In the last forty years or so there has been a trend in Christian churches to introduce a more lively "worship" of God into weekly Bible studies and Sunday morning services. Especially in non-Catholic churches the singing portion of the service, or "worship", precedes the Sermon and is commonly led by a "Worship Team" consisting of singers and musicians, usually featuring contemporary music and repetitive choruses. Hand clapping, the raising of hands and voices, "shouts of praise" (Ezra 3:11) to the Almighty, a spirited and full-throated praise of God has become rather common place in many churches today.

By comparison, the Catholic Mass can seem a little too quiet and dull for modern tastes, and this has led to a departure of some Catholics for the livelier and more enthusiastic worship typical of our separated brethren. This trend has in turn led to the introduction into the Mass some rather non-traditional forms of singing and even dancing that can only be described as impertinent novelties.

The zeal and enthusiasm of our separated brethren for the praise and glory of God is indeed impressive, but classic Catholic worship never developed along those lines. From the beginning there was something mysterious and otherworldly about the Mass, something derived from the encounter with the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. The development of Catholic worship through the centuries was never a matter of the Church coming up with something entertaining to the masses, nor finding a form of worship pleasing and acceptable to God: nothing but the eternal sacrifice of Jesus Christ can be acceptable to God, and intimate communion with that sacrifice is our only reasonable worship.

The celebration of the sacred mysteries developed through the centuries by divine initiative and inspiration and was a matter of acknowledging the infinite merits of Christ's sacrifice upon the Cross, and His genuine presence upon our altars. Adoration of Christ made present in the Blessed Sacrament, and our union with that sacrifice through communion, was the foundation and radiating center of Catholic worship. For that reason, profound humility is the only proper disposition when approaching the altar: "To adore God is to acknowledge, in respect and absolute submission, the "nothingness of the creature" who would not exist but for God" (CCC 2097). The only real question was to consider how weak and frail human beings ought to come to the sacred presence and adore the God of Heaven and earth without being impertinent: for it is certain that "To adore God is to praise and exalt him and to humble oneself . . ." (Ibid.). Loud, boisterous, foot-stomping worship can be very intoxicating, very effective in moving the toes and arousing the emotions, but of little value in awakening the spirit and cultivating the humility necessary to approach the Sacred Presence without offense. The only relevant question to be answered in this matter is this: Would one really behave this way in the Presence of the Holy?

It was written of Moses that "The Lord spoke to Moses face to face as a man speaks to his friend . . ." (Exodus 33:11). And yet, when God came down on Mount Horeb to give the Israelites the Ten Commandments the Presence of God was so imposing and terrible "that Moses said 'I exceedingly fear and quake'" (Exodus 19:16; Hebrews 12:21); later God told Moses that the close proximity of the Holiness of the Lord and the stubbornness of the people would certainly end in disaster, and so He instructed Moses to pitch the Tabernacle outside the camp, "for I will not go up in the midst of thee . . . lest I consume thee in the way" (Exodus 33:3). The prophet Isaiah was one of the most influential and powerful prophets of the Old Testament, but when he came face to face with the Glory of God in the Temple and heard the Seraphim proclaim, "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, the earth is full of his glory", Isaiah could only cry out in anguish, "Woe is me! For I am undone . . . for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Hosts" (Isaiah 6:1-7). When the captive prophet Daniel saw the pre-incarnate Son near the river Tigris in Babylon he fell on his face and testified that "there remained no strength in me" (Daniel 10:8). When Peter, James, and John saw Jesus in His heavenly glory on the Mount of Transfiguration and heard the voice of God speak from Heaven, "they fell on their face and were sore afraid" (Matthew 17:6). When the exalted Christ appeared to Saint Paul on the road to Damascus he fell to the ground "trembling and astonished" (Acts 9:6). When John the Beloved saw the exalted Christ on the Isle of Patmos, he that had tenderly laid his head upon the bosom of Jesus at the last supper testified that "when I saw him, I fell at his feet as a dead man" (John 13:23ff.; Revelation 1:17).

The Sacred Tradition encouraged the faithful to approach the altar boldly and with confidence in the redemptive power of the Cross: "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). But the Sacred Tradition never ceased to admonish the faithful to temper that confidence with humility, serene silence, and a measure of trepidation: "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they consider not that they do evil. Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thy heart be hasty to utter anything before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon the earth: therefore let thy words be few!" (Ecclesiastes 5:1-2).

How do you dispose of old sacramentals?

When your rosary breaks or your crucifix falls apart, what should be done? Catholics who frequently use sacramentals (brown scapulars, St. Benedict medals, blessed rosary beads, etc.) often run into a problem when the object breaks or wears out. What should be done with these holy objects? Is it okay to simply throw them in the trash?

To briefly summarize, sacramentals are anything set apart or blessed by the Church for the purpose of sanctifying our lives and leading us to the sacraments. They are sacred signs and provide for us grace (spiritual help) through the intercession of the Church.

Sacramentals used at home can be any number of religious items that have been blessed by a priest or deacon — a rosary, medal, crucifix, or even a candle. Regardless of what it is, if it has been blessed by a member of the clergy, then it needs to be treated with due care (cf. Canon 1171).

As Catholics we believe that blessings from ordained ministers have real spiritual power. This is most evident in the seven sacraments, where the words of the priest can bring about a spiritual transformation. The obvious example is the Eucharist, where through the priest's words, the bread and wine at Mass become the Body and Blood of Christ. It is a miracle that God brings about through words said by his chosen ministers.

On a much lower but analogous level, we believe that when a priest or deacon blesses a religious object, something changes. We may not be able to see it, but at times we may feel the spiritual weight of a sacramental that has been blessed.

Consequently, Catholics are instructed to dispose of old sacramentals in a way that shows due reverence. All sacramentals can be either burned or buried in order to properly dispose of them. This type of disposal honors their sacred purpose and returns them to the earth in a dignified way. If a person is unable to do either, the sacramental may be dropped off at the parish office and someone on staff can take care of it.

We often forget that the physical things we see are only one part of a much larger universe. There exists a spiritual world around us that we cannot see, but which constantly affects our daily life. By treating sacramentals with respect, we recognize this basic truth and honor the heavenly blessing that was placed on the object by a priest or deacon.

~Philip Kosloski ~

~Mystagogy~
“Saint Raphael, Divine Healer, Pray for Us.”

Among the three archangels named in the Bible, St. Raphael is probably the least known. This is likely due to the fact that St. Raphael is only found in the Old Testament (and there only in a book not considered canonical by Jews or Protestant Christians), while Gabriel and Michael feature prominently in the New Testament.

Traditionally, Raphael had a separate feast celebrated on October 24, though recently his feast was combined with those of the other two archangels on September 29.

St. Raphael is a powerful intercessor whom we should not forget, especially during times when we are most in need of healing.

The following is a prayer to St. Raphael for any intention you may have, especially for anyone you know who may be hurting right now. In light of recent events, all of us should pray for the healing of our country, and all those suffering in mind, body or spirit.

Glorious Archangel St. Raphael, great prince of the heavenly court, you are illustrious for your gifts of wisdom and grace. You are a guide of those who journey by land or sea or air, consoler of the afflicted, and refuge of sinners. I beg you, assist me in all my needs and in all the sufferings of this life, as once you helped the young Tobias on his travels. Because you are the “medicine of God” I humbly pray you to heal the many infirmities of my soul and the ills that afflict my body. I especially ask of you the favor (here mention your special intention), and the great grace of purity to prepare me to be the temple of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

~Father Michael~

Pastor’s Corner

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”

~from Saint Paul to the Christian community in Philippi

A few days ago my mother was reminding me about these important words we heard during our second reading last Sunday. I, too, find this message particularly beautiful. St. Paul seems to cut through so much of where we get bogged down and find ourselves putting our attention. Rarely do I think about those things that are true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, gracious, excellent, and worthy of praise. When I do think about all those qualities, it’s in regard to how they seem to be so lacking in our world today. But St. Paul is not encouraging us to think about the qualities of purity, etc., but the things that are pure. What are the things in our lives that are true and honorable? Our thoughts can be so controlled by what is lacking that we forget about was is truly present. When I actually think about the things which are lovely and worthy of praise, my whole outlook on life changes for the better.

So here is a list of some of things I want to spend more time thinking about: The Bible, the lives of the Saints, flowers, the sky, babies, parenting, students, the sacraments, God’s forgiveness and mercy, mushrooms growing from the ground, honey, good food, reconciliation, people singing, volunteers, snow, the sun, God’s grace and love.

This list could be and needs to be much bigger. I really shouldn’t complete the list until I no longer can think.

~Father Michael~
This Week’s Everyday Stewardship
by Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Art Buchwald, the longtime humorist for the Washington Post who died in 2007 is credited with saying, "The best things in life aren’t things." As Christians, we know this statement to be true. Certainly the best things in our lives are not those items that money can buy or things we can create in the material world. Faith, hope, and love are more precious than anything we can see with our eyes. Yet, as humans we often find ourselves longing for the very things that we claim are not nearly as valuable. We lose sight of what is real and true.

Paul wrote in the fourth chapter of his Letter to the Philippians that he has experienced both living with abundance and then with very little. Regardless of what we have in terms of worldly goods, Paul reminds us that God provides for all our needs. God may not provide for our wants, but he does give us what we need.

The flesh seeks what it wants, but the spirit seeks what it needs. In a stewardship way of life, we must always remind ourselves that true wealth never comes from material possessions and money. True wealth comes from the love we share, the faith we develop, and the hope we bring to others. The best things in life aren't free, though. They require work, commitment, and fortitude. We need to cultivate these things daily. If we are serious about living life in this way, we will find that when our days on this earth are through, we really had it all.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION** — "My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?" Today's Gospel parable is unsettling in several ways. The various images of rejection, mistreatment, and violence paint an unpleasant picture. Guests refuse to come to a feast, servants are killed, troops are dispatched. The King continues to try to fill his dinner hall, and then when someone finally does show up, the King throws him out for wearing the wrong clothes. What is going on here?

The message would have been a poignant one for his Jewish listeners. As the chosen people, they were the first to receive the "invitation" to share in the kingdom of God. But the chief priests and elders were uninterested in accepting Jesus and his authority; thus they didn't show up for the feast. But what about those who did come? Something is expected of them as well. Donning a "wedding garment" is like being properly prepared to enter God's kingdom. Just showing up isn't enough.

Here it’s important to pay attention to the details. The King first calls his poorly dressed guest "friend." The approach begins with mercy and kindness. But the man gives no defense for himself, and displays no desire to change. It’s as if he doesn’t really care to be there at all.

The question this raises for us is whether or not we are "dressed" appropriately. We may hang around the banquet hall—going to church, professing to be Christian—but are we sincere guests of the King of kings? Do we truly accept Christ’s teachings and live by them, or are we just showing up? The splendors of the invitation Christ gives us should not be taken for granted. We are called to share in a royal feast. May we all be grateful guests.

Next week, we will celebrate **World Mission Sunday**. Each year, the entire Church is invited to support the young mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the poorest of the poor. This year, we are invited to “Chat With The Pope” to learn more about his missions. Scan this year’s World Mission Sunday poster using Facebook Messenger for your mobile device, or learn more at ChatWithThePope.org

A **free webinar** hosted by the Religious Alliance Against Pornography (RAAP), an interfaith effort working for a culture free from pornography, will be offered at two times: November 7 at 9:00 am (PST), and November 16 at 5 pm (PST). The webinar will focus on pornography’s destructive impact on youth in our communities and discuss practical steps parents, teachers and those in ministry can take to respond to this growing issue. Pastor Dean Inserra, founder and lead pastor of City Church, and Dr. David Blair, director of the Church of God’s Department of Youth and Discipleship, will present. You can learn more about RAAP and watch recordings of past webinars at https://www.religiousalliance.org/home.

**Holiday Craft Fair at St. Elizabeth of Portugal Parish Hall** on November 4 & 5, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 pm. Free admission. There will be a variety of handmade crafts and food. **Interested Vendors:** $25.00 for an 8 foot table for both days. Vendors will make a profit from their crafts and proceeds from the rental of the tables will go to the St. Elizabeth Parish building/maintenance fund. If interested in renting a table, please call 916-442-2333 or 916-928-1423 or email stelizportugal@gmail.com or battimarco7@aol.com by Tuesday, October 24th. The fair will be held at St. Elizabeth’s, 1817 12th Street, Sacramento, CA. 95811. Free Admission/Open to the public.

**Young & Married** — For all Catholic married couples. Come meet married couples in your community of faith. Openly discuss important issues like how to live in today’s world as a Catholic couple, being married with children, and prayer life. A four-part series on October 22 (Orientation), November 19, January 21, and February 25, 3:00pm to 5:00pm. Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center, 6520 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights. RSVP Fr. Giltus at 916-725-4720, x 311, or gthias@passionist.org.

“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.” ~John 14:1~
The most powerful tool the Lord has given us to help one another is prayer. If you, your family, or someone you know are in need of prayer, send your prayer request to cbsprayer3@yahoo.com or fill out the form on cathedral-sacramento.org. Hundreds of parishioners are always prepared and honored to take up your prayer for you.

“In trust of God’s infinite goodness, we pray to lift up our sick parishioners, family and friends, and those in need of healing of the body and soul.

Almighty Father, hear our prayers for...

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.

Visit cathedralsacramento.org for more information.
"Finalmente, hermanos y hermanas, todo lo que es verdadero, todo lo que es honorable, todo lo que es justo, todo lo puro, todo lo bello, todo lo amable, si hay excelencia y si hay algo digno de alabanza, piensa en estas cosas."

—de San Pablo a la comunidad cristiana en Filipos.

Hace unos días mi madre me estaba recordando estas importantes palabras que escuchamos en nuestra segunda lección el domingo pasado. Yo también encuentro este mensaje particularmente hermoso. San Pablo parece cortar tanto de donde nos atascamos y nos encontramos poniendo nuestra atención. Rara vez pienso en aquellas cosas que son verdaderas, honorables, justas, puras, admirables, graciosas, excelentes y dignas de alabanza. Cuando pienso en todas aquellas cualidades, es en relación a cómo parece ser tan carentes en nuestro mundo de hoy. Pero San Pablo no nos anima a pensar en las cualidades de la pureza, etc., sino en las cosas puras. ¿Cuáles son las cosas en nuestras vidas que son verdaderas y honorables? Nuestros pensamientos pueden ser tan controlados por lo que falta que nos olvidamos de que estaba realmente presente. Cuando realmente pienso en las cosas que son preciosas y dignas de alabanza, toda mi perspectiva de la vida cambia para mejor.

Así que aquí hay una lista de algunas de las cosas que quiero dedicar más tiempo a pensar: La Biblia, las vidas de los santos, las flores, el cielo, los bebés, los padres, los estudiantes, los sacramentos, el perdón y la misericordia de Dios, el suelo, la miel, la buena comida, la reconciliación, la gente cantando, los voluntarios, la nieve, el sol, la gracia de Dios y el amor.

Esta lista podría ser y debe ser mucho más grande. Realmente no debería completar la lista hasta que ya no pueda pensar.

—Padre Michael—

28º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario—Las lecturas que nos presenta la liturgia este domingo, concretamente la primera y la del Evangelio, nos ofrecen la oportunidad de centrar nuestro enfoque en la Eucaristía. Ahondaremos en la comprensión de este sacramento como banquete. El Concilio Vaticano II nos redescubre la Eucaristía como banquete y esto no contrapone con el otro significado de sacrificio. Los dos rasgos se complementan. Pues, bien, el Papa Francisco en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. “La Eucaristía es el sacramento de la Comunión, que nos hace salir en su homilía del 30 de mayo de 2013 nos anima con lo siguiente. "La Eucaristía es lo que cada domingo nos ofrece, la Eucaristía. Vayamos, pues, al banquete dominical; seamos cristianos no solo de estar sentados en la banca, sino de obra. Y a vivir como Dios manda: ¡Cómo sus hijos e hijas!

Por otra parte, Jesús nos da una cátedra en el Evangelio de cómo les respondió a los sacerdotes del Templo y a los ancianos del pueblo que le cuestionaban sobre su autoridad. A Dios lo que es de Dios y al César lo que le pertenece. Y lo que le pertenece a Dios en este caso es lo que cada domingo nos ofrece, la Eucaristía. Vayamos, pues, al banquete dominical; seamos cristianos no solo de estar sentados en la banca, sino de obra. Y a vivir como Dios manda: ¡Cómo sus hijos e hijas!

La próxima semana celebraremos el Domingo Mundial de las Misiones. Cada año, la Iglesia entera recibe la invitación de apoyar a las diócesis misioneras jóvenes de África, Asia, Islas del Pacífico, y partes de Latinoamérica y Europa, donde los sacerdotes, líderes religiosos y laicos atienden a la población más pobre entre los pobres. Este año recibimos la invitación de “chatear con el papa” para conocer más sobre sus misiones. Escanea el cartel del Domingo Mundial de las Misiones usando Facebook Messenger para tu aparatomóvil u obtén más información en el sitio ChatWithThePope.org.

¡Venga a prepararse para recibir sus Sacramentos!
Clases para Bautizo, Primera Comunión y Confirmación para adultos todos los lunes de 7pm a 8:45pm. Para mas información hable al 916 444 3071 x 15 con el Diacono Edgar o al 916 444 5364 con Sister Jenny.

Razonas Para Aprender Mas Sobre Tu Fe
Jesús nos pide: “vayan y hagan discípulos de todas las naciones, bautizándolos en el nombre del Padre y del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo, enseñándoles a obedecer todo lo que les he mandado a ustedes”. (Mateo 28, 19-20) Si somos seguidores de Jesús, o sea cristianos, es nuestro deseo hacer lo que Él nos pide. Los invitamos a venir todos los lunes de 7pm a 8:45pm a aprender más de tu fe. No hay costo alguno. Sólo se requiere traer biblia, cuaderno y pluma. Preguntas: 916-444-3071 ext 15 Diacono Edgar. ¡Te esperamos!

¿Tiene usted problemas después de un aborto? ¿Todavía anda buscando paz, años después de haber escogido esa alternativa? Experiménte la sanación amorosa de Jesús en el Retiro de Rachel's Vineyard (en español), el 27-29 de octubre en Auburn, patrocinado por la Diócesis de Sacramento. El retiro de fin de semana combinará discusiones, ejercicios espirituales basados en las Escrituras, el sacramento de Reconciliación, servicio de recordación y la misa. Abierto para mujeres, hombres, parejas y miembros de familia que hayan sido afectados por un aborto. El costo es de $175 por persona e incluye comidas, cuarto privado y los materiales del retiro. Tenemos asistencia financiera disponible. Para más información, llame al (916) 733-0161 o envíe un email al projectrachel@scd.org. Sus preguntas y participación son estrictamente confidenciales.
Chinese Community News
華人團體消息

本月事務會議將於10月15日(星期日)彌撒後在聖體大教堂會議室舉行，歡迎大家踊躍參加。

Our business meeting this month will be held on October 15, 2017 (Sun) after Mass at the meeting room of Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome to attend.

預留時間：

感恩節晚餐 11月19日(星期日) 下午六時至九時
聖誕節晚餐 12月17日(星期日) 下午六時至九時

Save the date:
Thanksgiving Dinner  November 19 (Sun) 6 - 9 pm
Christmas Dinner  December 17 (Sun) 6 – 9 pm

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
1017 11st Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

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