

† Servant Leader †

THE COUNCIL OF BISHOPS AT VATICAN II

What is Vatican II?

"I hear people talking about something called Vatican II," a young mother told her pastor during a question-and-answer period at her parish. "What is that?"

For Catholics of one generation, such a question seems unthinkable. The Second Vatican Council, which took place in Rome from 1962 to 1965, was the most controversial, most celebrated, most dramatic change in the Church in their lifetime. But Catholics under 50 are likely to have no memory and perhaps little knowledge - of this earthquake that "opened the windows" and shook up the Church.

Catholics who came of age before the Council are likely to remember Masses in Latin and the priest celebrating Mass with his back to the people. The shock of the changes inspired by the Council, and the steady stream of debates and controversies resulting from these changes, color to this day how these Catholics view the Council and its impact on the Church.

Catholics who only remember the Church after the Council may assume that Mass was always in English, that the priest always faced the congregation, that lay people were always present as lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, and that the laity always had a strong role in the pastoral life of a parish. Yet these are some of the changes that came in the wake of the Council and that have changed how we all live our Catholic faith today.

Why are we still talking about the Council today?

More than 40 years after the conclusion of the Council, any time is still a good time for Catholics to rediscover this epochal event, to learn about what took place in Rome during those four years that changed our experience of being Catholic forever, and to better understand what these changes mean for us today.

Every day, all of us - including that curious young mother talking to her pastor - experience and live out the teachings of the Second Vatican Council... but how many of us know much about the Council itself?

What is a Church Council?

A council is a worldwide gathering of bishops, inspired and aided by the Holy Spirit, convened to discuss issues or problems facing the Church. The Second Vatican Council was the largest council in Church history, with some 2,500 bishops meeting in Rome every fall for four years. Also present at the Second Vatican Council were the heads of religious orders, theologians and experts, representatives of the Eastern Catholic and Orthodox churches, and Protestant (observers) and lay (auditors) representatives. For the first time, a Church council used modern media, electricity, telephones, typewriters, and computerized voting; the bishops (or Council Fathers, as they are called) would cast an estimated 1.5 million ballots during their deliberations.

Vatican II was the twenty-first council in Church history. Yet almost 100 years had passed since the previous council (Vatican I), and from the moment Vatican II was convened, both Catholics and non-Catholics were riveted by news of its proceedings.

At the conclusion of the Council, sixteen documents were debated, voted on, and adopted as the official teachings of the Catholic Church. They touched every aspect of the Church's life - from Scripture, Liturgy, and the Church's own understanding of itself and its role in the world, to the role of bishops, priests, laity, and our relations with all other believers.

Why was the Pope inspired to call a Council?

Historically, Church councils have gathered to correct widespread errors and false teaching, and resolve disputes over doctrine or church discipline. Vatican II, by contrast, was called at a time of apparent stability: no immediate internal crises or external political or religious threat faced the Church.

However, after two world wars, the second half of the twentieth century was bringing about rapid shifts in the world's social, cultural, political, medical, and technological spheres. By 1960 the modern global culture, with its scientific and technical outlook and its deep-seated changes in morality that we all take for granted today, was just beginning to emerge. Farsighted Church leaders knew that these changes would affect the faith of Catholics everywhere. Pope John XXIII himself explained his decision by saying that "Providence is leading us to a new order of human relations that is directed to fulfilling God's saving plan."

The Council Fathers believed that a worldwide Council would offer to Catholics, and to humanity in general, a fresh invitation to salvation in Jesus Christ and a renewed vision of the Church's divine mission to extend Christ's presence in the world today.

The Pope, inspired by the Holy Spirit, surprised the world when he announced his plans for the Council. Not everyone, however, not even those who played important roles in the Council, understood what the full impact of the changes would be and how the Council would help the Church face the threats and embrace the opportunities that we see so clearly today.

What were the Pope's goals for the Council?

In a series of prophetic opening speeches, Pope John XXIII highlighted the basic paradox of today's world marked as it is by immense progress and wealth on the one hand, and profound spiritual and moral decline on the other - and set before the Council Fathers a challenge that highlighted three specific aims:

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Stewardship

~ a way of life ~



ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL THIS WEEKEND

The Annual Catholic Appeal is today. Please give generously to the Annual Catholic Appeal. Countless lives are touched by every contribution to the 2008 Catholic Annual Appeal. Seminarians currently in formation, the sick, the aged, people in need - they all depend on our generosity. Thank you for pledging today to help meet our parish goal. Greatly increasing participation here in our parish assures the continuation of these efforts.

Severe cuts in public and private funding have left many programs supported by the Annual Appeal in imminent peril. With your participation we can and must ensure the continuation of these essential local ministries.

The Appeal not only enables local programs to serve others for another year, it also provides funds to our parish. Please remember that 25% of the funds from our parish are returned to us for our own ministries to people in need. Bishop Weigand asks that all parishes "ensure an ongoing commitment to the advancement of the social mission of the church." (Synod Initiative 7)

The Annual Catholic Appeal is a wonderful way to help others. If for any reason you were unable to contribute today, there's still time to help. Please consider offering a 9-month pledge this year, if you are able. Pledge envelopes are available here at the parish if you did not receive one by mail. Envelopes can be dropped in the Sunday collection or mailed to the Appeal.

Save the Date! Society of St Vincent de Paul's Dinner with Bishop Garcia

Thursday, April 24, 2008, at the Radisson Hotel: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul/Sacramento Council's honored guest is Bishop Garcia who will be speaking on "The Cry of the Poor." The event is from 6:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. Proceeds from the dinner will benefit the poor, served by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, throughout the Diocese of Sacramento. For more information on sponsorship opportunities and group or individual ticket purchases, please contact either Frank Plavan at 715-8666 or Bill Hallerman at 719-4168.

DIOCESAN FOOD BOWL LENT 2008

Lent 2008 marks the 31st anniversary of the annual Diocesan Food Bowl. Each year this is a special effort by every parish of the diocese to do something during Lent in response to the needs of those in our midst who are hungry which is at the core of the gospel. Since its inception, the Food Bowl collection in the parishes has generated thousands of dollars of support for local parish and community emergency food ministries. Keep the Lenten disciplines of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving by supporting the 31st Annual Food Bowl. Help Us to Help Others.

NEEDED: FOSTER & ADOPTIVE PARENTS

St. Patrick's Foster Care & Adoption Agency, is looking for individuals & families that are interested in becoming a Foster Parent or adopting a child. Children of all ages and ethnicities are waiting to be adopted. For more information call 421-1620 ext. 230 and ask for Cynthia, Social Service Assistant.

ST. PATRICK'S HOME FOR CHILDREN CAR DONATION PROGRAM

Your donation of a vehicle would be a huge help to our programs and is very easy to do. You simply call us and we will make all arrangements to get your vehicle handled as quickly as possible. Please call Roger Abbot at 428-1601.



STEWARDSHIP - TREASURE	
GENERAL COLLECTION	
Weekly Goal	\$ 11,000.00
Jan 6.....	\$ 12,846.00
Jan 13.....	\$ 11,062.00
Jan 20.....	\$ 9,959.00
Jan 27.....	\$ 10,311.00
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$ 325,348.00
Goal-to-Date (31 Weeks)	\$ 341,000.00
% of Goal Collected	95.41 %
Annual Goal	\$ 572,000.00
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
Catholic Schools Week	\$ 1,753.50
<i>Blessed are they who are what they are and do what they do all for the sake of the kingdom! The Gospel today assures good stewards that their suffering and their service on behalf of the kingdom will be rewarded!</i>	

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

8:30 am; 10:00 am (School Mass)

6:00 pm English; 7:30 pm Spanish

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 2 Sm 15:13-14,30;16:5-13; Mk 5:1-20
Tue: St. Agatha:
2 Sm 18:9-10,14,24-25,30-19:3; Mk 5:21-43
Wed: Ash Wednesday:
Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thu: Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25
Fri: Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15
Sat: Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32
Sun: First Sunday of Lent
Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

Questions of the Week:

Children: Choose one of the Beatitudes and share how you will make it part of your life.

Youth: Do the things that make you happiest also lead you towards God? Do they follow God's plan?

Adults: How do you describe what it means to be "blest" in your own life?

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon: Jason Murphy -Int.; Mickie De Leon -Int.
Tue: Mike Curran +; Bereavement Ministry -Int.
Ezequiel Avalos & Family -Int.
Wed: Al Herkowski +; Marie Comoriane +
Sisters of the Holy Rosary of Fatima -Int.
Thu: Marichelle Ordone -Int.; Theresa Catalan +
Fri: Michael B. Jordan -Int.; Marilou Ilustrisimo -Int.
Sat: 4:30 pm Mass Phillip Fernandez +
Martina Evangelista +
Sun: 7:30 am Mass Pro Populo
9:00 am Mass Lianne Avila -Int.; Dennis Reitz +
12:30 pm Mass Stephen Vidrine -Int.



PRAYER CORNER

Please remember in your prayers:

Richard Blanco, Elisa Bulhoes, Bernard Burke, Bob Cleveland, Marie Crane, Darren Crose, Julie Desrochers, Virginia Dullely, Olivia Garcia, Frank Gaul, Ralph Gingrich, Bob Gokey, Robert Gonzaga, Timothy Goodwin, Jason Hayes, Stanley Hayes, Michele Hock, Kathleen Johnson, Phyllis Johnson, Bill Keenan, Jonnie Kuennen, Karen Lewis, Donald Maguire, Kim Malone, Earl Mattingly, Dean McGinty, Joan McShane, Rigoberto Mendoza, Jenine Michilena, Msgr. Mistretta, Xochitl Montano, Mariah Morris, Jason Murphy, Elliott Jerome Neal, Andy Ngo, Scott Ngo, Cora Orzol, LeeAnn Parrott, Maryanne Pelzel, Gilbert Perron, Steve Phelps, Jennifer Pinnow, Tom Poeschl, Sr. Mary Porter, Christine Regan, Raymond Remick, Suzanne Rose, Nikelle Schafer, Katherine Schottgen, Diane & Mike Smith, Marylyn Smith, Lisa Stamps, Jardee Stanley, Jo Ster, Laura & Paul Studer, Simon Sucharski, Clement Sweeney, Maureen Sutton, Elise Taylor, I. Thompson, Larry Thompson, X. Thompson, Jovita Vargar, Jean Villanueva, Emily Walsh, Marvin Webster, Robert Westbrook, Sharel Wilson

THE FEAST OF ST. BLAISE: BLESSING OF THROATS

The feast of St. Blaise falls on Sunday, February 3, and in such case, its celebration gives way to the Sunday Mass celebration. However, since many people in our parish have a devotion to St. Blaise and pray for healing on his feast, we will celebrate the feast day and bless throats on Monday, February 4th at the 8:30 am daily Mass.



Holy Family School

Holy Family School students will celebrate Mardi Gras on Tuesday with a rally to highlight Winter Sports and to introduce the student body's Lenten Service Project. When the students return to their classrooms, they will each receive a Baby Bottle from the Sacramento Life Center to take home and fill with coins and cash representing their material sacrifices during the coming six weeks. All students have also been encouraged to make written Lenten promises to indicate that they are trying to nurture Christlike behavior in themselves as well as in others. These will be presented during the Offertory Procession at the 10 a.m. Ash Wednesday Mass. The school community hopes that this holy season will be a time of spiritual growth for all members!

WOMEN'S COUNCIL NEWS

2ND ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW

Here we go again – it's time for CASTING CALLS for our 2nd Annual Variety Show in April. Anyone who wishes to audition (all talents welcomed) should come to the Fine Arts Building on February 3rd or 10th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Bring any instrument or CD recording that you need for the audition. Last year was a great success, and we really had a lot of fun. We hope to see even more people come out this year. Hope to see you there!

CALLING ALL PYXES

All of the pyxes for communion to the sick that belong to the parish are out. If you have one which you are no longer using, it would be greatly appreciated if you would return it to the sacristy so that others may make use of it, as well.

DUPLEX SOUGHT NEAR HOLY FAMILY

Three reliable adults are in need of renting a duplex in the Citrus Heights area, preferably near Holy Family. If you can help or know of someone who can help, please call Nora Martinez at 721-1176.

WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT: Are you with us? Jesus is inviting you to share in His Word and His gifts at our annual weekend retreat. Join us at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center on the weekend of Feb 29-Mar 2, 2008. Sign-up by calling Chyrl Marquez at 723-1468 or Barbie Meistas at 725-5973 or the Retreat Center at (916) 7254720. You can also visit the Center at our website: www.passionist.org/retreats/christtheking.



**Christ the King
Passionist Retreat Center**

YOUTH MINISTRY

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Holy Family Youth Ministry is taking a little break to build a leadership team and prepare to go bigger and better this Spring! Starting in March we will have weekly programs and events geared towards Middle School and High School Teens. Check the bulletin each week for updates...

IT TAKES US ALL...

The Young People of Holy Family Parish need You! The Youth Ministry is expanding to offer weekly programs to middle school, youth, high school youth, and young adults. We are looking for Young Adults and Adults who are willing to serve out their baptismal call with the young Church.

We often think of Youth Ministry as a few people who work directly with the youth each week...and that is a part of it...but we also need people with gifts and talents like yours (cooking, baking, fundraising, driving, chaperoning events) to be a part of the support system for the ministry to the youth of the parish. Join us on Wednesday, January 23rd from 7:00—8:00 PM in the St. Joseph Hall to find out more about the joys and opportunities that await you in Youth Ministry! Questions? Contact Victor Alvarez at the Youth Office, 721-8329.

MONTHLY COMMUNAL ANOINTING - TIME CHANGE

On the first Saturday of each month, beginning on February 3rd, Holy Family Church will offer an Anointing of the Sick at the **4:30 pm Mass**.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

If you or someone you know has not completed their Sacraments of Initiation, Holy Family Parish Adult Confirmation classes began January 31st from and continue on Thursdays from 7:30–9:00 p.m. in the Faith Formation class room of the Community Center. Please contact Becky in the Faith Formation Office at 726-7217 for more information and to register.

PARISH BLOOD DRIVE RESCHEDULED IN MARCH:

At the request of the Sacramento Bloodsource, we are rescheduling our February 3rd blood drive to Sunday, March 2nd. If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment call Larry Larsen at the evening number of 961-1036.

SPRING - LENTEN 2008 "40 DAYS FOR LIFE"

It's official--we have been given the go ahead by Bishop Weigand. Sacramento is registered for the Spring (Lenten) "40 Days for Life," February 6th (Ash Wednesday) through March 16th. All churches are invited to participate.

Spend some of your Lenten fasting, penance and prayer time in front of a clinic. Pray to end the scourge of abortion and speak out for the unborn baby who has no voice. Those who participated last year truly felt God's graces. Please call Sally Fisher at 780-5305.

Prayer Opportunities

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA:

Pope Benedict XVI has elevated the World Apostolate of Fatima (The Blue Army.) It is now officially associated with the Pontifical Council for the Laity in Rome. We are happy to offer these prayers here at Holy Family. All are welcome to join us Mondays after the 8:30 am Mass in St. Mary Hall. For information, please call Phyllis, 725-0218 or Phyllis, 725-5358.

VOCATIONS CROSS

Each week a parish family is presented with the Vocations Cross to take home for the week and asked to pray daily for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The next Sunday, the family returns the cross and another family is presented the cross to pray for vocations. If you are interested in taking the Vocation Cross home, please contact Young Stewart at 332-8732.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Jesus stays with us day and night in the Blessed Sacrament, blessing us with the grace that encourages us, consoles us, strengthens us, guides us and inspires us to place our trust in Him. We stay with the Real Presence of Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration to be more personally involved with Him and to keep the Eucharist central in our lives. Spending time with Jesus in the Eucharist enables us to build a truly personal relationship with Him. Come into His presence in our beautiful chapel - He is looking forward to your visit!

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL VISITING HOURS:

Monday – Friday	9:00 am – 9:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Sunday	1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Also in the chapel: Each day at 9:00 am a community Rosary and Chaplet of Mercy are prayed, and at 3:00 pm the Chaplet of Mercy is prayed.

DOMINICAN LAITY AT HOLY FAMILY

The Dominican Laity meets here at Holy Family on the first Sunday of every month in St. Mary Hall from 1–3 pm. Come and join us in a way of life of prayer, both private and liturgical, the study of the sacred truth, the sharing of our spiritual life with others in the community, and in our apostolic outreach. For further information call Phyllis Sale at 725-5358.

PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOP

Learn to establish a closer relationship with the Lord. In this 15 week Workshop you will learn different methods of prayer, different ways of speaking with the Lord. In the process you will become more Christ-like: You will become more loving, more forgiving, more humble. The Workshop is held on Wednesday evening 7-9 PM in the School Math Room. For more information call Irene Cervantes, 972-8585.

DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO – 2008 LENTEN REGULATIONS AND ADMONITIONS

Another Lenten journey of further conversion will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 6. Lent prepares the faithful to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection. It is a time for reflection and spiritual renewal, a time to examine one's relationships with God and with others. The Church also calls Catholics to a spirit of penance, above all to a practice of the "Acts of Religion": fasting, prayer, and almsgiving, "which express conversion in relation to oneself, to God, and to others." (CCC, #s 1969, 1434)

I. FAST AND ABSTINENCE (self-denial). To foster a spirit of penance and of reparation for sin, to encourage self-denial, and to guide us in the footsteps of Jesus, Church law requires the observance of fast and abstinence (CIC, 1249-1253).

1. **Abstinence:** *All persons who have already celebrated their 14th birthday, are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent, except Friday March 14, the solemnity of St. Patrick, Co-patron of the Diocese.*
2. **Fasting:** *Everyone, from the celebration of their 18th birthday to their 59th birthday, is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.* Voluntary fasting on other weekdays of Lent, especially on Wednesdays and Fridays, is highly recommended. Fasting is generally understood to mean eating one full meal each day. Two other partial meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken; but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed. Other forms of "fasting," especially regarding alcoholic drink, needless television, video games, internet use, and social entertainment, is of true spiritual value and is strongly encouraged. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, neither the law of fasting nor the law of abstinence obliges. If in doubt, one's parish priest or confessor may be consulted. Airport workers, travelers, and others while on board ships or airplanes are dispensed from the laws of fast and abstinence for the duration of their journey (except on Good Friday). It is desirable that they perform some other pious act instead.

II. PRAYER. In order to deepen one's love for Christ, Catholics are urged to read and pray over Sacred Scripture; to study the Catechism of the Catholic Church; to participate in devotions offered by the parish; and to pray more fervently - individually, as families, and in common with others. The faithful are exhorted to pray the Rosary, to make private visits to the Blessed Sacrament, and to pray, especially, for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life, for world peace, and for an ongoing implementation of the pastoral initiatives of the Third Diocesan Synod.

1. **Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation:** Lent is a privileged time for celebrating this sacrament. Parishes generally make readily available the Sacrament of Penance, including its communal celebration. (In this way, the social and ecclesial aspects of sin and reconciliation, as well as one's personal reconciliation with God may be underscored. At communal celebrations of reconciliation, however, general absolution is not permitted by the law of the Church.) People should attend also to reconciliation in every aspect of human life - personal, familial, societal, and ecclesial.
2. **Lenten Mass Schedule:** Daily Masses during Lent are so scheduled so as to facilitate the attendance and spiritual growth of the faithful. The faithful are urged to attend Mass on weekdays as often as possible.

3. **The Stations of the Cross** are celebrated publicly in each parish on Fridays during the Lenten season. Parishioners are urged to participate.
4. **Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament** is always highly encouraged but during Lent each parish is asked to schedule Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the faithful are encouraged to take part.
5. **Wednesday, March 12** is a special diocesan day of penance and prayer: "day of penance for negative attitudes and discrimination toward people of differing cultures, ethnicity and race; and prayer for unity in our diversity, for equality, mutual respect and peace among all peoples," (Diocesan Statute #123, §123,c.)
6. **Wedding Masses** may not be celebrated during the Easter Triduum, on Sundays of Lent, Ash Wednesday, or during Holy Week. Marriages may take place at other times during Lent according to the proper liturgical norms and provisions, but it is contrary to the penitential spirit of the season to have elaborate weddings or lavish receptions.
7. **Funeral Masses** may not be celebrated on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, nor on the Sundays of Lent. When pastoral reasons require that a funeral be celebrated on these days, a Liturgy of the Word, with the final commendation and farewell rite, is held.
8. **Mass may not be offered on Holy Saturday**, March 22, except the Easter Vigil, which may be celebrated only after nightfall, in darkness. This year, the Easter Vigil Mass should not begin before 8:00 PM.
9. **Easter Duty:** All Catholics who have been initiated into the Holy Eucharist are bound to receive Holy Communion worthily at least once during the Easter Season: Easter Sunday, March 23, through Pentecost, May 11. (In the United States, the Easter Duty may be fulfilled up through Trinity Sunday, May 18.) Catholics are encouraged to receive Communion as often as possible, not only during Eastertide, but throughout the liturgical year. However, "Anyone conscious of a grave sin must receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before coming to communion." (CCC # 1385)

III. ALMSGIVING. The act of giving to the poor, in the most ancient tradition of the Church, is an expression of penance, a form of piety, a witness of fraternal charity and an expression of Lenten conversion. Therefore, all Catholics are urged to support generously the charitable works of the Church, including ordinary stewardship to their parish; generous response to the 18th Annual Catholic Appeal; pledge redemption to the Preserving Our Past, Building Our Future campaign; and contribution to the Diocesan Food Bowl. People are also encouraged to assist the sick, the aged, the needy, the immigrant, and the imprisoned in other ways.

In our Lenten pilgrimage of faith and ascent to the holy mountain of Easter, may God direct our steps to himself, and show us how to walk always in his way.

William K. Weigand
Bishop of Sacramento

Jaime Soto
Coadjutor of Sacramento

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE AND BEYOND

DISCERNMENT RETREAT

GOD May be Calling YOU! Would you like to find out more about the will of God for you?

Come & join others for a DISCERNMENT RETREAT! (Bilingual-English/Spanish) There is no cost for this retreat. Find out where God is calling you!

Select a weekend that best fits your schedule: February 15 -16, 2008 or March 14 -15, 2008.

For more information, please contact: Office of Priestly & Religious Vocations Diocese of Sacramento - 2110 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95818 Telephone: (916) 733-0258 - E-Mail: callserve@diocese-sacramento.org

HURRY, HURRY, HURRY:

Time is running out to register for the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Let a cozy weekend for just the two of you keep you warm on these long winter nights. For more information, or to register for the upcoming weekend: Feb 15-17, Sacramento, call Raul & Gayla Ponce, 866-825-2046, or email: srsregistrar@comcast.net.

SACRAMENTO CURSILLO MEN'S WEEKEND PLANNED

Do you want to enrich your faith? If so, you may want to consider attending the Sacramento Cursillo Men's Weekend, taking place March 27-30, 2008. Cursillo is a short course in Christianity. There are talks, discussions, fellowship, sharing, singing, laughter, and prayer. For those with children in Catholic High Schools, Cursillo is the "adult version" of Kairos. The weekend will take place at Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat Center in Applegate, CA. For more information, please visit www.sacramentocursillo.org or contact Wendy Raemaeker at 972-1794 or Young Stewart at 332-8732.

CELTIC CONCERT BENEFIT FOR THE NEEDY:

You are invited to a concert of Ceili dancers, Celtic Irish dancers, and Romanian dancers, Live music and Vocal performances, on Sunday, February 10 at 3:00 pm, at St. Anthony Church, 660 Florin Road, Sacramento. All funds will go to the Catholic HIV/AIDS Ministry to the needy. This is a voluntary small organization; its services include Spiritual and Sacramental ministry, as well as home visits, spiritual counseling, and visits to prisons. Ninety percent of expenditure is for basic human needs, such as emergency shelter, food, clothing, transportation and medicine. SUGGESTED DONATION IS \$10; Children are free. CONTACT: Helen Healy: 916-444-3181; or Fr. John Healy: 456-7561.

ROSEVILLE KNIGHTS COUNCIL TURNS 50

Knights of Columbus Fr. Greely Council 4540 of St. Rose Parish will celebrate its 50th Anniversary on Saturday, February 16 with a Mass at 5:30 followed by Cocktail Hour and Dinner. All Knights, especially those with ties to this Council are invited to attend. Tickets are \$25 per person and can be obtained from Grand Knight Gene Rexford at 408-1459 or event chairman John Huwe at 721-3488.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY - RENEWAL OF VOWS

Bishop Weigand will preside at Mass at 11am on Sunday, February 10 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in which married couples may renew their wedding vows of 25 and 50 years (and beyond)! An informal reception for couples and their families will follow. Any couple interested in attending this special occasion is asked to register (names and anniversary year) with the Department of Evangelization & Catechesis at 733-0123.

SERVANT LEADER: VATICAN II

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First, the Council was to be a graced opportunity for the spiritual renewal of the entire Church. He wanted the Council to inspire a deep spiritual renewal of every baptized man, woman, and child.

Second, this essentially pastoral Council would not only safeguard the Church's life-giving doctrines, but it would teach us how those doctrines take concrete form in every field of human activity, human relationships, family, and culture. In other words, it would help us live the Church's teachings.

This goal was to be achieved through a program of aggiornamento, or updating, of the ways in which the substance and content of Christian faith is presented and lived. The Pope wanted Catholics to renew their fidelity to the timeless wealth of the Church's Tradition (resourcement), rediscovering in the ancient sources of the saints, theologians, and leaders wisdom as relevant today as it was centuries ago.

While previous Councils taught the faith of the Church in the form of condemnations against errors, this Council wanted to explain the validity of the Church in positive terms and let its divine beauty be visible to all.

Finally, in recalling the unity for which Jesus prayed, the Pope expressed his heartfelt desire that the Council promote greater unity among Christians, and the human family, through genuine ecumenical and inter-religious relations.

Vatican II inspired the Church to make many changes in how it did things, changes that enabled all of us to more effectively accept the invitation to welcome God into our hearts and be transformed ourselves.

History tells us that Councils nourish and guide Catholics for many decades, even centuries, after they occur. Our prayer today remains the same that John XXIII prayed at the Council's start:

"Renew your wonders in our time, as though for a new Pentecost, so that the Church may increase the reign of Christ."