



Mary, Mother of God

MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Mahatma Gandhi believed that violence springs from seven root causes or “blunders” as he described them. Since being aware of what causes a problem can be the first step toward doing something about it, I share his list of “evils.” Although Gandhi has been dead for 46 years, his words are proof that truth is timeless. Here is his list:

- Wealth without work.
- Pleasure without conscience.
- Knowledge without character.
- Commerce without morality.
- Science without humanity.
- Worship without sacrifice.
- Politics without principles.

On this first Sunday of the year, the Feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, we realize that our world is in a sorry state indeed. But of course as Catholic Christians we never lose hope. As always Pope Benedict XVI has words of wisdom to encourage and challenge us. “The church should fear the sin of its own members more than hatred against Christians. While it has suffered from persecution throughout its history, the Church supported by light and strength of God will always end up victorious. Overcoming trials and outside threats shows how the Christian community is the presence, the guarantee of God’s love against all ideologies of hatred and selfishness. The only danger the church can and should fear is the sin of her members. As we celebrate the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother, we know that she is free from every stain of sin. The church is holy, but at the same time is marked by our sins. Christians rightly turn to Mary for help and encouragement in living a truly Christian life. She gives hope which we really need, especially at this very difficult time for many parts of the world. Mary helps us see that there is a light beyond the blanket of fog that seems to envelop reality. God has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him as Paul taught in his letter to the Ephesians. In her sinless perfection, Mary is a great sign of hope for the church and for the world, a sign of the marvels that God’s grace can accomplish in us, his human creatures,” the Pope said.

The priests and staff of the Cathedral Parish extend their warmest greetings to all for a New Year filled with grace and blessed with the Peace of Christ.

MENSAJE DEL RECTOR

Mahatma Gandhi creyó que la violencia surge de siete causas o "Desatinos" como él lo describió. Ya que siendo conscientes de lo que causa un problema puede ser el primer paso para hacer algo al respecto, comparto su lista de "males". Aunque Gandhi murió hace 46 años, sus palabras son la prueba de que la verdad es para siempre. Esta es su lista:

- § Riqueza sin trabajo.
- § Placer sin conciencia.
- § Conocimiento sin carácter.
- § Comercio sin moralidad.
- § Ciencia sin humanidad.
- § Adoración sin sacrificio.
- § Política sin principios.

En este primer domingo del año, la fiesta de María, la Santa madre de Dios, nos damos cuenta de que nuestro mundo está en un lamentable estado. Pero por supuesto como Cristianos Católicos nunca perdemos la esperanza. Como siempre, el Papa Benedicto XVI tiene palabras de sabiduría para alentar y nos interpelan. "La Iglesia debe temer el pecado de sus miembros más que odio contra los cristianos. Si bien ha sufrido persecución a lo largo de su historia, la Iglesia apoyada por luz y fuerza de Dios siempre terminará victorioso. Superarlos peligros y las amenazas externas muestra cómo la comunidad Cristiana es la presencia, la garantía del amor de Dios contra todas las ideologías de odio y egoísmo. El único peligro que la iglesia puede y debe temer es el pecado de sus miembros. Al celebrar la fiesta de María, la Madre de Dios y nuestra Madre, sabemos que ella es libre de toda mancha de pecado. La iglesia es Santa, pero al mismo tiempo está marcada por nuestros pecados.



Los Cristianos acertadamente piden a María su ayuda y el aliento de una vida verdaderamente Cristiana. Ella nos da la esperanza que realmente necesitamos, especialmente en este momento muy difícil para muchas partes del mundo. María nos ayuda a ver que hay una luz más allá de la capa de niebla que parece envolver la realidad. Dios nos ha bendecido en Cristo con toda bendición espiritual en los cielos, nos escogió El antes de la Fundación del mundo, para ser Santos y sin imperfección, como Pablo enseñó en su carta a los Efesios. En su perfección sin pecado, María es un gran signo de esperanza para la Iglesia y para el mundo, un signo de las maravillas que puede lograr la gracia de Dios en nosotros, sus criaturas humanas, " dijo el Papa.

Los sacerdotes y el personal de la Parroquia Catedral le extienden sus saludos más tibios a todo para un Año Nuevo llenó de gracia y bendijo con la Paz de Cristo.

~ SANTO NINO JANUARY 14 ~

The 2012 Santo Nino Festival will be celebrated by the Filipino-American Community on Saturday, January 14 at the Cathedral. At 10:30 am we will have SINULOG by bringing the statues to the altar. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 am. The Most



Reverend Bishop Jaime Soto as the main celebrant with Fr. Michael F. Kiernan and Fr. Arlon M. Vergara, OSA, concelebrating. We encourage everyone to fulfill the 9 days novena in their own respective parishes. There will be a pot luck meal and reception right after the mass at the Sisters of Mercy Hall in the Cathedral Lower Level. Families with surnames beginning with a letter (A-G) are asked to bring Chicken, (H-N) Pansit, (O-U) Lumpia, and (V-Z) Dessert. The Hermanas/ Hermanos Mayor for this

year will be Alfred/Daisy Laurente, Larry/Evelyn Formentera and Dan/Marilyn Rivers. The festival commemorates the miraculous preservation of the statue of the Holy Infant from the fire in the City of Cebu in the Philippines during the war between the Spaniards and the natives.

END-OF-THE-YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

More money is contributed to charities in the month of December than any other month of the year. Many individuals will make advantage of this year's tax benefits. In order to do so, checks must be dated and envelopes postmarked on or before December 31, 2011. If you are in the position to make end-of-the-year contributions, please consider the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Parish as a beneficiary of your support.



Donating securities such as stocks, bonds or mutual funds can give special tax benefits. If you would like to contribute securities to the Cathedral

Parish, please contact me directly to discuss the specifics as to tax benefits and safe and secure ways to turn the securities over to the parish. Keep in mind, contributions must be finalized and/or postmarked on or before December 31st.

CONTRIBUCIONES DE FIN DE AÑO

Más dinero es contribuido a caridades en el mes de Diciembre que en ningun mes del año. Muchos individuos tomaran ventaja de los beneficios de impuestos de este año. Para poder hacer esto,

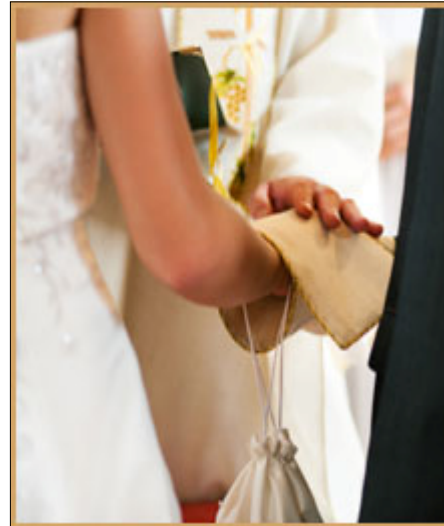
los cheques deben tener la fecha o el sello del correo en o antes del 31 de Diciembre 2011. Si usted tiene la oportunidad de hacer una contribucion de fin de año, porfavor considere La Parroquia de la Catedral del Sagrado Sacramento como beneficiario de su contribucion.

Donar seguros como acciones, bonos, or fondos mutuos le puede dar beneficios especiales de impuestos. Si le gustaria contribuir seguros a la Parroquia de La Catedral, porfavor de contactarme directamente a mi para discutir las formas especificas del beneficio de impuestos y formas seguras de donar los seguros a la parroquia. Tenga en mente, las contribuciones deben estan finalizadas o selladas por el correo en o antes del 31 de Diciembre.

U.S. BISHOPS LAUNCH NEW WEBSITE, 'MARRIAGE: UNIQUE FOR A REASON,' WITH RELIABLE INFO

Catholics seeking reliable information on what the Catholic Church teaches about marriage can visit

www.marriageuniqueforareason.org, a website featuring resources such as an extensive frequently-asked questions section on the meaning of marriage, a compilation of Catholic teaching on marriage, a blog, and videos, "Made for Each Other" and "Made for Life."



The site, which was launched by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage, also invites visitors to subscribe to the blog. Portions of the site will be translated into Spanish.

"The launch of the 'Marriage: Unique for

a Reason' website demonstrates the continued efforts of the bishops to educate the faithful on the unique meaning of marriage as the union of one man and one woman and on marriage's foundational place for the flourishing of any society," said Bishop Salvatore Cordileone of Oakland, chairman of the Subcommittee. "The website will establish an online presence for the Subcommittee's work, and will serve as a reliable place where inquiring Catholics and others can find authentic teaching about marriage."

The Marriage: Unique for a Reason website is the latest phase in the USCCB's ongoing catechetical and educational work on marriage. The initiative began in June 2010 with the release of "Made for Each Other," and continued in June 2011 with the release of "Made for Life." Future video resources include a Spanish-language video, and videos about marriage and the common good and marriage and religious liberty, due out next year.

ENRICHMENT APPEAL COLLECTION TODAY JANUARY 1, 2012

1. Funding for Cathedral Square Housing for the poor - \$30,000
2. Office improvements e.g. electrical, plumbing, paint, floor work, repairs, restructuring office space, updating computers and phones \$30,000
3. Manogue renovation project - \$130,000
4. Cathedral Renovation Loan Retirement - \$210,000

The number of active families in our Cathedral Parish, based on statistical evidence, is very conservatively estimated to be 1,200. We are confident, given the simplicity and flexibility of the plan, that everyone will participate, but the goal can be reached through reasonable, comfortable pledge amounts from just 80% of the estimated number of families. Some are able to give in amounts greater than shown here, while others will need to look for future opportunities to get involved, but however the goals are achieved, it is a whole family effort!

The following gift plans are presented for your prayerful consideration. All gifts are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to Cathedral Parish Enrichment Appeal.

SEE FORM BELOW

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS

On Saturday, January 21, 2012 all Sacramento Area Catholic High Schools will be holding their Placement Testing. You must be in 8th grade & register prior to the test date at the school of your choice. All contact information is below. Each student should bring two #2 pencils. Calculators are not permitted.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS HIGH SCHOOL

Students are automatically registered when they apply online. www.cbhs-sacramento.org Please arrive no later than 8:45 a.m. The test will end by 1:00 p.m. Kelly Harrington (916) 733-3690 kharrington@cbhs-sacramento.org

ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL

Register for the test online at www.stfrancishs.org Please arrive no later than 7:45 a.m. The test will end by 12:15 p.m. Snacks will be provided. Moira O'Brien (916) 737-5095 mobrien@stfrancishs.org

JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL

Registration begins online December 1, 2011 at www.jhssac.org Please arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. The test will end by 12:15 p.m. Debbie Case (916) 482-6060 ext.227 cased@jhssac.org

CRISTO REY HIGH SCHOOL

Register for the test by calling the Admissions Office at (916) 400-3478 Please arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. Ileana Oseguera (916) 400-3478 ioseguera@crstorey.sacramento.org

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.*

DIOCESAN YOUTH EVENTS

(1) ATTENTION PARENTS OF TEENS! DON'T MISS BRIAN BUTLER - JANUARY 24, 2012 @ 7pm

Join parents from all over the diocese for an excellent talk on Theology of the Body for parents of teens. Brian Butler will speak on "Love and Relationships: Building a Culture of Chastity in Your Home" at St. Clare Catholic Church in Roseville on Tuesday, January 24th at 7pm. Admission is free. A free will donation will be taken to defray the costs of the event. Contact Kevin Staszkow for more information at 916-733-0152.

(2) CONVERSION 1.0 YOUNG ADULT E-CONFERENCE, JANUARY 25-28, 2012

Young adults (20s and 30s) – join us for the first annual state-wide Catholic e-conference for young adults by going to <http://yacatholicyouth.com> on January 25,26, & 27 @ 9:30pm and joining us for one of two live events at St. Rose in Sacramento, CA and at a parish in Orange, CA that start at 6pm. Speakers will be announced soon at <http://youngadultconversion.com>

(3) THEOLOGY OF THE BODY FOR TEENS TRAINING W/ BRIAN BUTLER – JANUARY 24 & 25, 2012, 9am – 3pm

The Diocese of Sacramento is sponsoring trainer and speaker Brian Butler for two training days on Theology of the Body for Teens. On Tuesday, January 24, 2012 from 9am—3pm at St. Clare in Roseville he will train participants on Theology of the Body for Middle School Students and on Wednesday, January 25, 2012 from 9am to 3pm at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Fairfield he will train participants on Theology of the Body for High School students. Trainings cost \$45 each and include lunch, a Leader's Guide for Ascension Press' program, plus many helpful handouts and other materials. Register online at <http://icatholicyouth.com>. For more information, please email Kevin at kstaszkow@diocese-sacramento.org

WORD OF LIFE

"Scientific research provides a unique opportunity to explore the wonder of the universe, the complexity of nature and the distinctive beauty of life, including human life. But since human beings are endowed with immortal souls and are created in the image and likeness of God, there are dimensions of human existence that lie beyond the limits of what the natural sciences are competent to determine. If these limits are transgressed, there is a serious risk that the unique dignity and inviolability of human life could be subordinated to purely utilitarian considerations."

~Pope Benedict XVI, Address to the Participants in the "International Conference on Adult Stem Cells: Science and the Future of Man and Culture," November 12, 2011'

HEALING AFTER ABORTION RETREAT MARCH 2-4, 2012



Is someone you know suffering after an abortion, perhaps years after the choice? Please consider the **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat** weekend, March 2-4, in Auburn, sponsored by the Diocese of Sacramento. This unique and effective experience presents the mercy and compassion of God. The retreat is extremely helpful for those who struggle with feelings of shame, anger or grief and for those who have not forgiven themselves or others. Open to women, men, couples, and family members touched by abortion. The cost is \$175 per person. Financial assistance is available. For a registration packet or more information, contact Annette at (916) 733-0161 or write projectrachel@diocese-sacramento.org. Inquiries and participation are strictly confidential.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY **CATHEDRAL PARISH REGISTRATION & UPDATE** **THANK YOU**

NAME #1: _____ NAME #2: _____
(LAST NAME, FIRST NAME) (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.

We Are God's

Nm 6: 22-27 • Gal 4: 4-7 • Lk 2: 16-21

"When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb."—Luke 2:21

"Then some itinerant Jewish exorcists tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those with evil spirits, saying, 'I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.' When the seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish high priest, tried to do this, the evil spirit said to them in reply, 'Jesus I recognize, Paul I know, but who are you?' The person with the evil spirit then sprang at them and subdued them all. He so overpowered them that they fled naked and wounded from that house. When this became known to all the Jews and Greeks who lived in Ephesus, fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in great esteem." —Acts 19:13-17

The Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar given to us by Pope Paul VI in 1969, following the Second Vatican Council, reads, "1 January, the Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, and also the commemoration of the conferral of the Most Holy Name of Jesus" (No. 35).

We are very good about celebrating Mary as the Mother of God. What we are not so good at is celebrating the Holy Name of Jesus. To proclaim that Mary, a human being, is the Mother of God, is a way of stating our belief that Jesus, the Son of God, became human for our sake.

In addition to this Solemnity, it is also New Year's Day. The Church intentionally does not blend the two events because, in the history of the Church, a Solemnity trumps all other celebrations. This does not mean, however, that we ignore the reality of the New Year. In fact, we can use a bit of the tradition of New Year's to help us celebrate this special day in the life of the Church - and the name of Jesus.

We have become very casual with our language and with our choice of words. This can be revealing about how casual we might be in our relationship with God. It might reveal that we do not hold God in enough respect or that God simply does not awe us any longer. Maybe a New Year's resolution should be to reserve God's name for

praise and no longer use it to cuss or curse.

God gave Moses a very specific way to bless the Israelites. We should appreciate the depth of intimacy and privilege God gives in the blessing. Each time the blessing in Numbers says the word "Lord" (*Adonai*), what is actually written is the name of God: YHWH. Tradition forbade speaking the personal name of God. It was believed that a person's name revealed that person's true identity. To use a person's name implied great intimacy, and it also implied a bit of control.

Every teacher supervising a playground knows that calling out a child's name is a far more effective way of getting

attention or correcting a problem than saying, "Hey, you!" People can be hurt if we forget their names. Forgetting a person's name can be received as a sign that the person doesn't matter. In the American South, in the not so far past, there was a time when a man never spoke the first name of woman without permission. In public, husbands would refer to their wives as Mrs. Surname instead of referring to them by their given names. This was an act of respect. Young girls' names were spoken, but always with a preceding "Miss." In certain quarters and among an older generation this



is still customary.

The instructions for the Mass tell all ministers that whenever the name of Jesus is spoken, there should be an observable bow of the head. In some cultures people still make the Sign of the Cross when saying the name of Jesus.

The blessing in Numbers becomes even more intimate if we realize that when the passage says, "So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites," what is being said by God is to "put my name" on them. We put our names on items in order to identify them as being our possessions. This is exactly what God is saying, that we are His. We are not possessions in the sense of things; we have been made members of God's family. It is in this sense that God's name is put on us. Perhaps we should show a bit more respect.

The Priest

CATHEDRAL MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

(CHRISTMAS SEASON)

**MON 1/2/2012 ST. BASIL THE GREAT & ST. GREGORY
NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS & DOCTORS**

1 JN 2: 22-28; JN 1: 19-28

12:10 pm: Joseph W. Daniel Jr. +

No 5:10 pm Mass (holiday schedule)

TUES 1/3/2012 MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

1 JN 2:29—3:6; JN 1: 29-34

12:10 pm: Theresa Anuszczyk +

5:10 pm: _____

WED 1/4/2012 ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

1 JN 3: 7-10; JN 1: 35-42

12:10 pm: Georgina Radonich Buxton +

5:10 pm: BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

THUR 1/5/2012 ST. JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP

1 JN 3: 11-21; JN 1: 43-51

12:10 pm: In Thanks Giving Emma Cordero

5:10 pm: _____

FRI 1/6/2012 BLESSED ANDRE BESSETTE

1 JN 5: 5-13; Mk 1: 7-11

12:10 pm: Teresa Navarrete, S.I.

NO EVENING MASS ON FRIDAYS

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, Adoration, Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and Benediction with the Relic of St. Faustina after 12:10 Mass

TODAY'S READINGS

NM 6: 22-27: THEY SHALL INVOKE MY NAME UPON THE ISRAELITES, AND I WILL BLESS THEM.

GAL 4: 4-7: GOD SENT HIS SON, BORN OF A WOMAN.

LK 2: 16-21: THEY FOUND MARY AND JOSEPH AND THE INFANT. WHEN THE EIGHT DAYS WERE COMPLETED, HE WAS NAMED JESUS.

CATHEDRAL PRAYER CORNER

“LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK, THE SUFFERING, THE DYING, AND THE DEAD”



JOHN D. AMARO
ANGELA CAVAGNERO
HOWIE COOKE
MICHAEL DWYER
JOHN ENDERLE
REGINA M. FAGAN
DIANA GUTIERREZ
LUIS GUTIERREZ JR.
DOE INCIONG
CHARLY & SUZANN K

DONNA KONENSKY
THOMAS P. OGNISTY
NICHOLAS NELSON
LORRAINE SCHNEIDER
SALLY SCHNEIDER,
JOHN SCHNEIDER
BENITA & GABRIELA
URANGA
KAREN & PAUL VON
IRA WEE

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUN 12/25/2011

CHRISTMAS DAY

MON 12/26/2011

6:30 pm Evening Prayer RCIA classes

7:00 pm RCIA Classes

7:30 pm SVDP Feed the Homeless Program

TUES 12/27/2011

7:00 pm Spanish Choir

WED 12/28/2011

7:00 pm Youth Group

7:00 pm Communion and Liberation

THUR 12/29/2011

7:00 pm Spanish Choir practice

FRIDAY 12/30/2011

SAT 12/31/2011

NOTE: All CCD classes are on vacation until January 7. The English Choir will be on tour in Spain December 28 through January 8.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

WED & THUR 12:40PM-4:45PM FRI 12:40PM-3:45PM
TO SIGN UP CALL TITI KALA (916) 206-7846 OR (707) 628-0340 OR E-MAIL TO CATHEDRALADORATION@GMAIL.COM

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