



DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

Department of Family, Faith Formation, & Young People

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To: **PASTOR / PASTORAL STAFF / BULLETIN EDITOR**
From: Deacon Kevin Staszko, Director
Re: Please add these announcements to your website or bulletin (**English and Spanish Translation**)
Date: **Monday, May 12th, 2025**

Included are new and current announcements from the Department of Family, Faith Formation, and Young People. We would greatly appreciate it if you could add these announcements to your website or online bulletin. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Do (916) 733-0151.

New	Habemus Papam! We Have a Pope! Pope Leo XIV
English	<p>What an incredible and historic moment we are living as a Universal Church. We thank God for the gift of our newly elected Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV and we thank the Cardinals for their prayerful discernment and decision. Pope Leo XIV is the first Pope of American descent with a pastoral commitment in Latin America and a champion of social justice and peace. What a spectacular combination! Let us come together and pray for our Holy Father as he begins his papacy!</p> <p>Prayer for Pope Leo XIV</p> <p>Ever loving God, We thank You for guiding the Church and for the gift of our new Holy Father. With humility and trust, we lift him up to You in prayer. Fill his heart with the fire of the Holy Spirit, That he may lead Your people with truth, love, and mercy. Strengthen him in times of trial, And surround him with faithful servants and wise counsel. May he be a shepherd after Your own heart— Guiding Your Church in unity, Upholding the dignity of every person, And bearing joyful witness to the Gospel in a world in need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.</p> <p>Amen.</p>

New	To Be Living Stones in God's Temple Weekly Reflection (Part 3)
English	<p>How does the Bishop's theme of rocks and living stones fit into the wider Jubilee of Hope? First, we should understand that, as long as we remain in our fallen state, we will always face rejections,</p>

failures, and shortcomings, even as we work to build up the Kingdom of God on earth. Christ himself was spurned by his own people, and the apostles were likewise rejected, with all but one suffering martyrdom. But just as Christ could not become the cornerstone without passing through his Paschal Mystery, we cannot become living stones without facing the obstacles of our own lives. We draw our strength by looking past those obstacles with hope in the power of God. If we begin our lives as rough stones marked by all our imperfections, let us plunge into the blood and water flowing from the side of Christ to smoothen our rough edges, transforming us into living stones of the Lord's temple.

Secondly, let us continue to build up the the Church on earth, by uniting ourselves to the sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood and by reaching out to all our brothers and sisters in Christ. Our participation in the Eucharist, Bishop Soto says should inspire us to "uphold the beauty of God's love and light in our protection of human life and the pursuit of the common good, especially for the most vulnerable." In doing so, we become like temples of Christ's presence in everyday life, carrying not only his true sacramental presence in our bodies, but also by being his presence of hope to our families, friends, and communities.

Written by Dr. Joseph Belleza, Assistant Director of Lay Formation, Diocese of Sacramento

New

Radiate Love – May Reflection

English

Saint Monica was a devout Christian born in 4th-century Algeria. Married to Patricius, a non-believer, she navigated his emotional abuse and unfaithfulness as best she could. She prayed fervently for his conversion which finally came just a year before his death.

Her greatest struggle was her son, Augustine, who rejected Christianity, joined Manichaeism, lived with a mistress, and fathered a child outside marriage. For nearly 20 years, Monica prayed persistently for his conversion, once hearing from a bishop, "The child of those tears shall never perish." She practiced tough love but ultimately chose to stay close to Augustine, urging him toward good influences, like St. Ambrose. Her prayers were answered in 387 when Augustine converted to Christianity. Monica died later that year, witnessing her son's transformation into a theologian and Doctor of the Church. She remains a model of patience and the power of prayer in adversity.

Reflection question: Motherhood is sometimes viewed in our culture as a cross, or worse, a limit on our personal ambitions. How do the examples of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Monica, and other mothers we know show us the power of motherhood to enter into the love of God and participate in raising saints?

Learn more and share the Good News about marriage and family life at: www.radiatelove.info

For questions contact: Andrey Arevalo aarevalo@scd.org 916-733-0155

New	Que Brille El Amor - Reflejo de Mayo
Spanish	
<p>Santa Mónica era una cristiana devota nacida en la Argelia del siglo IV. Casada con Patricio, un no creyente, sobrellevó como pudo los abusos emocionales y la infidelidad de éste. Rezó fervientemente por su conversión, que finalmente se produjo un año antes de su muerte. Su mayor lucha fue su hijo, Agustín, que rechazó el cristianismo, se unió al maniqueísmo, vivió con una amante y tuvo un hijo fuera del matrimonio. Durante casi 20 años, Mónica rezó insistentemente por su conversión, y una vez escuchó de un obispo: "El hijo de esas lágrimas no perecerá jamás". Practicó el amor duro, pero al final optó por permanecer cerca de Agustín, instándole a seguir buenas influencias, como la de san Ambrosio. Sus oraciones fueron escuchadas en el año 387, cuando Agustín se convirtió al cristianismo. Mónica murió ese mismo año, siendo testigo de la transformación de su hijo en teólogo y Doctor de la Iglesia. Sigue siendo un modelo de paciencia y del poder de la oración en la adversidad. Pregunta para dialogar: En nuestra cultura, la maternidad se ve a veces como una cruz, o peor aún, como un límite a nuestras ambiciones personales. ¿Cómo nos muestran los ejemplos de la Santísima Virgen María, Santa Mónica y otras madres que conocemos, el poder de la maternidad para adentrarnos en el amor de Dios y participar en la formación de la nueva generación de santos?</p> <p>Obtenga más información y comparta la Buena Nueva sobre el matrimonio y la vida familiar en: www.radiatelove.info</p> <p>Para preguntas comuníquese con: Andrey Arevalo aarevalo@scd.org 916-733-0155</p>	

	Jubilee Year Corpus Christi Eucharistic Procession Join Us!
Spanish	
<p>Celebrate this Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope by participating in our Corpus Christi Eucharistic Procession from June 19-21, 2025. The Procession will start on June 19th in Vallejo and conclude on June 21st at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, with many stops along the way for people from across the diocese to join us on water and land.</p> <p>Mark your calendars and for more info: https://scd.org/JubileeEucharisticProcession</p>	

	Jubilee Day For Creation
Spanish	

“Jubilee Day For Creation” celebration will be on Saturday, May 24, 2:00-3:30pm at St. Patrick’s Church (Small Hall), 235 Chapel Street, Grass Valley.

This will include three speakers, including Kim-Son Ziegler from St. Anthony’s parish in Sacramento, highlighting their efforts to decarbonize their parish, plus handouts on tax credits/rebates to help save money, save energy and save the earth.

As a designated Jubilee pilgrimage site, there will also be a tour of St. Patrick’s church and the historic cemetery. Light refreshments provided. RSVP desired but not required:

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