The Most Reverend Jaime Soto, D.D, M.S.W, Bishop of Sacramento

The Most Reverend Myron Cotta, Auxiliary Bishop of Sacramento

The Very Reverend Michael O’Reilly, Rector

Reverend Kieran M. McMahon, Priest in Residence

Reverend Nicholas Ho, Chinese Mass

Deacon John Gisla  Deacon Raul Leon
Deacon Don DeHaven  Deacon Edgar Hilbert

Sister Jenny Aldeghi, FDCC, Dir. of Education

Rex Rallanka, Director of Music

Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament
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cathedralsacramento@gmail.com
www.cathedralsacramento.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES
Monday to Friday   12:10 pm
Monday to Thursday 5:10 pm
Saturday Vigil     5:00 pm
Sunday             7:30 am
                 9:00 am
                 11:00 am
                 1:00 pm en Español
                 3:00 pm Chinese
                 5:00 pm
                 7:00 pm en Español
State Holidays     12:10 pm only

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION
Monday to Friday   11:30 am to 12:00 pm
Saturday           4:00 pm to 4:45 pm
Domingo - en Español 12:30 pm a 12:45 pm
                 6:30 pm a 7:00 pm

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Wednesday          12:45 pm to 4:45 pm
Thursday           12:45 pm to 4:45 pm
Friday             12:45 pm to 3:45 pm

BAPTISMS (Registration is required)
English — 3rd Saturday of the month, 9:00 am
Español — 4º Sábado del mes, 9:00 am

BAPTISM CLASSES
English — 1st Thursday of the month, 7:00 pm
Español — 2do jueves del mes, 7:00 pm

WEDDINGS — Contact 916-444-3071,
Six (6) months in advance

GIFT SHOP — Sundays 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Mondays 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY: A BELIEF SINCE APOSTOLIC TIMES

By Father Clifford Stevens

The Assumption is the oldest feast day of Our Lady, but we don't know how it first came to be celebrated.

Its origin is lost in those days when Jerusalem was restored as a sacred city, at the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine (c. 285-337). By then it had been a pagan city for two centuries, ever since Emperor Hadrian (76-138) had leveled it around the year 135 and rebuilt it as <Aelia Capitolina> in honor of Jupiter.

For 200 years, every memory of Jesus was obliterated from the city, and the sites made holy by His life, death and Resurrection became pagan temples.

After the building of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in 336, the sacred sites began to be restored and memories of the life of Our Lord began to be celebrated by the people of Jerusalem. One of the memories about his mother centered around the "Tomb of Mary," close to Mount Zion, where the early Christian community had lived.

On the hill itself was the "Place of Dormition," the spot of Mary's "falling asleep," where she had died. The "Tomb of Mary" was where she was buried.

At this time, the "Memory of Mary" was being celebrated. Later it was to become our feast of the Assumption.

For a time, the "Memory of Mary" was marked only in Palestine, but then it was extended by the emperor to all the churches of the East. In the seventh century, it began to be celebrated in Rome under the title of the "Falling Asleep" ("Dormitio") of the Mother of God.

Soon the name was changed to the "Assumption of Mary," since there was more to the feast than her dying. It also proclaimed that she had been taken up, body and soul, into heaven.

That belief was ancient, dating back to the apostles themselves. What was clear from the beginning was that there were no relics of Mary to be venerated, and that an empty tomb stood on the edge of Jerusalem near the site of her death. That location also soon became a place of pilgrimage. (Today, the Benedictine Abbey of the Dormition of Mary stands on the spot.)

At the Council of Chalcedon in 451, when bishops from throughout the Mediterranean world gathered in Constantinople, Emperor Marcian asked the Patriarch of Jerusalem to bring the relics of Mary to Constantinople to be enshrined in the capitol. The patriarch explained to the emperor that there were no relics of Mary in Jerusalem, that "Mary had died in the presence of the apostles; but her tomb, when opened later . . . was found empty and so the apostles concluded that the body was taken up into heaven."

In the eighth century, St. John Damascene was known for giving sermons at the holy places in Jerusalem. At the Tomb of Mary, he expressed the belief of the Church on the meaning of the feast: "Although the body was duly buried, it did not remain in the state of death, neither was it dissolved by decay. . . . You were transferred to your heavenly home, O Lady, Queen and Mother of God in truth."

All the feast days of Mary mark the great mysteries of her life and her part in the work of redemption. The central mystery of her life and person is her divine motherhood, celebrated both at Christmas and a week later (Jan. 1) on the feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8) marks the preparation for that motherhood, so that she had the fullness of grace from the first moment of her existence, completely untouched by sin. Her whole being throbb'd with divine life from the very beginning, readying her for the exalted role of mother of the Savior.

The Assumption completes God's work in her since it was not fitting that the flesh that had given life to God himself should ever undergo corruption. The Assumption is God's crowning of His work as Mary ends her earthly life and enters eternity. The feast turns our eyes in that direction, where we will follow when our earthly life is over.

The feast days of the Church are not just the commemoration of historical events; they do not look only to the past. They look to the present and to the future and give us an insight into our own relationship with God. The Assumption looks to eternity and gives us hope that we, too, will follow Our Lady when our life is ended.

The prayer for the feast reads: "All-powerful and ever-living God: You raised the sinless Virgin Mary, mother of your Son, body and soul, to the glory of heaven. May we see heaven as our final goal and come to share her glory."

In 1950, in the Apostolic Constitution <Munificentissimus Deus>, Pope Pius XII proclaimed the Assumption of Mary a dogma of the Catholic Church in these words: "The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven."

With that, an ancient belief became Catholic doctrine and the Assumption was declared a truth revealed by God.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15 is a Holy Day of Obligation. See page 5 for the mass schedule.

"Mystagogy" author John-David Black is taking some time off to enjoy his new role as Grandfather to little Melanie Rose. Returning soon.
Pastor’s Corner

A few weeks ago, I wrote about those busy beavers who built a dam across my parent’s property. I related the relentless work of the beavers to our need to work tirelessly for the kingdom. Part of that work involved finding solutions to our parking issues here at the Cathedral. We have solved that concern to some degree by providing validation coupons for people parked in city parking lots. I again urge everyone to park in city parking garages or along the streets so we can validate your parking. We cannot help pay for your parking in private parking lots like the one here in the alley.

Our collections have shown a steady decline throughout this summer which can be a normal trend for these months. It also causes me concern when our expenses rise with greater expenses for security and inflation. Every church member dollar that goes into private parking feels like a loss to the great needs of our Cathedral. The private parking lot across from us is a multi-billion dollar corporation. Please encourage all your friends and family who worship at the Cathedral to park elsewhere.

Financial concerns are seldom a high priority on my to-do list. I know God always provides. However, the financial gains with which many feel blessed are a significant treasure for the Church and its ability to evangelize. Our very building, which is high maintenance, speaks to many people of the grace and goodness of God. It is time for us to consider our commitment and responsibility to the Cathedral and how we might better offer the fruit of our labors. As we accept the responsibility to be God’s church and care for it (stewardship), it requires on our part the genuine desire to do what is best for our Church. For the many who have sacrificed their time, treasure, and talents, we thank you. For the many of us who could be more committed, it’s time to get busy.

~Father Michael~

Saint Maximilian Kolbe

was a Polish Conventual Franciscan Friar who was sent to Auschwitz for hiding Jews during the Second World War.

In July 1941, three prisoners appeared to have escaped from the camp; as a result, the Deputy Commander of Auschwitz ordered 10 men to be chosen to be starved to death in an underground bunker.

When Franciszek Gajowniczek heard he was selected, he cried out “My wife! My children!” Father Kolbe pointed with his hand to the condemned Franciszek Gajowniczek and said to the Nazi commander, “I am a Catholic priest from Poland; I would like to take his place, because he has a wife and children.”

Rather surprised, the commander accepted Kolbe in place of Gajowniczek.

Gajowniczek would miraculously survive Auschwitz and later said: “I could only thank him with my eyes. I was stunned and could hardly grasp what was going on. The immensity of it: I, the condemned, am to live and someone else willingly and voluntarily offers his life for me – a stranger. Is this some dream?”

I was put back into my place without having had time to say anything to Maximilian Kolbe. I was saved. And I owe to him the fact that I could tell you all this. The news quickly spread all round the camp. It was the first and the last time that such an incident happened in the whole history of Auschwitz.”

Gajowniczek was present at Kolbe’s canonization in 1971.
19th Week of Ordinary Time—Reflection

"Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was, he became frightened." How can we describe Peter? At once faithful and fearful, his jumbled responses remind us that he was no spiritual superhero, well intentioned though he may have been. Peter wanted to believe, and in fact showed a great deal of confidence in Christ, but the temptation to doubt was strong enough to knock him off his feet, literally.

"O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" Jesus reprimanded Peter. The words seem harsh. After all, Peter was the only one who had enough faith to even try something as ludicrous as stepping out of the boat onto the water in the first place. But perhaps Jesus wanted to emphasize that our faith needs to be strong enough to weather the storm, so to speak.

If we only believe in Jesus when the wind is calm and the waves are gone, is that truly having faith in him? Is that actually trusting in his supreme power over the forces of the universe? Peter began to sink as soon as a challenge appeared. Jesus called him, and he calls us, to stay on our feet even when the winds begin to blow.

So, what are the winds that threaten our faith? What kinds of gusts are blowing today? Whatever it might be—health problems, financial concerns, relational struggles—none of it is too much for Jesus to handle. But we must step out in faith and trust him! And we need to keep our eyes on him as we do so, instead of getting distracted by the force of the challenges we face. Jesus is bigger than any problem. We have nothing to fear as long as we are walking towards him.

This week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. Please prayerfully consider supporting this collection, which assists programs that strengthen the faith in Latin America and the Caribbean. Your gifts help share the faith by providing lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, as well as other programs. To learn more, please visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

The Office of Priestly & Religious Vocations, invites young adult Catholic men ages 18-30’s to join us for the upcoming “The Melchizedek Project”. This is a seven-session series program that will be scheduled on every second Thursday of the month at St. Mel Parish in Fair Oaks from 7 pm to 8:30 pm beginning on Thursday, September 14, 2017. These sessions will be led by a priest and will help gain the spiritual tools in discerning your vocation. There is no cost. To register, please contact our office at 916-733-0258 or by email at msmith@scd.

Cathedral Men’s ACTS Retreat
Thursday, August 17 – Sunday, August 20, 2017

Applications are still available
Any Man age 19 years or older is welcome.

An ACTS retreat is designed to provide an opportunity for retreatants to enter a new and deeper relationship with OUR LORD and fellow parishioners. Let the Holy Spirit move you. We hope you will prayerfully consider attending this life changing retreat. For more information or to register, contact Paul Herman at cathedral-sacramento@gmail.com.

God, Family, and Everything Else!

Engaged and Married Couples: Natural Family Planning is a tool which facilitates responsible parenting. Join us for a 3-part class, September 16, October 21, November 18, from 4pm-6pm at the Sacramento Life Center. The cost is $135.00. For more information or to sign up, check online at ccli.org, or contact Melbourne Borden at mborden@gmail.com

Diocesan Respect Life Gathering is open to all (parish volunteers, teachers, youth & young adult leaders, etc.) who have a passion for pro-life work. Come for fellowship, networking, exhibitor tables, prayer, and more! Join us on August 26, 10am – 3pm at St. Mel Catholic Church in Fair Oaks. An optional Mass with Bishop Soto begins at 8:30am. Lunch is provided. The event is free, but registration is required prior to August 14th. Must be over 18 to attend. To register, visit scdlife.eventbrite.com. For more information, contact Steve Patton at 916-733-0133 or spatton@scd.org.

Catechists Retreat!
Before the busyness of the year begins, join us for a Spiritual Retreat. First Love: A Spiritual Retreat for Catechists on Saturday, August 19, 2017 from 9:00 am–1:00 pm at St. Robert Parish, 2243 Irvin Way, in Sacramento. The cost is only $5.00, which includes snacks, but not lunch. Register at www.bit.ly/catechists-retreat. Questions contact Martha Haig at mhaig@scd.org or 916-733-0131.

PARKING — Cathedral parishioners no longer able to park for free in the private parking structure next to the Cathedral Office. The Cathedral is therefore purchasing from the City of Sacramento, coupons to pay for the $5 weekend parking charge in the City parking lots located on 11th St. between I Street and J Street; and on 10th St. between K St. and L St. After each weekend Mass, if you parked in a City parking lot, you may pick up a coupon as you leave the Cathedral. To offset the cost of the coupons, please consider increasing your weekly donation to the Cathedral.

“The Melchizedek Project” is a seven-session series program that will be scheduled on every second Thursday of the month at St. Mel Parish in Fair Oaks from 7 pm to 8:30 pm beginning on Thursday, September 14, 2017. These sessions will be led by a priest and will help gain the spiritual tools in discerning your vocation. There is no cost. To register, please contact our office at 916-733-0258 or by email at msmith@scd.

“Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.” ~Psalm 119:18~
Offering Mass for a special intention is a long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church. It is usually considered that special graces are obtained for whom the Mass is said. Masses are offered for many reasons: for the souls in purgatory, in remembrance for someone who is deceased, or in honor of a birthday or special anniversary. If you would like to have a Mass said for someone, please contact the rectory office for help with available dates and times. Intentions are $10.00 donation per Mass request and are due the Tuesday before the publication weekend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass / Intentions</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday - August 12</td>
<td>5:00 pm / Allen Anub +</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday - August 13</td>
<td>7:30 am / Evey Coast Androtti + 9:00 am / Daniel Ledda + 11:00 am / David Tufts +</td>
<td>9:30 am RCIA Breaking of the Word 11:00 am Liturgy of the Word for Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday - August 13</td>
<td>1:00 pm Spanish / Marilyn Caro Perez S.I. 5:00 pm / Mincaela Nerev +</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday - August 13</td>
<td>7:00 pm Spanish / Parish Intentions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday - August 14</td>
<td>12:10 pm / Souls in Purgatory 5:10 pm / Vigil Mass / Assumption~ End of Abortion</td>
<td>6:30 pm RCIA Evening Prayer 7:00 pm RCIA Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday - August 15</td>
<td><del>Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</del> <del>Holy Day of Obligation</del></td>
<td>6:00 pm Spanish Choir for the 7pm Mass</td>
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<td>Tuesday - August 15</td>
<td>12:10 pm / Catherine Chang S.I. 5:10 pm / Alex Trejo + 7:00 pm Spanish Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday - August 16</td>
<td>12:10 pm / Anastasia &amp; John Chang + 5:10 pm / Christians in the Middle East</td>
<td>7:15 pm Spanish Choir for the 1pm Mass 7:15 pm Communion &amp; Liberation 7:15 pm The Rosary Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday - August 17</td>
<td>12:10 pm / MyLy Nguyen Priddle + 5:10 pm / Parish Intentions</td>
<td>7:30 pm Rosary Recitation at St. Junipero’s Statue (Resuming soon)</td>
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One night the disciples were caught in a storm, out in the middle of a lake. The winds were strong. The waves crashed against their boat. But Jesus was so powerful, he walked on that stormy lake. Then he completely stopped the storm. No problem you have is ever too big for Jesus. He can do anything. Put all your trust in him.

“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.” ~Proverbs 3:5-6~
Hace unas semanas, escribí sobre esos castores ocupados que construyeron una presa en la propiedad de mis padres. Relacioné el trabajo implacable de los castores con nuestra necesidad de trabajar incansablemente por el reino. Parte de ese trabajo consistió en encontrar soluciones a nuestros problemas de aquí en la Catedral. Hemos resuelto esa preocupación en cierta medida dando cupones para las personas estacionadas en los estacionamientos de la ciudad. Una vez más, insisto a todos a estacionarse en los estacionamientos de la ciudad o a lo largo de las calles para que podamos darles cupones. No podemos ayudar a pagar por su estacionamiento en estacionamientos privados como el de aquí en el callejón.

Nuestras colecciones disminuido a lo largo de este verano, que puede ser una tendencia normal para estos meses. También me causa preocupación cuando nuestros gastos aumentan con mayores gastos por seguridad e inflación. Cada dólar dado a los miembros de la iglesia para el estacionamiento se siente como una pérdida para las grandes necesidades de nuestra Catedral. El estacionamiento privado frente a nosotros es una corporación multimillonaria. Por favor anime a todos sus amigos y familiares que viven a la Catedral a estacionar en otro lugar.

Las preocupaciones financieras rara vez son una alta prioridad en mi lista de tareas pendientes. Sólo Dios siempre provee. Sin embargo, las ganancias financieras con las que muchos se sienten bendecidos son un tesoro significativo para la Iglesia. A medida que aceptamos la responsabilidad con la Catedral y cómo podemos ofrecer mejor el fruto de nuestros trabajos, con gran conocimiento, habla a muchas personas de la gracia y la bondad de Dios. Es hora de que consideremos nuestro compromiso y responsabilidad con la Catedral y cómo podemos ofrecer mejor el fruto de estos trabajos. A medida que aceptamos la responsabilidad de ser la iglesia de Dios y cuidarla, requiere de nuestra parte el deseo de hacer lo que es mejor para nuestra Iglesia. Para los muchos que han sacrificado su tiempo, tesoro, y talentos, le damos las gracias. Para muchos de nosotros que podrían estar más comprometidos, es hora de ponernos ocupados.

- Padre Michael -

19º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Las lecturas que escuchamos cada domingo en Misa nos muestran a Dios siempre actuando. La respuesta que nosotros damos depende mucho del movimiento de Dios hacia nosotros y del movimiento nuestro hacia Dios para dar respuesta. En la primera lectura vemos al profeta Elías en búsqueda de descubrir el verdadero rostro de Dios. En la soledad de la montaña es donde se da el encuentro. Dios escoge revelarse a él en la brisa suave y en calma. Elías al escuchar la voz de Dios se cubre la cara con su manto. ¿Por qué Elías se cubre el rostro con su manto? Recordemos lo que Dios dijo a Moisés en el Éxodo 33, 20: "Pero mi rostro no lo podrás ver, porque no puede verme el hombre y seguir viviendo". Gesto del profeta que explica el respeto por la presencia de Dios.

En el Evangelio, por el contrario, los discípulos y las gentes que seguían a Jesús lo podían ver cara a cara. Y así es como Pedro al sentir que se hundía en el mar pudo asirse de la mano de Jesús. "¡Sálvame, Señor! Inmediatamente Jesús le tendió la mano, lo sostuvo y le dijo: 'Hombre de poca fe, ¿por qué dudaste?'" (Mt 14, 30). De igual modo para nosotros cuando estemos hundidos en las penas de la vida, en la falta de fe y esperanza. Sólo giremos nuestro corazón hacia Dios y nos extenderá su mano, conduciéndonos de nuevo a la suave brisa de su amor. Ojalá que como los discípulos confesemos de rodillas, "Verdaderamente tú eres el Hijo de Dios" (Mt 14, 33).

Esta semana realizaremos la Colecta para la Iglesia en América Latina. Por favor, en oración, considere apoyar esta colecta, la cual ayuda a programas que fortalecen la fe en América Latina y el Caribe. Sus donativos ayudan a compartir la fe por medio de programas de capacitación para laicos comprometidos, la catequesis, la formación de seminaristas y religiosas y varios otros proyectos. Para ver más información, por favor visite www.usccb.org/latin-america.

Ofrecer a los participantes una formación inicial para la pastoral juventud—adolescentes y jóvenes—y establecer los cimientos para el Programa de Certificación para Asesores y Líderes en la Pastoral Juvenil, el Seminario de Especialización en Pastoral con Adolescentes y/o para la implementación del modelo Profetas de Esperanza. Fechas: Octubre 7-8, Noviembre 11-12, Enero 13-14 y Febrero 3-4 de 9am-5pm en el Centro Pastoral (2110 Broadway, Sacramento, CA).

Catequistas—antes que las actividades del año comiencen, acompañanos a un Retiro Espiritual. Primer Amor: Un Retiro Espiritual para Catequistas
Sábado, 19 de agosto de 2017 de 9:00am–1:00 pm
San Roberto, 2243 Irvin Way, Sacramento
Costo es solamente $5.00 (incluye refrigerios pero no almuerzo).
Regístrarse en www.bit.ly/catechists-retreat. Preguntas comuníquese con Martha Haig al mhaig@scd.org o 916-733-0131

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Bible study will be held on August 19 (Sat) at 10:00 - 12:00 in Davis (315E, 14th St., Davis, CA 95616). It will be led by Fr. Poon to study John 16. You are all welcome to join. Please sign up with Oliver.