

ST. CALLISTUS CATHOLIC CHURCH
3580 San Pablo Dam Road
El Sobrante

**FOURTH SUNDAY
OF LENT**
March 11, 2018

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The wrath and the mercy of the LORD are revealed in the exile and liberation of the Chosen People (2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23) *or* 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

Psalm — Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you! (Psalm 137) *or* Psalm 23.

Second Reading — God, who is rich in mercy, brought us to life with Christ (Ephesians 2:4-10) *or* Ephesians 5:8-14.

Gospel — The Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life (John 3:14-21) *or* John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Year B of the Lectionary has the Letter to the Ephesians today. Ephesus, today in Turkey, was in the first century a great Greek city, the center for the worship of Diana, the goddess of the hunt. It was a vast city even by modern standards, having nearly half a million people in the time of Paul. Yet that was a time of economic recession and moral decay. No wonder Saint Paul stayed here the longest. It gave him an enormous and religiously curious audience. His preaching stirred up the artisans who depended on the pilgrims who came to honor (and buy mementos of) seventeen gods and goddesses enshrined in the city's temples. You can still see the open-air theater where Paul's homily triggered a riot. Paul did have success here, and many conversions among Jews and Gentiles. They seem to have struggled with hope, perhaps because of their suffering from economic woes and isolation.

Some old traditions say that the Apostle John lived out his days here, and that the Blessed Mother was cared for by him. There's no biblical basis for this, but it is certain that a small house just outside the city has been treasured by Christians and Muslims for centuries as the last dwelling of Mary. Long ago, the harbor silted up and the city was nearly abandoned, becoming a small village. As is so often the case, that accident of history preserved the ancient city, so that archeologists have been very successful in revealing ancient Christian sites. One such site is the Church of Mary, probably the first church to be dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and the site of the Council of Ephesus in 431. Today, a visit to Ephesus is one of the most rewarding journeys for any pilgrim.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

COMMUNAL RESPONSIBILITY

The people of God forgot the covenant and flouted God's laws. They did not listen to the prophets among them, who spoke for God in warning them. Prophets are sent from God to remind us why we are here, but they are often, even in our own time, mocked, disregarded, and mistreated rather than thanked and listened to.

The book of Chronicles tells the results of these sins: the destruction of the temple and all of Jerusalem, murder, mayhem, and finally exile to a foreign land. Why are these stories in the Bible? Just to inform us of what happened to our ancient forebears? What good would that be unless there were a message and a warning for us as well? Are we people who follow the teachings of God, who obey the words of Christ in the second covenant in his blood? Or do we continue to wreak works of darkness and violence? We are reminded by these readings that we will be judged as a people, not just as individuals.

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A PRAYING FAMILY

Please join our Pastor, Fr. Jimmy and your Parish family for a community prayer every Monday evening at 7:30 in the Church. There are so many reasons to pray: we pray in thanksgiving; we pray for our needs; we pray for our loved ones; we pray for the sick members of our parish family and our own families; and for any difficulty we might be feeling at this time. Let us pray in thanksgiving for our beautiful Church and for each other.



**Stations
of the Cross**

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All Fridays of Lent: are days of abstinence from meat and meat products.

Parish Ministries scheduled to lead the Stations of the Cross at 7:30PM:

March 16 - St. Vincent de Paul

March 23 - RCIA & Youth Confirmation Members.

PLEASE PRAY: for our Faith Formation children who will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation next weekend; and our RCIA candidates who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Holy Saturday.



MASS & SERVICES' SCHEDULE FOR LENT

March 16 & 23 Friday — Stations of the Cross 7:30PM

March 19 & 20 - Monday and Tuesday: Parish Mission (7:30PM both evenings)

March 24 Saturday 5:15 Vigil Mass - Palm Sunday (Blessing of Palms at the courtyard and Procession to the Church)

March 25 Palm Sunday Passion of the Lord (Regular Sunday Mass Schedule; Blessing of Palms at the 10AM Mass in the courtyard and Procession to the Church)

March 29 Thursday - Holy Thursday Mass at 7:30PM (Washing of the Feet of 12 Apostles)

March 30 Friday - Good Friday Passion of the Lord
12 Noon Rosary—Led by Guia Gorospe
12:45 PM - Stations of the Cross—Fr. Jimmy
Candle Bearers—Bernie Rocco & Butch Bautista

1:30PM - Good Friday Services: Fr. Mel
Veneration of the Cross

March 31 Saturday - Easter Vigil Mass 8:00PM
Prayer and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Hall. Prayers led by:
9:00 PM to 9:30 PM Lectors/EMs/MCs
9:30 PM to 10:00 PM Block Rosary Group
10:00 PM to 10:30 PM Hospitality Ministry
10:30 PM to 11:00PM Knights of Columbus

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF: DIANE FAY

**FRANCES SCIPI, *and*
JULIANA KATINDIG**

All families have been long-time members of our St. Callistus Parish family. Let us also pray for them in the loss of their loved ones.



Faye Eaton	Juanita Estrelles	Rose Riepel
Gilbert Estrada, Sr.	Tommy Garcia	Georgann Chiozza
Lisa Savio	Theresa Padilla	Faustino Aguilar
Maria Garcia	Josefa Frondoza	Mae Banks
Rebecca Mowbray	Consolacion Aguilar	Suzie Lata Prasad
Joanne Northcutt	Charlene Nichols	Jeno Szabo
Lilia Szabo	Joyce Smith	Rosa Barbara
Jim Briones	Celina Gonzales	Laura Peters
Lilia Oseguera	Joel Rivera	John Jeanpierre
Angelita Tantoco	Julie Dracopoulos	Ydalia Deleón & Children
Debra Gunn	Nelson Guerrero	Lino Destacamento

Please pray for all the family and friends listed in the Book of Prayers in the Church, and all those who are in home care facilities.

STAND TOGETHER CONTRA COSTA SERVICE

The Stand Together Contra Costa Service opened a new, 24-hour staffed immigration hotline and deportation defense initiative serving Contra Costa County residents available at 925.900.5151 and StandTogetherContraCosta.org. A public-private initiative, Stand Together Contra Costa is managed by the Office of the Public Defender in partnership with a coalition of nonprofit organizations led by Catholic Charities of the East Bay. **The mission of Stand Together Contra Costa is to ensure all people in Contra Costa County, regardless of citizenship or immigration status, are afforded the due-process rights established by the United States Constitution.** Stand Together Contra Costa provides no-cost rapid-response support, civil deportation defense legal services and clinics, immigrant rights education and training, and others. For more information, visit StandTogetherContraCosta.org.



From
Mar. 11th

Through
Mar. 17th

SAT	5:15 P.M.	David Rocco ☩ by Guia Gorospe
SUN	8:00 A.M.	Francisca Capistrano ☩ by Joy & Carl Capistrano
	10:00 A.M.	Paul Esguerra, Sr. ☩ & Josie Esperanza ☩ by The Esguerra Family
	12:00 Noon	People of the Parish of St. Callistus Church
MON	8:30 A.M.	Albert Tamayo (Living, Birthday) by Inez Tamayo
TUE	8:30 A.M.	Carlos Perez (Living) by Graciela Perez
WED	8:30 A.M.	Rosenda Salo ☩ (Death Anniversary) by The Salo Family and Norberto Castañeda ☩ by Mila Canoy
THU.	8:30 A.M.	Papa Bordon (Living) by Manny & Myrna Villasica
FRI.	8:30 A.M.	Primitivo & Russell Tanquilut ☩☩ by Manny & Myrna Villasica
SAT	8:30 A.M.	Joseph Miller ☩ (Birthday) by Violet Miller

~ EVENTS' SCHEDULE - WEEK OF MARCH 11TH ~

MON.	7:00 P.M. Confirmation Class
	7:30 P.M. Community Prayer - in Church
TUE.	7:00 P.M. RCIA Class
	7:00 P.M. Young Adults Meeting
THU.	7:00 P.M. Leadership Group Meeting - in Church
	7:00 P.M. Hispanic Prayer Group Meeting
FRI.	6:00 P.M. Choir Practice - St. Cecilia's Room
	7:30 P.M. Stations of the Cross
SAT.	9:30 A.M. Faith Formation Class & Reconciliation for Faith Formation Children

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY — GIFT-GIVING FOR EASTER

The Hospitality Ministry is collecting gifts to fill Easter baskets for **children living in local shelters. We are asking for donations of stuffed animals, crayons and coloring books and small story books that explain Easter** or any small toy that will fit into a basket. You can drop off these items at the Parish Hall before each Mass; or at the Parish Office during Office hours **no later than Monday, March 26.** Thank you.

Josie Rocco 510 -222- 9411.

Rev. Jimmy Thottapally, Pastor
(510) 223-1153

Parish Office Hours: 8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
Monday - Friday
(12:00 Noon to 12:30 P.M. closed for lunch)

Schedule of Masses and Devotions

Saturday Mass 8:30 A.M. Saturday Vigil 5:15 P.M.

Sunday Masses ...8:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. 12:00 Noon

Every Sunday 10:00 A.M. - Children's Liturgy

Weekday Mass 8:30 A.M. Daily

Holy Day of Obligation Masses 8:30 A.M. &
7:30 P.M.

Reconciliation: Saturday 4:00 P.M. to 4:45 P.M.
(Other times by appointment with Priest)

Rosary and Chaplet of The Divine Mercy - Monday
thru Saturday after the 8:30 A.M. Mass.

Holy Hour and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament -
Every Wednesday 9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Mother of Perpetual Help: Every Thursday after the
8:30 A.M. Mass

Hispanic Prayer Group - Every First and Third
Thursday 7:00 P.M.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Every First
Friday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Benediction at 3:00 P.M.

*"God so loved the world that he gave his only
Son, so everyone who believes in him might
have eternal life".*

— John 3:14-21



Sunday Collection	3/4	\$4,307.61
Parish Maintenance	3/4	\$1,866.89

Second Collection for Sunday, March 18th
The Catholic Voice

Thank you for your offerings. May God bless you all for your generosity.

Parish Staff

Gwen Eyike, Office Manager
Estrell Bautista, Office Secretary
Gilbert Estrada, Administrative Assistant

Office Hours: 8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Monday - Friday
(12:00 Noon to 12:30 P.M. closed for lunch)

Tel: (510) 223-1153 Fax : (510) 223-1137
E-mail: st.callistus@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.saintcallistus.org

Parish Ministries

Children's Faith Formation (CCD/RCIC)
Beatriz Lopez, Director (510) 222-0432
E-mail: bl.stcal@gmail.com
Confirmation Program : Beatriz Lopez, Director
(510) 222-0432
RCIA Program Director: Marisse Dongallo
(510) 223-1153
Pastoral Council
Bernie Rocco, Facilitator (510) 406-6460
Youth Ministry
Beatriz Lopez, Coordinator.....(510) 222-0432

Other Ministries/Services

Knights of Columbus
Patrick Jalbert, Grand Knight 367-4595
St. Vincent de Paul Conference 243-7501
St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery 234-2012

Baptism of Infants (510) 223-1153
Make arrangements with priest at least six (6) weeks
in advance. Parents must be registered parishioners
of St. Callistus for at least 3 months.

Weddings (510) 223-1153
Make arrangements with priest at least six (6) months
in advance.

