



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



A Message from the Rector

On Wednesday of this coming week, we will celebrate the feast of Mary's Immaculate Conception. We understand by her Immaculate Conception that she was free from the taint of original sin from the very moment she was conceived in her mother's womb. Christ, Who is so utterly sinless, could not fittingly have been born of one who was in the clutches of Satan, even for a single second. The universal curse of human weakness, therefore, was lifted at the moment of her conception. We salute and praise our Sinless Queen on this happy feast.

What Catholics Believe and Why!

The core of our belief is summarized in the *Creed*. The first words of this formula are I BELIEVE. Now what does it mean to believe? In the first place, it doesn't mean the same thing as *I suppose* or *I imagine* or *I think so*. Faith is certainty that something is true because God has revealed it. It need not be something understood by our intellect or mind. In fact, there are certain things which we believe which we cannot understand because they are mysteries. But let us bear in mind that a mystery is not repugnant to the mind. If we were to say *I believe there can be a square circle*, the mind could not accept it. On the other hand, when we say that Our Lord is present in the Blessed Sacrament, the mind is overwhelmed by the grandeur of the thought, but does not find it repugnant.

There is a second thing about faith and belief that is very important – smart people don't have a monopoly on it. One's education and learning are not, of themselves, stepping-stones to faith.

Not long ago, a very prominent educator was writing in Catholic magazines on Catholic topics with a great deal of ability – but he was not a Catholic. Someone inquired if he didn't think he would soon be a Catholic. The reply given was very simple: *You should certainly know that Faith is a free gift of God which I cannot of myself merit until it pleases Him.*

We hear a great deal of talk these days about non-practicing Catholics who have presumably lost the faith. In charity, we should not pass judgment on them, for we too are weak. But it has long been a belief of Catholic teachers that the greatest peril to the gift of faith is not living our faith. Should we ever fall into sin, let us hasten to Confession and Holy Communion. Otherwise we might find ourselves giving alleged reasons for leaving the Church e.g. "I just can't believe anything that can't be proved," "I can be a good Catholic without going to Mass," among others we often hear.

God bless you in the beautiful Advent Season as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Fr. Michael F. Kiernan

Mensaje del Rector

El miércoles de la semana entrante, celebraremos la fiesta de La Inmaculada Concepción de María. Nosotros entendemos por su Inmaculada Concepción que ella estaba libre del pecado original desde el momento que ella fue concebida en el vientre de su madre. Cristo, Quien es absolutamente sin pecado, no pudo haber nacido de quien estaba en las garras de Satanás, aun por un segundo. La maldición universal de la debilidad humana, así que, fue levantado al momento de su concepción. Nosotros reconocemos y alabamos a nuestra Reina Sin Pecado en esta feliz fiesta.

¡Lo Que Católicos Crean y Porque!

El centro de nuestra creencia está resumida en el Credo. Las primeras palabras de esta fórmula es YO CREO. ¿Ahora que significa creer? En primer lugar, no significa lo mismo que Yo supongo o Yo imagino, o Yo pienso así que. La Fé es ciertamente eso que algo que es cierto porque Dios lo reveló. No necesariamente es algo que debe ser entendido por nuestro intelecto o nuestra mente. Por cierto, hay ciertas cosas en que creemos que no podemos entender porque son misterios. Pero tengamos en mente que un misterio no es repugnante a nuestra mente. Si digieramos Yo creo puede haber un círculo cuadrado, la mente no lo puede aceptar. De otra manera, cuando decimos que Nuestra Señora está presente en el Sagrado Sacramento, la mente está abrumada por la grandesa del pensamiento, pero no lo encuentra repugnante.

Hay una segunda cosa sobre la Fé y la creencia que es muy importante- la gente inteligente no tiene un monopolio sobre ella. La educación y aprendizaje de uno, son asimismo escalones a la fe.

No hace mucho tiempo, un educador muy prominente estaba escribiendo en una revista Católica sobre temas Católicos con una gran capacidad. Alguien preguntó si él no pensaba si algún día podría ser Católico. La respuesta que se dio fue muy sencilla: Ciertamente deberías saber que la Fé es un regalo gratuito de Dios en el cual Yo no puedo merecer hasta que le agrade a Él.

Hemos escuchado bastante estos días sobre católicos no-practicantes que presuntamente han perdido su Fé. Por caridad, no debemos juzgarlos, porque somos muy débiles. Pero por largo tiempo ha sido la creencia de maestros Católicos que el mayor peligro al regalo de la Fé es no vivir la Fé. Si alguna vez caemos en pecado, dejemos apresuradamente a la Confesión y a La Sagrada Eucaristía. Si no podemos encontrar razones afirmadas por dejar la iglesia. Por ejemplo "Yo no puedo creer nada que no ha sido probado," "Yo no puedo ser un buen Católico sin ir a Misa," entre otras que frecuentemente escuchamos.

Que Dios los bendiga en este tiempo precioso de Adviento mientras nos preparamos para celebrar el nacimiento de Cristo.

Padre Michael F. Kiernan

CATHEDRAL MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

(2ND WEEK OF ADVENT)

MON 12/6/2010 **ST. NICHOLAS, BISHOP**
 12:10 pm: Kevin Aguilar +
 5:10 pm: All Souls +

TUES 12/7/2010 **ST. AMBROSE, BISHOP & DOCTOR**
 12:10 pm: Thomas & Mary Ann Mason +
 5:10 pm: Mary Alice Schmidt +

WED 12/8/2010 **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**
 12:10 pm: Rosendo Christy +
 5:10 pm: Mass of Immaculate Conception

THUR 12/9/2010 **ST. JUAN DIEGO**
 12:10 pm: Cas Holloway, Jr. +
 5:10 pm: Earl Jones +

FRI 12/10/2010 **ST. DAMASUS, POPE**
 12:10 pm: Khan Nguyen +

NO EVENING MASS ON FRIDAYS

TODAY'S READINGS

ISAIAH 11: 1-10 **HE SHALL JUDGE THE POOR WITH JUSTICE**

ROMANS 15: 4-9 **CHRIST SAVES EVERYONE**

MATTHEW 3: 1-12 **REPENT! THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND!**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MON 12/6/2010 [Is 35:1-10](#); [Lk 5:17-26](#)

TUES 12/7/2010 [Is 40:1-11](#); [Mt 18:12-14](#)

WED 12/8/2010 [Gn 3:9-15, 20](#); [Eph 1:3-6, 11-12](#);
[Lk 1:26-38](#)

THU 12/9/2010 [Is 41:13-20](#); [Mt 11:11-15](#)

FRI 12/10/2010 [Is 48:17-19](#); [Mt 11:16-19](#)

~ BAPTISMS (DECEMBER) ~

(9AM DEC 11 SPANISH; 9AM DEC 18 ENGLISH)

DOMINIC AZAR
 AVA GALLOWAY
 BABY GOMEZ
 CECILIA HUANG
 KARA NAVRVAEZ
 EMANUEL REYNA-JEW
 ALEXANDER VILLASENOR
 ETHAN ZAMORA

~WEDDINGS (DECEMBER) ~

GUMANAS-THIPHAVONG (DEC 11-2PM)
 MARTINEZ-CASTANEDA (DEC 18-2PM)

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUN 12/5/2010

9:00 am RCIA Children and Teens
 9:30 am RCIA Breaking the Word
 11:15 am NO Spanish Religious Education
 1:00 pm Religious Education (Chinese)

MON 12/6/2010

6:30 pm Evening Prayer RCIA Team
 7:00 pm RCIA classes
 7:30 pm SVDP Feed the Homeless Program

TUES 12/7/2010

7:00 pm Teens Confirmation Class (English)

WED 12/8/2010

7:00 pm Communion and Liberation
 7:00 pm Ushers Meeting
 7:00 pm Youth Group
 7:15 pm Cathedral Choir practice (English)
 7:30 pm SVDP Feed the Homeless Program

THUR 12/9/2010

7:00 pm Teens Confirmation Class (Spanish)
 7:15 pm Spanish Choir practice

FRIDAY 12/10/2010

SAT 12/11/2010

9:00 am Baptisms (Spanish)
 11:00 am Religious Education (English)

ADVENT BABY BOTTLE PROJECT?

SEE PAGE 6 TO SEE WHAT ARE CHILDREN ARE DOING



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

“COULD YOU NOT KEEP WATCH WITH ME ONE HOUR?”

WED & THUR 12:40PM-4:45PM FRI 12:40PM-3:45PM
 TO SIGN UP CALL ISABELLA CAZARES 391-1760 OR 833-1948, OR E-MAIL BECAZ96@SBCGLOBAL.NET

CATHEDRAL TOURS

EVERY SUNDAY AFTER 9:00 AM AND 11 AM MASSES

CATHEDRAL GIFT SHOP

MONDAY-THURSDAY 11:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
 EVERY SUNDAY 9:00 AM--3:00 PM

~MAJOR FUNDRAISER FOR CATHEDRAL HOMELESS PROGRAM ~

GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS TODAY AND
SUPPORT THE CATHEDRAL PARISH

FOURTH ANNUAL

Festival of Trees and Lights TODAY

A BENEFIT FOR THE CATHEDRAL SQUARE
HOMELESS PROGRAM

DECORATED CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE CRAFTS
- FOOD – FAMILY FUN

This year's Festival of Trees and Lights will be held in the Lower Level of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. The Festival of Trees and Lights is the fundraiser that supports the Cathedral Square Homeless Program. Did you know that this program has been providing temporary housing to some of Sacramento's downtown homeless and assisting their transition into permanent housing? It is the purpose of the Cathedral Outreach to get the homeless off the streets. The Festival supports the Cathedral Square Program which has been operating since 2005. This year, the Festival will feature:

VISIT WITH SANTA and photos too (by Paul Gaviglio)

CHILDREN'S AREA to make Christmas Gifts for the family

CHRISTMAS TREES to buy for yourself or to give to a charity

COOKBOOK with Father Kiernan's and Monsignor Murphy's favorite recipes

GIFT BOUTIQUE

FOOD- BBQ sticks, lumpia, and tamales and more

RAFFLE PRIZES: Grand Prize - Hawaiian Vacation on the Beach at Waikiki; Cash Prizes: \$1000, \$500, \$250, \$150, \$50; Lustrous Strand of pink pearls

GIFT CARDS and much more

COMPRE SUS BOLETOS PARA EL SORTEO Y APOYA A LA
CATEDRAL

CUARTO

Festival Anual de Árboles y Luces TODAY

A BENEFICIO DEL PROGRAMA DE LA PLAZA DE LA
CATEDRAL PARA PERSONAS SIN HOGAR ÁRBOLES DE
NAVIDAD DECORADOS EN VENTA - DIVERSION EN
FAMILIA – ANTOJITOS- MANUALIDADES

El festival de este año de los Árboles y las Luces se llevará a cabo en el sótano de la Catedral del Santísimo Sacramento. El Festival de los árboles y las luces es la recaudación de fondos que apoya al Programa de la Plaza de la Catedral para personas sin hogar. ¿Sabía usted que este programa proporciona alojamiento temporal a algunas personas desamparadas del centro de Sacramento y ayuda en su transición a vivienda permanente? Es el propósito de este esfuerzo ayudar a los desamparados a dejar las calles. El Festival apoya el Programa de la Plaza de la Catedral, que ha estado operando desde 2005. Este año, el Festival contará on:

VISITA CON SANTA y las fotos también (por Pablo Gaviglio)

ESPACIO PARA LOS NIÑOS para hacer regalos de Navidad para la familia

ÁRBOLES DE NAVIDAD para comprar para sí mismo o para dar a una organización benéfica

LIBRO DE COCINA con el padre Kiernan y recetas favoritas Monseñor Murphy

TIENDA DE REGALOS

ANTOJITOS-CARNE A LA PARRILLA, lumpia, y tamales y más

RIFA DE PREMIOS: Gran Premio - vacaciones de Hawaii en la playa de Waikiki, premios en efectivo: \$1000, \$500, \$250, \$150, \$50; collar de perlas de color rosa

TARJETAS DE REGALO y mucho más

Para más información o para ser voluntario:
Póngase en contacto con Valerie
vwchun@gmail.com Chun o 916-212-5355

For information or to volunteer: Contact Valerie
Chun vwchun@gmail.com or 916-212-5355

~ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS ~

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8**

The Solemnity of the Conception of Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation this year and falls nine months before her birth on September 8. A summary of Church teaching on this solemnity may be found in today's Preface which reflects Vatican II's document *Lumen Gentium*. First, Mary was free from sin from the moment she was conceived. Second, Mary, as a sign of the Church, is the bride of Christ, radiant in beauty (Eph 5: 27). Third, the purity of Mary emanates from the innocence of the Lamb. And fourth, Mary was predestined to be the advocate of grace and the model of sanctity for the People of God. We come to Mass today with the words of the angel Gabriel echoing in our hearts:

“Blessed are we among the people because we have been chosen to bring Him into the world anew today.”

The Masses for the Immaculate Conception at the Cathedral will be at 12:10 PM & 5:10 PM Wednesday December 8., 2010

INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN

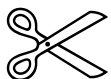
**DÍA SANTO DE OBLIGACIÓN
MIÉRCOLES 08 DE DICIEMBRE**

La solemnidad de la Concepción de María es un día de precepto este año y cae nueve meses antes de su nacimiento el 8 de septiembre. Un resumen de las enseñanzas de la Iglesia en esta solemnidad se pueden encontrar en el Prefacio de hoy, que refleja el documento del Vaticano II *Lumen Gentium*. En primer lugar, María estuvo libre del pecado desde el momento en que fue concebida. En segundo lugar, María, como un signo de la Iglesia, es la novia de Cristo, radiante de belleza (Eph 5, 27). En tercer lugar, la pureza de María emana de la inocencia del Cordero. Y en cuarto lugar, María estaba predestinada a ser la abogada de gracia y el modelo de santidad para el Pueblo de Dios. Llegamos a la Misa de hoy con las palabras del ángel Gabriel eco en nuestros corazones:

"Bienaventurados los que entre la gente porque hemos sido elegidos para traerlo al mundo de nuevo hoy."

Las misas de la Inmaculada Concepción en la Catedral será a las

12:10 pm y 5:10 pm Miércoles 8 de diciembre., 2010



PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CATHEDRAL PARISH REGISTRATION & UPDATE

THANK YOU

NAME #1: _____
(LAST NAME, FIRST NAME)

NAME #2: _____
(LAST NAME, FIRST NAME)

ADDRESS: _____
(STREET ADDRESS) (CITY) (STATE) (ZIP CODE)

PHONE: () _____ () _____ () _____
(HOME) (CELL) (WORK)

EMAIL: HOME _____ WORK _____

PREFERRED METHOD OF WEEKLY OFFERING:

- _____ OFFERING ENVELOPES (WILL BE SENT TO YOUR HOME)
- _____ BILLPAY THROUGH YOUR BANK (USUALLY DONE ON-LINE ON YOUR BANK'S WEB SITE)
- _____ CATHEDRAL WEB SITE: WWW.CATHEDRALSACRAMENTO.ORG (ONLINE DONATIONS)

(MAY GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR BEAUTIFUL CATHEDRAL.)

PLEASE RETURN BY: 1) PUT INTO COLLECTION BASKET AT MASS; 2) SCAN TO PDF FILE AND EMAIL TO: BLESSED@CATHEDRALSACRAMENTO.ORG; 3) FAX TO: 916-443-2749; OR 4) MAIL TO: 1017 11th STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814.

HELP CATHEDRAL YOUTH GO TO MADRID

The Faith Formation Department would like to sponsor four teens from our youth group to participate in the World Youth Day with Pope Benedict XVI next August 2011 in Madrid. You may help by giving donations to Sr. Jenny. We are also selling Cathedral cups and a portion of the proceeds will go to support them. The cups will be available in the Cathedral vestibule after all Masses.



school in New York City. This stop is part of a Winter Tour of California. The Cathedral has been asked to provide host families for the 35 singers. If you are willing to open up your home to a couple singers for the evening of January 8, please contact Rex Rallanka, Director of Music, at (916)444-3070, ext 38 or email rrallanka@cathedral.sacramento.org.

CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you wish to make donations for our Cathedral Christmas



Flowers, please use the envelopes shown at left available in the vestibule of the Cathedral and on the back tables. Place in any collection.

ADVENT BABY BOTTLE PROJECT

To teach our children to care for the less fortunate, a baby bottle was distributed to each child, teenager, and teacher at the beginning of the Advent Season. The bottles are to be filled with cash donations and returned during the children's Christmas Party on December 18. The money donated will be given to the Sacramento Life Center and the Holy Childhood Association.



ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

Catholic Charities of Sacramento is seeking individuals or families interested in 'adopting' a local family in need for Christmas. Donors are asked to provide gifts as well as a grocery store gift card. This year we are anticipating that more families will be in need than ever before. Please call the Catholic Charities office at 916-733-0253 for more information. You may also visit our website at www.diocese-sacramento.org to obtain a donor registration form or to apply online.

REQUEST FOR HOST FAMILIES

The Choir of Fordham University will be singing at Mass on Saturday, January 8 at 5 PM. Fordham University is a Jesuit

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 2ND COLLECTION

CATHEDRAL PARISH ENRICHMENT APPEAL

APELACIÓN DE ENRIQUECIMIENTO DE LA PARROQUIA DE LA CATEDRAL

Your Gift is a Blessing for Our Church

Su regalo es una bendición para nuestra Iglesia

With your pledge, you build up our Cathedral Parish - the Body of Christ. Fr. Michael
Con su promesa, esta construyendo nuestra parroquia de la catedral - el cuerpo de Cristo. Padre Michael.

With faith in God and my love for the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Parish, I pledge:
Con fe en Dios y mi amor por la Catedral de la parroquia del Santísimo Sacramento, me comprometo:

Monthly Amount (*Mensual*): \$10 \$20 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$200 Other \$_____

Quarterly Amount (*Trimestral*): \$30 \$60 \$75 \$150 \$300 \$600 Other \$_____

Annual Amount (*Anual*): \$120 \$240 \$300 \$600 \$1200 \$2400 Other \$_____

Name (*Nombre*) _____

Address (*Domicilio*) _____

City/Zip (*Ciudad/Zona Postal*) _____ Phone (*Telefono*) _____

Email _____

Please detach and place in the offering plate or mail to:
Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 1017 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Thank you.

*Por favor, coloque su forma de donación en la canasta de las ofrendas o por correo:
Catedral del Santísimo Sacramento, 1017 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Gracias.*

Christmas 2010

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Friday, 24 December

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

11:30 am—12:30 pm and 3:00—4:30 pm

5:00 PM Vigil Mass (Children's Mass)

7:00 PM (Spanish)

9:00 PM Most Rev. William K. Weigand presiding

11:30 PM – Musical Prelude

12:00 Midnight – Midnight Mass of Christmas

Most Rev. Jaime Soto, presiding -

Cathedral Choir

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Saturday, 25 December

7:30 AM,

9:00 AM Most Rev. Bishop Jaime Soto presiding

11:00 AM – Most Rev. William K. Weigand, presiding -

Cathedral Choir

1:00 PM – (Spanish) Most Rev. William K. Weigand presiding

No Evening Mass

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Friday, 31 December

5 PM, 7PM (Spanish) Vigil Masses

Saturday, 1 January

1:00 PM (Bilingual)

5:00 pm Vigil of Epiphany

CAN SCIENCE PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF GOD?

Did you know that some of the most spectacular advances in science and human thought have occurred since 1964?



What does that mean for Catholics? How do Big Bang and string theories relate to Aquinas and Augustine? Find out, when Jesuit scholar and physicist Robert. J. Spitzer discusses his 2010 book "New Proofs for the Existence of God" and explores what he calls "the strongest rational foundation for faith that has come to light in human history." This is a lunch

presentation hosted by the Sacramento Catholic Forum (On the Web: www.SacCatholicForum.org) at the Sacramento Radisson Hotel (500 Leisure Ln.) on Fri., Dec. 17, 2010 at 12:00 p.m. \$25 pre-paid online and \$30 at the door. Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m. Fr. Spitzer served as the president of Gonzaga University from 1998 to 2009 and currently

serves as the president of the Magis Center of Reason and Faith.

CATHEDRAL NIGHT OUT WITH KINGS!

The Cathedral Choir will sing the National Anthem at the Sacramento Kings Game On Monday, December 27 at 7 pm. Come support the Choir and the Sacramento Kings! Two sections of discounted seats have been reserved. proceeds benefit the Cathedral Choir Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the Winter of 2011-2012.

When: Monday December 27, 2010 @ 7 pm

Where: Arco Arena

Price: \$25/Upper Level \$55/Lower Level

All seats are together, so we will all be sitting in the same place. Last Day to reserve tickets is December 5.

Name: _____

Number of Tickets: _____

Upper Section Lower Section:

Total Amount: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Please give form and payment to a musician after Mass or mail to Rex Rallanka, Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 1017 11th St, Sacramento, CA 95814. Checks payable to Cathedral of the Blessed Sacramento, memo: choir fund raising. For more information, call Rex at (916) 444-3070 or email rrallanka@cathedralsacramento.org

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS NEXT WEEKEND DEC 12

Were you aware that about 58% of women and men religious are past age 70; 7% past age 90, and more than 4,900 need skilled nursing care? Community living provides some help, but health care and living costs in most religious communities far exceed income, as most elderly religious receive, on average, a Social Security benefit of just \$4,402 per year (the average U.S. beneficiary receives \$12,948 annually). Your gift makes a difference! Please give generously to next week's special collection. **Please make your check payable to "name of parish."** For more information see www.retiredreligious.org.

FONDO DE RETIRO PARA RELIGIOSOS PRÓXIMO FIN DE SEMANA Dec 12

¿Sabía usted que el 58% de mujeres y hombres religiosos son mayores de 70 años?, el 7% mayores de 90 y más de 4,900 necesitan cuidado especial de enfermos? Cuando viven en comunidades ayuda un poco, pero el cuidado de salud y el costo de vida en la mayoría de las comunidades religiosas excede mucho más de sus ingresos, ya que la mayoría de los religiosos ancianos reciben, un promedio del Seguro Social de www.retiredreligious.org \$4,402 por año (el promedio que reciben los beneficiarios de Estados Unidos es de \$12,948 anualmente). ¡Su donación hace una gran diferencia! Les pedimos que participen generosamente en la colecta especial de la próxima semana. **Por favor hagan el cheque a nombre de su parroquia.** Para más información pueden ver www.retiredreligious.org