

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 18, 2018



Artist unknown

"Look into My Heart and see there the love and mercy which I have for humankind, and especially for sinners. Look, and enter into My Passion."

JESUS TO SAINT FAUSTINA (DIARY 1663)

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### The Next Chapter

You're invited to "The Next Chapter" for fellowship and lunch! "The Next Chapter" is a ministry at Our Lady of Perpetual Help for widows and widowers for social and support. All are welcome! ***We also welcome men and women whose spouses are alive yet find their lives will never be the same, due to illness.***

**When:** March 26, 2018 at 11:30 AM

**Place:** Loma Linda Restaurant, 3611 Mount Vernon Avenue  
Please contact Sandy James for more details at 661-871-0752.



THE NEXT CHAPTER

### Day of Retreat for Young Women



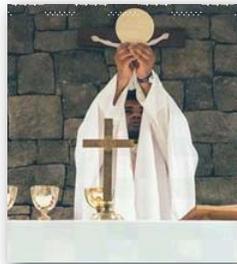
Want to learn more about living your Catholic faith as a young, single woman in today's culture? *Janua Caeli (Gate of Heaven)* is for you! The theme for the April 21st Retreat Day is *Fullness of Grace: How to Receive an Overabundance of God's Gifts*; our retreat master is Rev. Quan Tran. This one-day retreat will be from 8AM-5:30PM and will include talks, confessions and opportunities for one-on-one spiritual guidance, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass and the Divine Office prayed with the Dominican nuns, and more! For more information, visit [opnunsmenlo.org](http://opnunsmenlo.org).

### Summer School 5th-12th Grade

**Garces Summer School** offers all kinds of academic, athletic and fun enrichment classes. In addition to some of our more popular classes, we've added a STEM Camp, Fine Arts Camp, Aquatics Camp and other fun activities. Early Registration: March 5 - May 4. Late Registration: May 5 - June 4. **Classes begin Monday June 4.**



### "Come and See" Weekend



All young single men 18-40 considering a vocation to the religious life or priesthood are invited to attend a Vocation Retreat with the Oblates of St. Joseph. The retreat will be March 23-25 at Mt. St. Joseph Seminary in Loomis, CA. For more information contact Fr. Sergio Perez, OSJ at (916) 652-6336 ext 207 or visit [www.osjusa.org](http://www.osjusa.org).

### A Home Inspired by Catholic Social Teaching!

Help lift up the lives of local homeless women, single or with children, by attending **Hearts of Hope**, a benefit to purchase a house for Casa Esperanza that will be a transitional home for women seeking a path to permanent housing and a recovered sense of self-worth. "Hearts of Hope" is **April 12th** from 6-9 PM at the Stockdale Country Club with dinner, silent auction, and an inspiring speaker, herself



once homeless with children. Tickets are \$100 each and can be purchased by calling Sister Marie Francis, CSJ at 661 664 4563. For more information visit [www.esperanzabakersfield.org](http://www.esperanzabakersfield.org).



## Our Lady of Perpetual Help

PARISH & SCHOOL

124 Columbus Street  
Bakersfield, CA 93305

661-323-3108

[olphbakersfield.org](http://olphbakersfield.org)

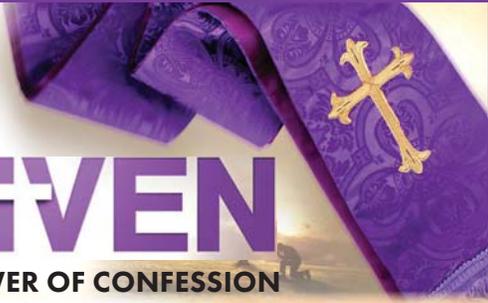
### Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School

Preschool, Transitional Kindergarten (TK), Kindergarten, 1st-8th Grades  
Principal: Kelli Michaud

661-327-7741

[www.olph1.org](http://www.olph1.org)

[kmichaudolph@gmail.com](mailto:kmichaudolph@gmail.com)



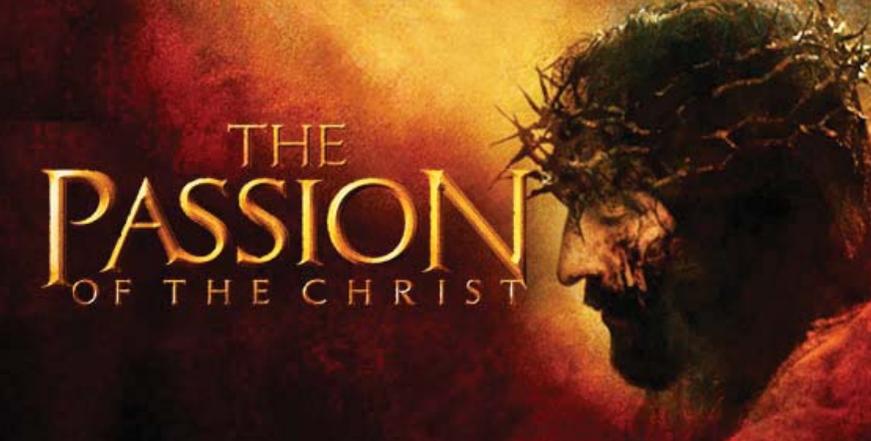
# FORGIVEN

THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CONFESSION

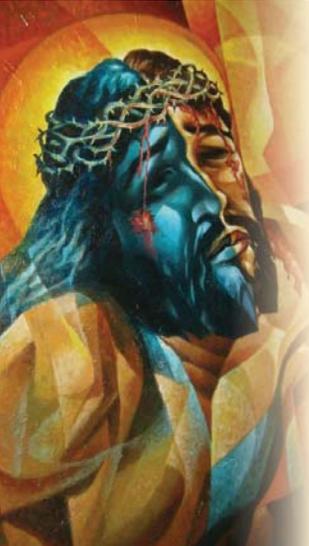
**THIS WEEK: MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>**  
 BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS: SIN, MERCY, AND  
 CONFESSION with Dr. Tim Gray (65 MIN.)

**DINNER 5PM • FILM 5:30PM**

**Join us on Wednesday of Holy Week, March 28th,  
 in the parish hall. DINNER 5PM • FILM 5:30PM**



**"The Passion of the Christ" is an incredible movie that depicts  
 the final twelve hours of Jesus Christ during His crucifixion.  
 Rated R; the film is not suitable for children.**



Enter into the mysteries of the  
**Sacred Paschal Triduum**  
 the holiest "Three Days" of the Church's year!  
 MARCH 29-31

**Holy Thursday:** All are invited to the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 PM. Following Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be transferred to the Altar of Repose; all are encouraged to stay and adore.

**Good Friday:** Liturgy of the Passion at 3 PM, Stations of the Cross at 5 PM

**Easter Vigil in the Holy Night:** Mass at 8 PM. Confessions are canceled and the Saturday Vigil Mass at 5 PM will not be celebrated.

*In addition to the normal schedule, Confessions will be heard on March 27, 28, and 30 at 6 PM.*

## Sacraments

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 PM  
 Sunday Mass: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM,  
 12:00 noon, 5:30 PM  
 Daily Mass: 6:30 AM  
 (Communion Service on Thursday)

**Confession:** Friday 6 PM until all are heard; Saturday 3:00-4:30 PM  
**Anointing of the Sick:** Immediately following every weekend Mass  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:**  
 Weekdays 7-9AM, Fridays 6 PM,  
 Saturdays 3 PM

## Good Friday

There will be no Fish Fry on March 30th, Good Friday, as it is an *obligatory day of fast and abstinence*.

The norms on **fasting** are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

The norms concerning **abstinence** from meat are binding from age 14 onwards.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

## Mass Intentions

<b>MARCH 17</b>	5:00 PM	B&W Attorney
<b>MARCH 18</b>	7:30 AM	Norberto, Paciencia & Quina Tan ( <i>Tan Family</i> )
	9:00 AM	Missa Pro Populo ( <i>Mass for the People</i> )
	10:30 AM	Jeanette M. Kelley
	12:00 PM	George Kimm, Jr. ( <i>Kimm Family</i> )
	5:30 PM	Frank, Marie, & Frankie Amestoy ( <i>Bill &amp; Avon Wonderly</i> )
<b>MARCH 19</b>	6:30 AM	Mary Ambriz ( <i>Women's Guild</i> )
<b>MARCH 20</b>	6:30 AM	<i>Communion Service</i>
<b>MARCH 21</b>	6:30 AM	Socorro DaValos ( <i>Veronica Powelson</i> )
<b>MARCH 22</b>	6:30 AM	R. Randall Richardson, CPA
<b>MARCH 23</b>	6:30 AM	Rodriguez & Associates
	8:15 AM	Peggy Sinichko

# DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY—April 8



Jesus, I Trust in You

## What special graces are offered on Divine Mercy Sunday?

According to Saint Faustina's diary, Jesus Christ made a special promise, which she was to communicate to the whole world:

***My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.***

In her diary, Saint Faustina records a promise from Our Lord of specific, extraordinary graces He will make available through the devout reception of Holy Communion on this Feast Day; truly a "whole ocean of graces" is contained in these promises:

***I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy (1109).***

***The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (699).***

## What must I do to receive these special graces?

To fittingly observe the Feast of Mercy, we should:

1. Celebrate the Feast on the Sunday after Easter;
2. Sincerely repent of all our sins;
3. Place our complete trust in Jesus;
4. Go to Confession, preferably before that Sunday;
5. Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast;
6. Venerate the Image of The Divine Mercy;
7. Be merciful to others, through our actions, words, and prayers on their behalf.

## How are we as a parish celebrating the Feast of Divine Mercy?

All are encouraged to pray the **Divine Mercy Novena** which begins on Good Friday, March 30th, and continues for nine days until the Feast of Mercy, April 8th. Pick up copies of the Novena prayers for you and your family and friends. These and more information about the Divine Mercy devotion are available at the entrance of our church.

Join us on Sunday, April 8th at 3 PM in the church to venerate the Divine Mercy as a parish family. The Divine Mercy chaplet will be prayed together, followed by brief meditations from Saint Faustina's diary about Jesus' mercy. All are welcome!

## What additional indulgence is offered on Divine Mercy Sunday?

The extraordinary graces promised to the faithful by Our Lord Himself through Saint Faustina—the complete renewal of baptismal grace, the “extraordinary grace” par excellence of Divine Mercy Sunday — should not be confused with the **plenary indulgence** granted by Pope Saint John Paul II for the devout observance of the Divine Mercy Sunday.



***"A plenary indulgence, granted under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who, on the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honour of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the***

***tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in You!)..."***

—Apostolic Penitentiary Decree

The plenary indulgence offered by the Church is therefore an opportunity to receive additional graces on this extraordinary feast day!



Ideally, the faithful would seek to obtain the plenary indulgence on this day for the sake of souls suffering in purgatory, while they are receiving for themselves the “extraordinary grace” of Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday.

## What is a plenary indulgence?

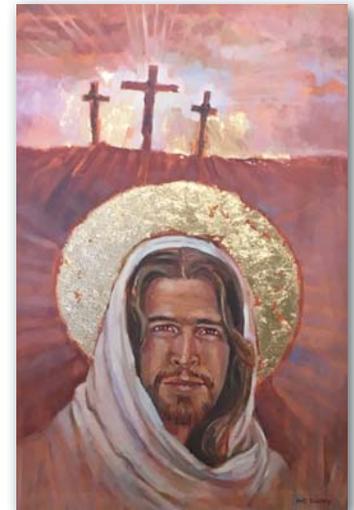
A **plenary indulgence** grants the remission of all temporal punishment due to sin.

## How can indulgences remove some or all of the temporal punishment for sin?

It is because of the Communion of Saints that some or all of the temporal punishment for sin is removed.

Although we always have to face the consequences of our sins in the form of the temporal punishment for sin, that is, the painful process of restoration and reparation, as

members of the Body of Christ we are never simply on our own. We are linked with Christ and with the martyrs and saints and can benefit from their holiness in such a way as to be freed from at least a portion of the temporal punishment for sin.



***"In this wonderful exchange, the holiness of one profits others, well beyond the harm that the sin of one could cause others" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1475).***

*Many thanks to Patti Doolittle, awesome artist and parishioner, for gifting these three incredible Divine Mercy paintings to our parish!*

*Whoever approaches the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.*

(JESUS TO SAINT FAUSTINA)

# THE FAMILY: THE FOUNDATION OF SOCIETY

## Why do children need special protection?

Children have to be strengthened and defended in every way.

"A child is God's greatest gift to the family, to the nation, to the world" (*Saint Teresa of Calcutta*).

Children are the future of humanity.

They are naturally in need of help.

Moreover, they often grow up in atrocious conditions.

In many parts of the world there is a lack of medical care, appropriate nutrition, elementary education, or even a place to live.

Moreover, there are ongoing scandals such as trafficking in children, child labor, the phenomenon of "street children", the deployment of

children in wars, the marriage of children, and the (sexual) abuse of children.

There must be a decisive campaign on the national and international level against violations of the dignity of boys and girls that occur through sexual exploitation and all forms of violence and in favor of respect for the dignity and rights of every child.

## What is marriage?

Marriage is the communion of a man and a woman ordered to the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1601).

An essential feature of marriage is the mutual promise of the two spouses to love one another unconditionally and to be



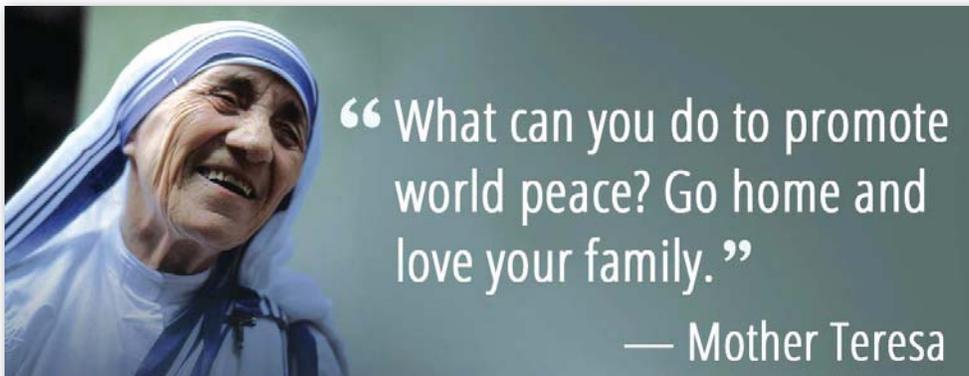
*The Martin Family: Mike, Allison, Gabby, Rita, and Haley*

faithful to each other.

Another essential characteristic of marriage is its indissolubility: the spouses' mutual love and respect should last a lifetime, and they should stand by and support one another in all circumstances of life: "for better or for worse, in sickness and in health", as they promise each other in the wedding ceremony.

However, even if one or both spouses are unfaithful, their marriage remains.

Marriage ends only with the death of one of the spouses.



Question #s 122-123 of **DOCAT**, the Social Teaching of the Catholic Church for Youth. With thanks to the publisher of the English edition, Ignatius Press ([ignatius.com](http://ignatius.com)), for permission to reprint.