

IF YOU HAVE BEEN AWAY, WELCOME BACK!

We wish to welcome those who have been away from Church for a while. If this is your first time at Mass for some time, we hope you feel welcome here and we pray that the Lord touches your life in some special way this Christmas.

Coming back to Church after being away for a lengthy period of time is not easy. For this reason we are offering a special program for returning Catholics called "Welcome Back Catholics." The next series will run on six consecutive Tuesday nights from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, beginning January 9 and ending February 13. Sessions will be held in the Cathedral Lower Level.

People leave the Church or stop attending Mass for a variety of reasons. Some leave because of a marriage problem; others because of an angry exchange with some priest or staff member; others have problems with the



Rejoice! Your brother was lost and has been found.

Church's teaching.

Whatever your reason for leaving, this course will give you an opportunity to join with others like yourself as you seek healing and an update on how the Church has changed since you left.

For more information call **Tim Longdon at (916) 359-5540** or **Jorge Usi at (916) 444-5364** or **Sr. Jenny at (916) 444-5364**. This

program is also being

publicized through cards in the pews and our web site at www.cathedralsacramento.org.

AUXILIARY BISHOP RICHARD GARCIA NAMED BISHOP OF MONTEREY



Pope Benedict XVI has named Bishop Garcia to succeed Bishop Sylvester Ryan as Bishop of Monterey. Bishop Garcia has served as auxiliary bishop of Sacramento for the past nine years. He is also the Moderator of the Curia for the Diocese and Vicar for Hispanics and Other Ethnic Ministries. During his ministry, Bishop Garcia has brought a strong pastoral commitment to Catholic schools, Spanish-

speaking Catholics, new immigrants, migrant workers, youth, and inmates of state prisons. He traveled continually to parishes throughout the 20-county Diocese of Sacramento.

Bishop Richard Garcia will be installed as the fourth Bishop of Monterey during a Mass in Monterey on January 30, 2007. The Diocese of Monterey encompasses 46 parishes and 18 schools in the four central coast counties of Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Benito, and San Luis Obispo.

We are happy for the Diocese of Monterey, but are sad to see him leave the Diocese of Sacramento. There will be two farewell Masses and receptions for Bishop Garcia on Sunday January 21 at 1:30 pm at St. Joseph's Church in Redding and on January 28 at 2:30 pm at the Cathedral. All are welcome to attend.

Additional events include a Vespers Service with deacons, religious, and lay leaders on Sunday January 7 at 3:30 pm in the Cathedral and a Mass with priests on January 8 at 10:30 am, also in the Cathedral.

LAY FORMATION INSTITUTE 2007

The Lay Formation Institute has been designed and established as a program which provides opportunities for adults throughout the Diocese of Sacramento to become more knowledgeable about the Catholic faith, to grow spiritually, and to receive training for specific ecclesial ministries within the Catholic community. The institute is open to catechists, teachers, parents, and lay men and women in the diocese. Courses maybe taken individually or an entire institute. Those who complete the Lay Formation Institute has completed the coursework for Basic Catechist Certification from the Diocese of Sacramento.

The cost is \$25 for each 8 hour course or \$175 for all 7 sessions. All courses are held on weekends at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 2110 Broadway. On Friday, Session One lasts from 7-9:00 pm. On Saturday, Session Two lasts from 9 am to 4:00 pm. For additional information, contact **Kathy Wilson at (916) 733-0123** or kwilson@diocese-sacramento.org for a brochure of the whole year program.

Courses for the next few months include:

January 27/28	Foundations of Faith — Foundations of Christianity. Rev. Ed. Fassett, S.J.
February 2/3	Life in Christ: The Moral Life. Rev. Loreto Rojas
March 9/10	Celebration of the Christian Mystery. Jackson Schoos
April 20/21	Christian Prayer: What we pray. Rev. Brian Atienza.
May 11/12	Nature of Catechesis/Catechetical Development. Dr. Holly Peterson

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULES

Sunday, December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

- 5:00 pm Vigil Mass of Christmas
(Children's Mass)
- 7:00 pm (Spanish) Mass of Christmas
- 9:00 pm Mass of Christmas
- 11:30 pm Midnight Mass Prelude
- 12 Midnight Mass of Christmas
Cathedral Choir
Bishop Weigand presiding

Monday, December 25

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

- 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am
Cathedral Choir
Bishop Weigand presiding
- 1:00 pm Misa en Espanol, No Evening Mass

Sunday, December 31

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASSES

- Vigil Masses 5:00 pm
- 7:00 pm (Spanish)

Monday January 1

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

- 12:00 Noon
- 1:00 pm Spanish
- No Evening Mass

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE & RECONCILIATION

- Monday - Friday 11:35 am -12:05 pm
- Saturday 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS AT 5 PM

Today, the first Christmas Mass will be held at 5:00 pm with children of the Cathedral Parish Religious Education Program providing music and a simple presentation of the Christmas story during the Gospel reading. Please join in celebrating the first Mass of Christmas with our young shepherds and angels and sing along with them the hymns of Christmas.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS PLACEMENT EXAM

The High School Placement Exam for prospective students of all four Catholic high schools will be on Saturday January 27, at 8:00 am. Registration for the exam should be done at the school you plan to attend in the fall. For more information, please contact the individual school's admission's offices at:

Christian Brothers High School:733-3690
-OR- www.cbhs-sacramento.org

Jesuit High School:482-6060
-OR- Register online @ www.jhssac.org

Loretto High School: 482-7793 x103
-OR- www.loretto.net

St. Francis High School: 452-3461 x195
-OR- www.stfranchishs.org

There is a \$30 testing fee payable at the exam. The following are important dates in the process of admission:

- Recommendation Forms due..... **Friday, Feb 9**
- Student-Parent Interviews **Sat/Sun Feb 10/11**
- Admission Decisions sent home **Friday Mar 16**

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MON 12/25/2006	CHRISTMAS DAY
<i>See schedules at left</i>	
TUES 12/26/2006	St. Stephen, first martyr
12:10 pm:	Maria Becerril + & living family
5:10 pm:	Linda Costigan +
WED 12/27/2006	St. John, apostle
12:10 pm:	Gary Soria, S.I.
5:10 pm:	Jim McInstosh +
THURS 12/28/2006	Holy Innocents, martyrs
12:10 pm:	Becerril family, S.I.
5:10 pm:	Jovenal Milendres +
FRI 12/29/2006	St. Thomas Becket, martyr
12:10 pm:	Muoi Dang +

New Parishioner Registration and Change of Address Form

Name: _____ Envelope No.: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Fill out and deposit in Offertory Basket. Thank You!