
FAVOR CONTACTAR A
CAROLINA GUEVARA:
[SPANISHMASS@
GOODCOUNSEL.ORG](mailto:SPANISHMASS@GOODCOUNSEL.ORG)

Nuestra Misión

La Iglesia de Nuestra Señora del Buen Consejo, arraigada en el Señor Eucarístico, es una comunidad donde nos reunimos como una sola familia para participar y vivir activamente la Palabra de Dios.

SEÑOR,
enséñame a cumplir tu
VOLUNTAD

©LPI

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – ALENTAR UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

15 de febrero de 2026

VI Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Mateo 5:17-37

En la Palabra de Dios de hoy, Jesús nos invita a observar una ley más perfecta. Nos llama a aprender a cumplirla, dando ejemplos concretos de cómo debemos comportarnos. El Salmo de hoy nos recalca lo siguiente: “Felices los de conducta intachable, los que caminan en la ley del Señor. Felices los que guardan sus mandatos y lo buscan de todo corazón” (Salmo 118:1-3). La dicha de ser feliz consiste en saber comportarse correctamente en cada circunstancia de la vida. ¿Cómo lograrlo? ¿A qué debemos aferrarnos para ser verdaderamente felices? Ya escuchamos las Bienaventuranzas el domingo antepasado, y con ellas hemos comenzado a practicar cómo vivir en esa felicidad que proviene de Dios. Guardar los mandatos del Señor, es decir, los Mandamientos, es la base de la moral cristiana, y el camino seguro hacia la Sabiduría de Dios. Esto significa estar conectados con Él siempre, por medio de la oración y los sacramentos.

San León Magno, en su sermón número 92 (1, 2, 3), decía: “La virtud cristiana puede superar la de los escribas y fariseos, no por la supresión de la ley, sino por entenderla en un sentido más profundo. Por eso el Señor, al enseñar a sus discípulos la manera de ayunar, les dice: ‘Cuando ayunen, no anden cabizbajos como los hipócritas, que desfiguran su rostro para hacer ver a la gente que ayunan. Les aseguro que ya han recibido su paga.’ ¿Qué paga, sino la alabanza de los hombres?” Señor, enséñanos a estar abiertos de todo corazón a tu Espíritu, ya que solo Él podrá empujarnos a practicar el amor, la justicia y la paz.

ORACIÓN Y ADORACIÓN

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9

El Miércoles de Ceniza es
la próxima semana

Misa En Espanol
7PM

©LPI

MIÉRCOLES DE CENIZA

Recuerda que
eres polvo
y al polvo
volverás.

©LPI

Feliz
SAN VALENTIN
Día de



©LPI

(PRACTICANDO) CATÓLICA: RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

Por Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflexión: La ley de Moisés era como una buena cubierta, admirablemente construida. Podías decir "Raqa", tu corazón se llenaba de ira y la ley no se rompía. Pero esa ira pisa fuertemente. Con el tiempo, se vuelve demasiado difícil de soportar. Y esa tabla, esa ley, ese corazón, se romperá. Solo espera.

El Carpintero y la Ley

Mi esposo y yo no podíamos creer nuestra suerte: nuestra nueva casa tenía una cubierta. Era más de lo que un par de millennials arruinados se habían atrevido a soñar. Descansando en los muebles de nuestro patio tomando café y viendo pasar los autos, nos sentimos como Kennedy en Hyannis Port. Habíamos llegado.

Bueno, hasta que comenzó a desmoronarse.

Para ser justos, mi esposo sabía que esto iba a suceder todo el tiempo, porque es una persona que usa palabras como "viga" y "soporte de peso" correctamente. Echó un vistazo a la cubierta durante la visita de puertas abiertas y supo que no cumplía con el código. "Vamos a tener que reforzar esto en algún momento", me dijo. "¡Lo que sea!" Respondí, soñando despierta con luces centelleantes y fiestas en el porche.

Efectivamente, nuestro segundo verano en la casa, tuvo que arrancar las tablas de superficie podrida. El mayor problema era que las vigas estaban demasiado separadas; Cuando pisábamos las tablas, se arqueaban y casi se agrietaban, sin el apoyo adecuado debajo. Pero no íbamos a rehacer toda la cubierta, en realidad no somos los Kennedy. Nosotros (está bien, él) simplemente arrancamos las tablas de la superficie, agregamos las vigas necesarias y reemplazamos la plataforma con madera más nueva, mejor y más fuerte.

En pocas palabras, mi esposo no vino a abolir la cubierta, sino a cumplirla.

La ley de Moisés era como una buena cubierta, admirablemente construida. Podías decir "Raqa", tu corazón se llenaba de ira y la ley no se rompía. Pero esa ira pisa fuertemente a las tablas que no están adecuadamente respaldadas. Con el tiempo, la ira se vuelve demasiado difícil de soportar. Y esa tabla, esa ley, ese corazón, se romperá. Solo espera.

Y cuando lo haga, verás por qué: no había nada debajo, sosteniéndola.



¿Por qué lo hacemos?



Investigación con Células Madre

Pregunta:

¿Por qué la Iglesia está en contra de la investigación con células madre, especialmente si ofrece la posibilidad de curar enfermedades como el Alzheimer y el Parkinson?

Respuesta:

Al igual que muchos otros temas, la verdad sobre la investigación con células madre es más complicada que unos pocos fragmentos de sonido y vagas promesas de curas. Para la Iglesia, el problema está en la investigación con *células madre embrionarias*, no en la investigación en sí. La destrucción de la vida humana, incluso por una causa aparentemente noble, nunca es aceptable. El fin no puede justificar los medios. Las células madre se pueden obtener de otras maneras, incluso de la placenta y de los adultos. Por lo tanto, la investigación es posible sin la destrucción de otras formas de vida.

Por otro lado, la investigación con células madre es muy prometedora, pero no hay resultados concretos. Algunos científicos también discuten qué enfermedades podrían curarse con nuevos descubrimientos. La investigación aún se encuentra en sus primeras etapas. La pregunta para nuestro país es si debemos invertir mucho dinero en investigación ahora, buscando curas que probablemente permanecerán fuera del alcance de la mayoría de las personas, o debemos invertir ese dinero en otros programas con beneficios más inmediatos, especialmente aquellos que enfatizan la prevención y la educación. Ciertamente, se trata de una cuestión compleja que requiere un escrutinio y una investigación minuciosa antes de llegar a conclusiones inexactas o tomar decisiones basadas en buenas intenciones, pero mal informadas.



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