

REFLECTION



Two neighbors had a nasty falling out a number of years ago. One has reached out to the other over and over: greeting her whenever they pass one another on the street, calling out to her former friend when she would see her in her yard, attempting time after time to mend the breach. Each effort is rebuffed or ignored, and yet the

persistent neighbor tries again and again. In many ways these efforts exemplify the kind of love about which Jesus speaks in today's Gospel.

Jesus' command to love one another is part of his explanation to the disciples of his washing their feet. He has modeled for them actions that bespeak love—a love that will even go so far as to surrender life itself for the other. It is a love that is extended even to those who will not reciprocate it. Jesus washed the feet of all the disciples—even Judas, who was about to hand him over to his opponents, and Peter, who was about to deny he ever knew Jesus.

Throughout the Gospel we see that Jesus never gives up on those who oppose him or who do not understand him. He continues to offer them opportunities right to the end. His love could even reach the Roman procurator, Pilate, with whom he engages in lengthy conversation, as he had done with Nicodemus, a Samaritan woman, a man born blind, Martha and Mary. In those instances, there was an openness that eventually resulted in faith. Even though Pilate would ultimately reject Jesus' love, Jesus nonetheless offers it.

Jesus not only gives the disciples the gift of his love; he commands them to do as he has done. He has shown what love is by acting it out—pouring himself out in service, even to calamity's depths. When we see Jesus' love in action, it becomes evident how love can be commanded.

In biblical parlance, love does not consist of warm, fuzzy feelings toward another but in visible acts toward others that bespeak common divine parentage and common commitment to one another. To love as Jesus loves, it is not necessary to like or even feel kindly toward the other person. But it is necessary to act toward the other in the way Jesus treated his disciples as he washed their feet. Sometimes loving feelings result from loving action extended and received.

The new creation of which the author of Revelation speaks is not something magical that appears out of the sky. Rather, it begins here and now with each act that aims at fulfilling Jesus' command to love. The refusal to give up on anyone and the refusal to let another's rejection extinguish the offer of love are acts that begin the construction of the new dwelling of God, wherein all tears are wiped away and all pain is salved. The old order of tit-for-tat dissolves, as all that is broken is made new.

This "new Jerusalem" is a place where all can find a home. At the Last Supper, Jesus does not envision a closed circle of mutually exchanged love, but one that keeps widening outward. Just as Paul and Barnabas energetically traversed Asia Minor, offering the good news even to Gentiles, so the commandment to love demands that we continue to open our circles, especially to those to whom we are least attracted.

CONGRATULATIONS!

**St. Joseph Church is privileged to welcome the following children in our parish community who celebrate their First Holy Communion this weekend. It is our hope and invitation that they continue to be fed at the table of our Lord.**



- Jadon Alagao*
- Jed Betita*
- Alaini Brummer*
- Gabriel Cabezas*
- Hayden Castro*
- Michelle Crane*
- Jason Danielson*
- Kelly D'Costa*
- Jackson Dinsdale*
- Reesa Dizon*
- Samantha Felizardo*
- Cherrgell Galluzzo*
- Trinity Garrido*
- John Gooding*
- Uduakobong Ikpe*
- Madeleine Jones*
- Nathan Kayas*
- Emily Knight*
- Emily Lopez*
- Nathan Mann*
- Marcos Medina*
- Jake Mercado*
- Samantha Milbourne*
- Aiden Miller*
- Agustin Miranda*
- Elidia Miranda*
- Dylan Montgomery*
- Cecilia Morales*
- Alexis Ramirez*
- Dylan Roberts*
- Chloe Schoonmaker*
- Brent Sittinger*
- Julian Somarriba*
- Brooke Speich*
- Jackson Waller*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Mass of Anointing** - On SATURDAY, May 8, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. we will celebrate an Anointing Mass for all who are suffering from an ailment or undergoing medical treatments, as well as the frail elderly. We invite parishioners to bring family members and friends to this special liturgy of healing. Those involved in the delivery of health care are especially invited to participate. A light luncheon will be served by the Martha's Ministry following this liturgy for those who will be anointed. Anyone in need of transportation to this Mass should call the Parish Office by Monday, May 3, 2010 at 447-2354. We will do all we can to assist you with your transportation needs. Volunteers are needed to help with the transportation needs, greet and seat at the Mass or set-up/clean-up for the luncheon. If you can help, please call Dana Gregg @ 446-3868.

**Notre Dame School** is accepting applications for all grades. Forms are available in the school office. Notre Dame School does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, or national/ethnic origin in admission policy or employment practices. For more information, call the school office at 447-1460, office hours: 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Friday.



**Attention Married & Engaged Couples:** Learn a natural method of family planning that is safe, effective (98%) and in accord with Catholic teaching. Great for achieving as well as postponing pregnancy. Classes begin Thursday, May 13 at 7:00 PM at St. Rose Parish in Sacramento. Register at least one week in advance at [www.ccli.org](http://www.ccli.org). Contact Suzanne at [afancois@sbcglobal.net](mailto:afancois@sbcglobal.net) for more information.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** - Please join us for fellowship at a Pancake Breakfast being held at the St. Joseph Parish Center on Sunday, May 23, 2010 after the 7:00, 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Masses. The menu includes pancakes, eggs, potatoes, sausage, juice, coffee & tea. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$5.00 per person. Children 5 & under are free.

**Correction:** Last weekend's Second Collection was mistakenly printed in the bulletin for the "Church in Latin America." It should have read "Catholic Home Missions." We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. The Catholic Home Missions Appeal benefits Black & Native American Indian Mission in the U.S. Thanks for your generosity last weekend.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon. 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14  
 Tues. Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13b,21; Jn 14:27-31a  
 Wed. Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8  
 Thurs. Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3,10; Jn 15:9-11  
 Fri. Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10,12; Jn 15:12-17  
 Sat. Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2,3,5; Jn 15:18-21  
 Sun. Acts 15:1-2,22-29; Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8; Rv 21:10-14,22-23;  
 Jn 14:23-29

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Child Abuse Prevention Month - Where Do Your Kids Spend Their Time?** - You can help keep your children safe by knowing where they spend their time. Get to know adults who show up at various locations in the community where your children gather for sports or recreation. Be wary of adults who seem more interested in creating relationships with children than with other adults. Pay attention when an adult seems to single out a particular child for a relationship or special attention. Special favors offered to only one child may be a warning sign of something inappropriate. For more information about Safe Environment programs in the Diocese of Sacramento visit [www.diocese-sacramento.org](http://www.diocese-sacramento.org).

## FAITH FORMATION



**Confirmation** will be held on **Wednesday, May 12 at 7:00 PM.**

**Faith Formation Open Enrollment** for new students, Kindergarten through 8th Grade begins in July through September 15th. More information will be available in July.

**Communion Certificates** are ready for pick up at the Parish Office. Please stop by Monday-Friday from 9am to 4pm for pick up.

**No Youth Group Meeting** on May 9 due to Mother's Day. Please enjoy some quality time with your mom.

**Love working with children?** We are always looking for enthusiastic and dedicated Catechists willing to learn and deepen their Faith. Faith Formation classes are held just once a week for about an hour. If interested in answering God's call, please contact the Office of Faith Formation at 447-2354 x833. Ongoing training will be provided.

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office at (707) 447-2354.



**St. Joseph Bible Study - First and Third Thursdays of the month at 7:00 PM in the Church Meeting Room. Call the Parish Office at 447-2354 for more information.**

### MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 7:00 AM----- Dorothy Deramo, R.I.P.  
 Tues. 7:00 AM ----- Int. of Ken Matsumiya  
 Wed. 8:15 AM----- Antonio & Rosa Matsumiya, R.I.P.  
 Thurs. 7:00 AM----- Cecilia Hill, R.I.P.  
 Fri. 7:00 AM ----- Antonio Balagtas, R.I.P.  
 Sat. 8:15 AM ----- Lorene Simpson, R.I.P.  
 Sat. 5:00 PM ----- Rommel Chapital, R.I.P.  
 Sun. 7:00 AM ----- Members of the Parish  
 Sun. 8:30 AM ----- Sick Members of the Parish  
 Sun. 10:00 AM----- World Peace  
 Sun. 12:00 PM----- Vocations to the Priesthood