ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Saturday Vigil

4:00pm - English 6:30pm - Spanish

Sunday Masses

8:00am - English 9:15am - Spanish 11:00am - English 1:30pm - Spanish

7:00pm - Spanish

Daily Masses

Monday - Friday, 8:15am & 5:30pm

Saturday - 8:15am

Reconciliation

Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:30pm Saturdays, 3:00 - 3:45pm

Adoration

Thursdays, 6:00 - 8:00pm

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil;

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou,

O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God,

cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about

the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday:

9:00am - 4:00pm (closed 12:30-1:30pm)

Friday:

9:00am - 12:00pm



CHURCH STAFF

Fr. Ben Bradshaw - Pastor

Fr. Francisco Franquiz - Assoc. Pastor

Eva Gonzalez - Office Receptionist

Tera Simmons - Parish Administrator

Alexis Zamora - Director of Catechesis

Tracy McClure - Director of Logistics

Silvia Vega - Director of Music

Khira Rotty - Adult Faith Formation

Gwen Coffey - English Ministries

Colleen Balkcom - Social Ministries

Marisol Soto - Hispanic Development

Julia Bolado - Bilingual Counselor

Maria Ayala - Addiction Support Couns.

Maria Razura - Religious Education

Elvira Loya - Religious Education Asst.

Enrique Montiel - Youth Director

Luis Trejo - Facilities Manager

Patrick Denham - Bookkeeper



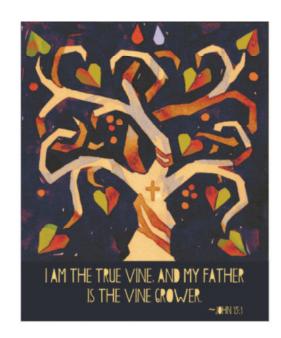
I recently read a book by author Robert Greene titled *The Laws of Human Nature*. It was well worth the read. Greene highlights some of the traps that the human mind can play on itself and how we can

at times be our own worst enemy. In what he terms the "law of self-sabotage," he notes that people often write the script of their lives in negative ways, by assuming things will ultimately not work out in a positive way and, as such, they are not disappointed when fate proves them right. The logic goes something like this: "See, I told you that you can never trust other people because they are all untrustworthy." Thus, when one is betrayed they conclude their negative presumption is accurate, rather than realizing there are plenty of good and trustworthy people in the world as well. Point being, we can often be our own worst enemies and our mind can lead us down a negative rabbit hole if we let it. Cogitare cum ecclesia est cogitare cum Christo. The old Catholic dictum, "to think with the Church is to think with Christ," applies here.

Contrary to popular belief, the Catholic Church does not control the minds of its adherents like some tyrannical entity. Rather, throughout her 2,000+ year history, Catholic doctrine and the Church's magisterium have underscored that we really need to think about how we are thinking, not just what we happen to be thinking about at any given moment. In other words, we should ask, "Am I thinking positively or negatively here? Do I need to change my course?" Our thinking will ultimately guide our actions which, in turn, will dictate whether we are either happy or miserable people. Additionally, it will have deep ramifications for our families and the culture as a whole. For example, think of a young man who has somehow rationalized flying a 747 full of innocent people into a skyscraper, also full of innocent people. Contrast this with the beauty of small acts of care done with great love, which further inspire one's spouse, children, and ultimately the whole of society.

While younger people can often bring a fresh approach and new vigor to life, older people have often learned to temper the stresses of life with perspective and wisdom. Likewise, younger folks can suffer from pride and the arrogance of "knowing it all," whereas older folks can get stuck in their ways - highly allergic to change or opinions outside of their own. As the saints would say, we need to look to the *via media*, or middle of the road. In other words, we need a healthy balance in our attitudes and perceptions in life since it can be easy to go off the road on one side or the other. We need to think about "how" we are thinking and correct it soon if we are off base, and that takes courage and humility.

Please know that your families are in our prayers this spring, ~Fr. Ben







May 14 - St. Leo Hall

5:30pm - Officer Meeting 6:00pm - Council Meeting

For more information about becoming a Knight, please contact Andrew Hall at andrewrtr@gmail.com.



Saturday, April 27

4:00pm +Leo & Dot Hartweck 6:30pm +Julia Garcia Cruz

Sunday, April 28

8:00am People of St. Michael Church

9:15am +Fernando Montiel 11:00am +Sonny Bradshaw

1:30pm +Josephina Rendon Rubio 7:00pm +Cipriano Espino Valtierra

Monday, April 29

8:15am Int/Dilcia Jimenez 5:30pm +Sonny Bradshaw

Tuesday, April 30

8:15am Int/Wilmer Jimenez 5:30pm *Communion Service*

Wednesday, May 1

8:15am Int/Elvira Loya 5:30pm Int/J. Nelly

Thursday, May 2

8:15am +Ricardo Ponce 5:30pm Int/Anita Smith

Friday, May 3

8:15am Int/Teodoro Ramirez 5:30pm +Sonny Bradshaw

Saturday, May 4

8:15am +Sandy Sansone 4:00pm +Dot Hartweck 6:30pm +Ramon Acosta

STEWARDSHIP

APRIL 14

In Person \$28,469.00 Online \$7,602.50

> Total \$36,071.50

PRAYER LIST ORAMOS POR

Tricia Gavin Jane Mitchell Abigail Aguilar Pedro Aguilar Marty Godfrey Jim Mitchell Sebastian Aguilar John Goodwin Mike O'Neil Nikki Becker Lance Goodwin Arturo Padron Ed Bedwell Susan Gray Guadalupe Paulin **Todd Brooks** Bonnie Peterson Jose Gutierrez Charley Canfield Rashard Hill Ashley Portis Aurora Casa Miriau Hernandez Angelica Ramirez Fabio Castro Ben Hugoboom Antonio Ramirez Patricia Castro Maria Ignacia Eliezer Ramirez Cecilia Cervantes Jimmy Johnson Guadalupe Ramirez Jennifer Chander Courtney Kerwin Sergio Ramirez Carroll Clark Bradley Kuenn Teodoro Ramirez Richard O. Davis Laura Lockwood Margarita Rivera Guadalupe Delgado Blanca Lopez Cliff Robinson Paul Douglas Albert Lucchesi Frank Rogers Antonio Espinoza Sophia McGeehan Maria Roslaes Patrick Evans Sarah McLeod Espranza Rodriguez Evela Feliez Lee McWaters Amy Shinebarger Gina Fortune Karly McWheter Jane Tonning Gauna Garcia Chip Maley Arci Galven Ray Smith Dory Gaston Juan Martin Rita Woodward

EXPECTANT MOTHERS - FUTURAS MAMÁS:

Elle Murchison, due in April Cydney French, due in June

Elizabeth Barzizza Hampton, due in July

Courtney Durham, due in August Chandler Sexton, due in August



On May 1, we celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, as well as Religious Brothers Day.

Let us pray for the Christian Brothers of our diocese who have blessed so many with the education they have received at CBHS and CBU.

May more young men answer God's call to join the Christian Brothers.



LOVE IN DEED

It's a Wonderful Life is one of my favorite Christmas movies. It only occurred to me recently, though, that this film, for all its yuletide aesthetic, is actually more of an Easter story.

I love this movie because it's a very Catholic film — not overtly, although we do see the main character, George Bailey, going to Mass. No, it's the *themes* that are Catholic, not the set dressing. It's a story about the choices we make — to love, or not to love? To sacrifice, or not to sacrifice? To put oneself first, or to put oneself last? It's a story about what the consequences of those choices look like here in the world, and what they look like in heaven.

In the film, we meet a young George Bailey who dreams of growing up to do amazing, impressive things. Over the years, he makes a choice here and he makes a choice there... and when all is said and done, the adult George Bailey is a tired, overworked husband and father with no worldly attributes that anyone would envy.

But he's a man who has loved in deed, not just in word, and who has reaped the spiritual rewards of those choices.

The season of Easter is about rejoicing in true redemption, not in worldly triumph. The Word of God is not a bedtime story. It's a pruning shear. To hear it is to be changed, to be shaped. To live it is to lose some things, so that you might bloom in unexpected ways. To welcome the Word is to be willing to look different, to feel different.

Anyone can say, "I love you, I accept you, I want to help you." But what does it actually look like, to love in deed and not just in word? It looks like giving something up: free time, wealth, comfort, worldly approval. It looks, to the casual worldly observer, like pain.

To someone who has no concept of how plants grow and thrive, a gardener's pruning shears look like an executioner's sword. To someone who has no concept of how souls grow and thrive, a tomb barred by a stone looks like the end of a story, when in fact it's just the beginning.

"Children, let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth."

~1 John 3:18

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC by Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman © LPi

AMOR EN HECHOS

¡Que Bello es Vivir! es una de mis películas navideñas favoritas. Sin embargo, recientemente se me ocurrió que esta película, a pesar de toda su estética navideña, en realidad es más una historia de Pascua.

Me encanta esta película porque es muy católica, no abiertamente, aunque vemos al personaje principal, George Bailey, yendo a misa. Son los temas los que son católicos, no el decorado. Es una historia sobre las decisiones que tomamos: ¿amar o no amar? ¿Sacrificar o no sacrificar? ¿Ponerse uno mismo en primer lugar o ponerse en último lugar? Es una historia sobre cómo se ven las consecuencias de esas decisiones aquí en el mundo y cómo se ven en el cielo.

En la película conocemos a un joven, George Bailey, que sueña con crecer y hacer cosas asombrosas e impresionantes. A lo largo de los años, toma una decisión aquí y otra allá... y, al fin y al cabo, el George Bailey adulto es un marido y padre cansado y con exceso de trabajo, sin atributos mundanos que nadie pueda envidiar.

Pero es un hombre que ha amado con hechos, no sólo con palabras, y que ha cosechado las recompensas espirituales de esas decisiones.

La temporada de Pascua se trata de regocijarnos en la verdadera redención, no en el triunfo mundano. La Palabra de Dios no es un cuento antes de dormir. Es una tijera de podar. Escucharla es cambiar, ser formado. Vivirla es perder algunas cosas, para poder florecer de maneras inesperadas. Acoger la Palabra es estar dispuesto a verse diferente, a sentirse diferente.

Cualquiera puede decir: "Te amo, te acepto, quiero ayudarte." Pero ¿cómo es realmente amar de hecho y no sólo de palabra? Se ve como renunciar a algo: tiempo libre, riqueza, comodidad, aprobación mundana. Al observador casual le parece doloroso.

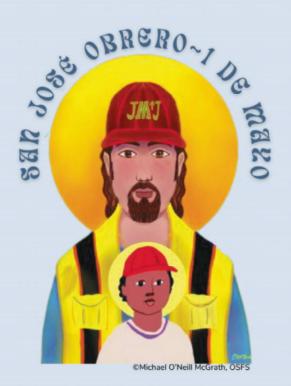
Para alguien que no tiene idea de cómo crecen y prosperan las plantas, las tijeras de podar de un jardinero parecen la espada de un verdugo. Para alguien que no tiene idea de cómo crecen y prosperan las almas, una tumba cerrada con una piedra parece el final de una historia, cuando en realidad es sólo el comienzo.

"Hijos míos: No amemos solamente de palabra, amemos de verdad y con las obras."

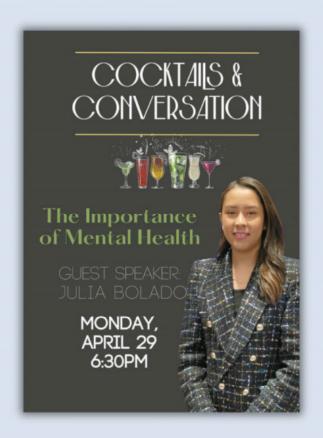
~ 1 Juan 3:18

(PRACTICANDO) CATÓLICA Por Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman © LPi





ST. MICHAEL MINISTRIES









AROUND THE DIOCESE





KID'S CORNER



Word Search

E H X E A X S H P J S N P A V
C B L E K Y I A Z J P X O B C
C D P R O C L A I M E U U T T
C R I S W V V U N M E T A H X
S T G I M K I M L X C D D P E
L J N U M A S A C A H F S Q Z
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