



PARISH COMMUNITY

Santa Clara, California

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday  
of Ordinary Time**

**September 17, 2023**

**Vigésimo Cuarto Domingo  
de Tiempo Ordinario**



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PARISH COMMUNITY

**Parish  
Mission Statement**

*Founded in 1777,*

*Saint Clare Parish is  
an ethnically diverse  
Catholic community*

*of faith, united in*

*worship, discipleship  
and service.*

*In welcoming  
immigrants,*

*newcomers and  
strangers, we strive to*

*live the virtues of  
justice and love, so as*

*to be the face of  
Christ in the world,  
becoming in Him a  
sign of unity and an  
instrument of God's*

*peace.*

**From Monsignor Fran Cilia**

The Old Testament reading this Sunday (Sirach 27:30 -28:7) complements Jesus' parable on forgiveness, as found in the Gospel of Matthew 18:21-35.

From Sirach (also known as Ecclesiasticus), we will hear:

Wrath and anger are hateful things,  
yet the sinner hugs them tight.  
The vengeful will suffer the Lord's vengeance,  
for the Lord remembers their sins in detail.  
Forgive your neighbor's injustice;  
then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven.  
Could anyone nourish anger against another  
and expect healing from the Lord?  
Could anyone refuse mercy to another like oneself,  
can he seek pardon for one's own sins?

In the end, we should not expect from God that which we refuse to extend to others: mercy, forgiveness and love. If we continue to "hug tight" our anger, then we are on a path that leads not to forgiveness for our sins, but, in the words of the parable, "to be handed over to the torturers." Let us not be that way with us... Remembering God's mercy toward us, we are moved to forgive those who have wronged us.

**10:30 English Mass this Sunday**

Our 10:30 "Family Mass" will be celebrated in the Tent this Sunday, to allow our Portuguese Community to host an annual Festa in honor of Saint Cecilia at the same hour in the Church. Please park accordingly!

**Catechetical Sunday**

We observe Catechetical Sunday at the 10:30 Mass (in the Tent) this weekend. It is an opportunity for the entire parish to acknowledge, thank and commission those members of our parish and school communities who are engaged in any part of the ministry of catechists.

In the Rite of Commissioning, we will hear the following, which serve as a good introduction to the purpose of our celebration:

For the pastoral activity of the Church, the cooperation of a great many people is needed, so that communities as well as individuals may advance to full maturity in faith and continually show forth their faith through the celebration of the liturgy, through study, and through their manner of life.

This cooperation is provided by those who devote themselves to catechesis. Enlightened by God's Word and the teaching of the Church, catechists impart to others an initiation or a deeper formation in those realities that they themselves have learned as truths to be followed in living and to be celebrated in liturgy.

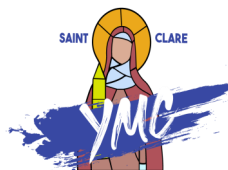
We thank the Lord for giving us such co-workers and pray that through the Holy Spirit they receive the grace they need in their service to the Church.



## Youth Baptism at Mass Next Weekend at the 5:00 PM Mass

We will celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism/Confirmation/Eucharist) with a parish ninth grader who has been preparing for these sacraments for many months. While the Liturgy of Initiation is beautiful, it should not unduly lengthen the 5:00 Mass next Saturday.

## Youth Ministry



Please continue to pray for our Confirmation candidates who recently returned from their retreat last week. Our retreat featured the theme “Bee His” and the verse from Isaiah 43:1, “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name: you are mine.” Through talks, sessions, and prayer, our candidates reflected on their relationship with God especially as they get closer to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

You are invited to join our candidates, accompanied by their parents and sponsors on Saturday, September 30th, at the 5pm Mass to celebrate and pray with them as they celebrate Confirmation. Bishop Oscar Cantú will be the celebrant, the Mass will be followed with a reception and all are invited.

We continue to develop our youth space with more and more furniture. If you have any furniture that you would like to donate such as coffee tables, shelves, sofas, rugs, and lounge seating, please contact Ryan (ryan.bao@dsj.org). We want to create a youth space that is inviting and relaxing for young people to be themselves, do school work, and have fun!

## Creation Care Tips

A typical American family spends nearly \$2,000 per year on their home energy bills. Much of that money, however, is wasted through leaky windows or ducts, old appliances, or inefficient heating and cooling systems. The Energy Saver Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Savings Projects offer easy, step-by-step instructions for energy efficiency improvements that will save you energy and money. Go to [energy.gov](http://energy.gov) to explore ways to improve your energy efficiency, lowering your bills and saving the planet valuable resources.

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## Weekly Justice Challenge

This Sunday’s Gospel challenges us to treat others as we want to be treated. The example which Jesus uses to illustrate this teaching is the one of debtors and forgiveness of debt. Throughout the Scriptures, we hear God challenging us to forgive debt and give people a second chance. Your challenge this week is to focus personally or globally on debt forgiveness. If you go the local route, ask yourself who most needs a second chance in your life. Whose “debt” can you forgive? If you want to meet the global challenge, ask who most needs a second chance, or a chance to start over, in the world. Is it victims of a natural disaster? Could it be those who have suffered from political persecution? Pay attention to what is happening in the world, then choose a group or individual in need of a second chance. How you can help them get it?

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Christopher Wemp  
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Father Martin Ezeador  
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# Mass Schedule

## Weekend Masses

### Saturday Evening Vigil

(Livestreamed)

5:00 p.m. (English)

### Sunday

7:30 a.m. (English)

9:00 a.m. (Portuguesa)

10:30 a.m. (English)

12:00 p.m. (Español)

Livestreamed

### Liturgy of the Word for Children

During 10:30 a.m. Mass  
(English)

### Liturgia de la Palabra para Niños

Durante Misa de 12:00pm  
(Español)

## Weekday Masses

Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m.

Holidays - 9:00 am

## Confessions

Saturdays 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

(In the church)

## Office Hours

9am - 5pm

Monday - Friday

## Address:

725 Washington Street

Santa Clara, CA 95050

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

## E-mail:

[stclareparish@dsj.org](mailto:stclareparish@dsj.org)

## Emergencies

(for the sick and dying):

408-248-7786

Follow the prompt,  
then press 9

## Open Enrollment for Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation

It's that time of the year! Open enrollment for our Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation for 2023 –2024 is now open, for Grades 1 through 7. This year we are including PreK and K (ages 3-5). Please visit our Saint Clare Website and look for **Faith Formation 2023-2024** for updates and information

<https://www.stclareparish.org/>



## RCIA – The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults & Preparation of the Sacraments of First Communion (Eucharist) and Confirmation for Adults

RCIA is a process through which a person who wishes to celebrate the sacraments and be received in the Catholic Church will be instructed in the Catholic faith. Catechumens are baptized during the Easter Vigil.

Also adults over 18 *who have been baptized* but wish to celebrate the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Confirmation meet weekly and sessions begin in September. Please contact us to sign up!

If you want to be Catholic or are a Catholic who would like to celebrate the *Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation*, or if you know someone who would like to be, please contact Diane Madruga for more information by email at [camponeses6@gmail.com](mailto:camponeses6@gmail.com)

## Saint Clare School

Saint Clare School is celebrating Cultural Diversity at its annual Multicultural event on Friday, September 22, 2023, starting at 6:00 PM.

Join us for a fabulous evening of music, dance and food from 15 different Countries. Food ticket sale available at the entrance of Saint Clare's Elementary School (Washington Street).

**ST. CLARE SCHOOL**  
**ANNUAL MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATION**

**September 22nd, 2023**  
**5:30PM - 8:30PM**

Live entertainment! Silent Auction and more...

Elementary Side Tickets Available at the door!

SAINT CLARE SCHOOL

## NOW ENROLLING TK-8TH GRADE FOR 2023-2024

Saint Clare School prepares students to become ethical and moral servant leaders who graduate ready for the challenges of our Catholic high schools as well as our many excellent public and charter high schools. The faculty and staff support each student as they find their voice and the gifts they will take into the world.

Visit <https://www.stclare.school/admissions-2> to learn more. Support our robust tuition assistance program by making a donation: <https://www.stclare.school/supportus> Call Cherell Rizzo, Recruitment, Retention, and Marketing Manager, at 408-246-6797 or email [cherell.rizzo@dsj.org](mailto:cherell.rizzo@dsj.org) Schedule a tour: <https://www.stclare.school/schedule-a-tour>.

Mrs. Catherine Kogura, Principal  
[catherine.kogura@dsj.org](mailto:catherine.kogura@dsj.org) | 408-246-6797 | [www.stclare.school](http://www.stclare.school)

**Mass Intentions**  
*September 16 - September 23, 2023*

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|                    |          |   |
|--------------------|----------|---|
| <b>Saturday</b>    | 5:00 pm  | Ed Attanas †  |
| <b>Sunday</b>      | 7:30 am  | Saint Clare Parishioner   |
|                    | 10:30 am | Ernesto Gonsalves †<br>Manuel & Cristina Jeronimo †<br>Vidalia Gaspar Rocha †<br>Rosalinda Da Silva †<br>Jose Mendonça †<br>Manuel Santos †<br>Fatima Oliveira †<br>David Sousa Jr. †<br>Julio Matos - Health<br>Souls in Purgatory |
| <i>In the Tent</i> | 10:30 am | Bill Kelly †  |
|                    | 12:00 pm | Antonio & Rosmenia Jose †<br>Alejandro Montes De Oca †<br>Alicia Suárez - Health<br>Ida López - Health  |
| <b>Monday</b>      | 8:00 am  | The Earth - Our Common Home   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>     | 8:00 am  | The Brady Family  |
| <b>Wednesday</b>   | 8:00 am  | Maria & Felipe Madruga †<br>Manuel & Aldine Simas †   |
| <b>Thursday</b>    | 8:00 am  | Agnes Balce Pajares †   |
| <b>Friday</b>      | 8:00 am  | Marie Dunn †  |
| <b>Saturday</b>    | 8:00 am  | Cecilia Orella †  |



**Daily Readings**

**Monday:**

1 Timothy 2:1-8  
Psalms 28:2, 7, 8-9  
Luke 7:1-10

**Tuesday:**

1 Timothy 3:1-13  
Psalms 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6  
Luke 7:11-17

**Wednesday:**

1 Timothy 3:14-16  
Psalms 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6  
Luke 7:31-35

**Thursday:**

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13  
Psalms 19:2-3, 4-5  
Matthew 9:9-13

**Friday:**

1 Timothy 6:2c-12  
Psalms 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20  
Luke 8:1-3

**Saturday:**

1 Timothy 6:13-16  
Psalms 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5  
Luk 8:4-15

**Sunday:**

Isiah 55:6-9  
Psalms 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)  
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a  
Matthew 20:1-16a

**Observances for the week of September 17, 2023**

- Sunday:** 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday
- Tuesday:** Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
- Wednesday:** Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gõn, Priest, & Paul Chõng Ha-sang & Companions, Martyrs
- Thursday:** Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
- Saturday:** Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest
- Next Sunday:** 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Priesthood Sunday



**Boletim Paroquial Português**  
**17 de Setembro de 2023; Domingo XXIV do Tempo Comum – Festa de Santa Cecília.**  
**Reflexão por João Pereira Arruda**

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“Quanto devo perdoar?” Foi a pergunta de Pedro a Jesus e deveria ser a nossa pergunta nos nossos dias. Tal como Jesus respondeu ser sete vezes sete; assim também Jesus nos responderia hoje que não há limites de vezes no perdoar. O perdão é a forma máxima de amar e é desta forma que Deus nos ama. Deus nos ama até ao segundo final das nossas vidas para aqueles que querem o Seu perdão, assim Jesus o demonstrou quando um dos dois ladrões na cruz o pediu. A sua resposta foi; “hoje mesmo estarás comigo no paraíso.” Foram deste modo apagados todos os crimes da sua vida que levava a com Jesus, também ter sido crucificado. A pergunta de todos os dias “devo perdoar?”, devemos responder com a oração de todos os dias: o Pai Nosso. Logo a seguir a rezarmos” “o pão nosso de cada dia nos dai hoje” dizemos com os lábios, ainda que nem sempre com o coração; “perdoai-nos as nossas ofensas, assim como nós perdoamos ...” Para aprendermos a viver a partir do perdão, devemos ser pessoas de perdão fácil; e que há que encontrar gestos que dão sinal do nosso perdãoe não sómente do nosso arrependimento. Ser santo não implica ser perfeito. Ser santo é viver no perdão e do perdãode Deus, disponível para ser um sinal de luz para com todos.

A nossa comunidade de Santa Clara celebra Santa Cecília, conhecida mundialmente como padroeira dos músicos e cantores de coro. É padroeira dos músicos porque ao morrer para salvar a sua virgindade o fê-lo a cantar. Antes de morrer perdoou os que a mataram. Santa Cecília usou do perdão a que hoje o Evangelho nos fala. Era de família abastada e nobre mas ofereceu-se a Deus como virgem. Desde a sua fundação a Sociedade Filarmónica União Portuguesa de Santa Clara celebra a sua padroeira, Santa Cecília por ser esta santa associada com a música sacra e na sua história diz-se ser ela uma conhecedora de música erudita e sacra. No tempo ela já tocava harpa que antecedeu ao piana de que era virtuosa. Tendo dedicadoa sua pureza ao Senhor preferiu ser morta do que perder essa virtude considerada virgem e martir elevando-a á santidade aos altares da nossa Igreja. Tanto a Sociedade Filarmónica como o Grupo Coral de Santa Clara escolheram Santa Cecília para sua padroeira. Músicos e cantores têm devoção por esta Santa que com o seu cantar e virtuosidade a tocar harpa ou piano o fazia em louvor ao Senhor. Que seja sempre Santa Cecília a santa motivadora destes dois grupos que também fazem esforços para representarem e bem a nossa comunidade seja em tocatas por diversas comunidades e a nossa, como também os cantores e músicos do nosso coral o fazem para dignifiacar os serviços de liturgia em português da nossa comunidade. Que seja Santa Cecília que por intermédio do Senhor guarde e abençoe os músicos da nossa comunidade.

**Piquenique Da nossa Comunidade.** *Marquem todos a data do Domingo dia 1 de Outubro próximo para celebrar e participar no evento anual da nossa comunidade promovido pelo Conselho Paroquial Português. Os bilhetes estão a ser vendidos pelos membrs do Conselho e a emente é a mesma dos últimos 20 anos. Carne no espeto á madeirense e ou galinha. Ao comprarem os bilhetes por favor diguem qual preferem. Mais detalhes em próximos boletins.*

**Festa de Santa Cecília:** *A Sociedade Filarmónica União Portuguesa de Santa Clara, está a celebrar hoje a festa em honra de Santa Cecília e o Grupo Coral Português também se associa a esta festa pois as duas agremações musicais tem esta Santa como sua padroeira. Juntemos as nossas oraçde agradecimento a estes dois grupos que tão bem representam anossa comunidade seja nesta nossa cidade de Santa Clara como também noutras comunidades a que são chamados para dignificar as suas festas. O Conselho Paroquial Português de Santa Clara congratula todos os músicos, dirigentes e apoiantes e os encorajam a continuarem a dar os seus talentos através da música. Parabens e bem hajam!*

***Um Santo e alegre Domingo para todos Feliz festa de Santa Cecília!***



Peter approached Jesus and asked him, “Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus answered, “I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.” — Mt 18:21-22

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

## De Monseñor Fran Cilia

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La lectura del Antiguo Testamento de este domingo (Sirácides 27:30-28:7) complementa la parábola de Jesús sobre el perdón, como se encuentra en el Evangelio de Mateo 18:21-35.

De Sirácides (también conocido como Eclesiástico), escucharemos:

La ira y enojo son cosas detestables,  
sin embargo, el pecador se aferra a ellas.  
El Señor se vengará del vengativo  
y llevará rigurosa cuenta de sus pecados.  
Perdona la ofensa a tu prójimo,  
y así, cuando pidas perdón, se te perdonarán tus pecados.  
Si un hombre le guarda rencor a otro,  
¿le puede acaso pedir la salud al Señor?  
El que no tiene compasión de un semejante,  
¿cómo pide perdón de sus pecados?

Al final, no debemos esperar de Dios aquello que nos negamos a extender a los demás: misericordia, perdón y amor. Si continuamos “abrazando fuerte” nuestra ira, entonces estamos en un camino que no nos lleva al perdón de nuestros pecados, sino, en palabras de la parábola, a “ser entregados a los verdugos”. No seamos así con nosotros... Al recordar la misericordia de Dios hacia nosotros, nos sentimos impulsados a perdonar a quienes nos han hecho daño.

### Misa en inglés a las 10:30 am este domingo

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Nuestra “Misa familiar” de las 10:30 a.m. se celebrará en la Carpa este domingo, para permitir que nuestra comunidad portuguesa organice una *Festa* anual en honor a Santa Cecilia a la misma hora en la Iglesia. ¡Por favor estacione como corresponde!

## Domingo Catequético

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Observamos el Domingo Catequético en la Misa de las 10:30 a.m. (en la Carpa) este fin de semana. Es una oportunidad para que toda la parroquia reconozca, agradezca y comisione a aquellos miembros de nuestra comunidad parroquial y escolar que participan en cualquier parte del ministerio de los catequistas.

En el Rito de Comisión escucharemos lo siguiente, que sirve como una buena introducción al propósito de nuestra celebración:

Para la actividad pastoral de la Iglesia se necesita la cooperación de muchas personas, para que tanto las comunidades como las personas puedan avanzar hacia la plena madurez en la fe y manifestar continuamente su fe mediante la celebración de la liturgia, el estudio y la su forma de vida.

Esta cooperación la brindan quienes se dedican a la catequesis. Iluminados por la Palabra de Dios y las enseñanzas de la Iglesia, los catequistas imparten a otros una iniciación o una formación más profunda en aquellas realidades que ellos mismos han aprendido como verdades a seguir en la vida y a celebrar en la liturgia.

Damos gracias al Señor por darnos tales colaboradores y oramos para que a través del Espíritu Santo reciban la gracia que necesitan en su servicio a la Iglesia.



## Parish Organizations *Organizaciones Parroquiales*

### Parish Pastoral Council

### Parish Finance Council

Jerome Alabado  
[Jerome.alabado@gmail.com](mailto:Jerome.alabado@gmail.com)

### Social Justice Committee

Anne McMahon  
[mcmahonam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mcmahonam@sbcglobal.net)

### Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Mick Gonzales  
(408) 645-0506

### Hispanic Council

Elania Tablada  
(408) 482-8234

### Portuguese Council

Claudia Madruga  
[cmadruga38@yahoo.com](mailto:cmadruga38@yahoo.com)  
(408) 568-3115

Eduina Faria  
(650) 420-9908

### San José Chinese Catholic Mission

*Mandarin Community*  
Father Alberto Olivera, Pastor  
[aolivera@dsj.org](mailto:aolivera@dsj.org)

### Cantonese Community

Andrew Lin  
[linlin2002@gmail.com](mailto:linlin2002@gmail.com)

### Serra Club of Santa Clara

Cathleen Lencioni  
(408) 248-6728

### Young Ladies Institute (YLI)

Dolores Wriglesworth  
[doloreswrigs@yahoo.com](mailto:doloreswrigs@yahoo.com)

### Knights of Columbus

Ruben Santos  
[portugeek75@yahoo.com](mailto:portugeek75@yahoo.com)

## Bautismo de un Joven en la Misa del próximo fin de semana en la Misa de las 5:00 p.m.

Celebraremos los Sacramentos de Iniciación (Bautismo/Confirmación/Eucaristía) con un parroquiano que es un estudiante de noveno grado que se ha estado preparando para estos sacramentos durante muchos meses. Si bien la Liturgia de Iniciación es hermosa, no debería alargarse excesivamente la Misa de las 5:00 el próximo sábado.

### Inscripción para Formación en la Fe y Preparación Sacramental.



¡Es esa época del año! La inscripción para nuestra Formación de Fe y Preparación Sacramental para 2023 – 2024 ya está abierta, para los grados 1 a 7. Este año incluimos PreK y K (de 3 a 5 años). Visite nuestro sitio web de Saint Clare y busque Formación en la fe 2023-2024 para obtener actualizaciones e información.  
<https://www.stclareparish.org/>

### RICA – Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos y preparación de los Sacramentos de la Eucaristía y la Confirmación para Adultos

RICA es un proceso por el cual una persona que desea celebrar los sacramentos, *Bautismo, Eucaristía y Confirmación* en la Iglesia Católica es instruida en la fe Católica y luego recibida como fiel de la Iglesia. Los cursos de RICA – comienzan en septiembre y se reúnen una vez por semana. Los catecúmenos son recibidos en la fe en la vigilia de Pascua.

También aquellos adultos mayores de 18 años *que ya han sido bautizados* pero desean celebrar la Sagrada Comunión y el sacramento de la Confirmación por favor contáctenos para registrarse. Candidatos comienzan en septiembre y se reúnen una vez por semana.

Si usted desea ser Católico y está interesado celebrar la *Sagrada Eucaristía y la Confirmación* o conoce alguna persona que tiene esa inquietud puede llamar al ministerio de formación religiosa de la parroquia, Sandra Quintanilla (669) 270-2702 o por correo electrónico: [Sandra.Quintanilla@dsj.org](mailto:Sandra.Quintanilla@dsj.org).



## 2023 Season of Creation Activities - Let Justice and Peace Flow!

**Saturday morning, September 23 - California Coastal Cleanup Day.** Register with the CA Coastal Commission and participate in the cleanup of a local waterway.

**Season of Creation Mass & Reception Saturday, September 23** from 9AM – 12PM. Learn how parishes and organizations in the diocese are working on the goals of the Laudato si' Action Platform. Please register.

**Living the Season of Creation Every Day: The Ecological Vision of Laudato si'** At 10AM **September 30** at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. Explore the Catholic response to the ecological crisis that affects our earth and all life. Please register.

**October 4th, Feast of St. Francis of Assisi - Blessing of the Animals,** at parishes and schools near you! Join together with your family, pets too, and pray for the protection of all living species and our biodiversity.

To register to one of these events or for more information please go to <https://www.dsj.org/evangelization/social-ministries/stewardship-of-our-common-home-2/>



**Let Justice and Peace Flow**  
Season of Creation 2023



SEASONOFCREATION.ORG



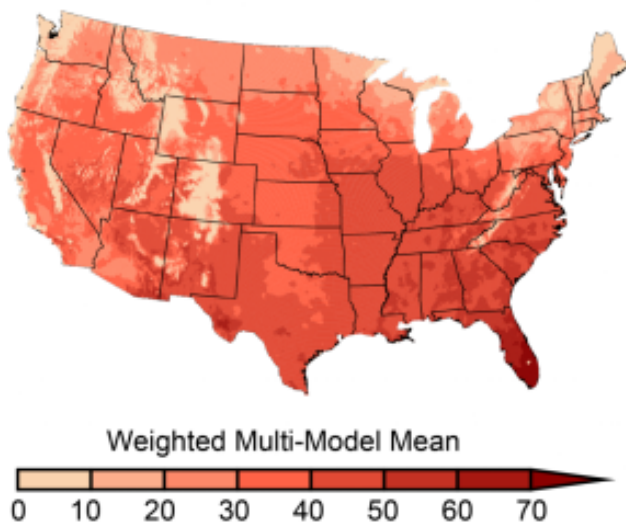
# Season of Creation

September 1 - October 4, 2023

## Feature: Extreme Heat

2023 is set to be the hottest year on record! As the frequency of heat waves, record setting temperatures and wildfires increases, it's vital to learn about the effects of extreme heat. If greenhouse gas emissions contributing to global warming are not addressed, temperatures will continue to rise and threaten human lives.

Projected Change in Number of Days Above 90°F  
Mid 21st Century, Higher Scenario (RCP8.5)



## WE PRAY:

*Dear Lord, thank You for giving us this incredible world. May we realize the harm done by greenhouse gas pollution and make every effort to counter its negative consequences. Help us live mindfully and act responsibly. Amen.*

## Take Action!

- **Sunday:** Read Ch. 3 of *Laudato Si'*
- **Monday:** Enjoy a "meatless" Monday! See Sisters of Mercy recipes at <https://bit.ly/SOMMEATLESS>
- **Tuesday:** Review your family wildfire response plan
- **Wednesday:** Research how to prepare for extreme heat and the physical signs of heat stress or stroke
- **Thursday:** Buy a plant or plant a tree to absorb harmful greenhouse gas emissions
- **Friday:** Consider ways your household can reduce your carbon footprint by decreasing fossil fuel use
- **Saturday:** Go on a group hike!



# Week Three



Credit to:

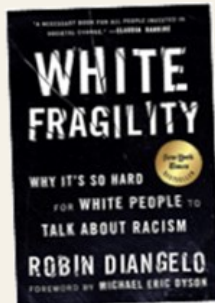
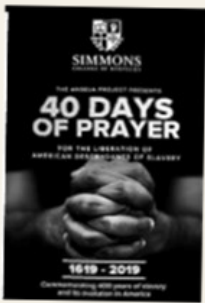
## Faith and Racial Equity: Exploring Power and Privilege

“I was a stranger, and you welcomed me.” Jesus’ words from Matthew 25:35 are a countercultural call to embrace those who are marginalized as if greeting Jesus himself. You are invited to join us in an eight-session Just Faith Ministries program to explore how racial privilege manifests itself in our daily lives. Topics include race and socialization; affirmative action; the school-to-prison pipeline; and racial disparity within the criminal justice system.

**In-person Sessions - Hosted by St. Clare Parish**  
Sessions 1-8 on consecutive Mondays  
Oct. 16th - Dec. 11th 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Virtual Sessions - Hosted by TBD**  
Zoom Sessions 1-8 on consecutive Wednesdays  
Oct. 11th - Dec. 13th 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Both the Monday and Wednesday Sessions begin with an in-person retreat at St. Clare Parish (725 Washington St, Santa Clara, CA 95050) Saturday, September 30th, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. with an optional lunch together to follow.



Discussions within our small groups will draw on each of these books: *40 Days of Prayer*, compiled by Cheryl L. Mills, *White Fragility*, by Robin DiAngelo, and *I'm Still Here*, by Austin Channing Brown

To reserve a place, contact: Kathy Mattingly at [kat@kajon.com](mailto:kat@kajon.com) or (408) 378-2355  
Requested tax deductible donation: \$35, \$55, \$75 per person. Approximate cost for books is \$44, which are available through JustFaith Ministries and may be found at bookstores, libraries or on-line.  
Scholarships are available on request.



**What is God's Dream for YOU?**  
**Come & See!**  
**September 29-October 1, 2023**

**Stay with us \* Pray with us \***  
**Ask your questions \* Get to know us!**

**Join Our Retreat in Los Altos Hills, CA**  
**DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**  
**Find out more at [Daughters-Of-Charity.com/retreats/](http://Daughters-Of-Charity.com/retreats/)**  
**FOR SINGLE CATHOLIC WOMEN 18-40.**



## You're Invited

ST. CLARE PARISH - PORTUGUESE COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY PICNIC

**SUN, OCTOBER 1, 2023**

WHERE: ST. CLARE PARKING LOT  
(ACROSS FOR THE CHURCH)

TIME: 12 noon - 1:30 p.m.

MENU: Shish Kebab or BBQ Chicken w/side dishes & dessert

DONATION: \$30 adult, \$15 children under 12  
For more information: 650-420-9908 or 408-406-8676



## Stewardship Report

*Sunday Collection:  
September 2nd & 3rd*

**Goal: \$9,000.00**  
**Actual: \$8,179.50**

**Catholic Education:  
\$ 2,035.00**

**Thank You!**



### Parish Office Hours

9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Monday through Friday.

*The office closes  
between 12:00 and 1:00 for  
lunch.*



September 17, 2023 | Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:30—28:7 | Rom 14:7-9 | Mt 18:21-35

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

### GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Forgiveness. It seems like a relatively simple *concept*, doesn't it? We ask our merciful Father for it every day when we pray the Our Father: "... forgive us our trespasses..." Then reality hits, as we remember the second part of that phrase: "...as we forgive those who trespass against us ..." *As we forgive others.* Oh, that long, hard road of forgiveness! Easier said than done. Sometimes those old sayings have some merit, don't they? And when we look at today's readings, there is nothing cryptic about them: *forgive not seven times but seventy-seven times, let go of wrath and anger, forgive your brother and sister from your heart.* Yes, forgiveness is a simple concept, but it's not easy. Perhaps the answer is to re-read today's Scriptures and ask the Holy Spirit to give us the strength to put in the hard work if there is someone in our lives to whom we need to offer our heartfelt forgiveness.

**PRAY** Examine your heart and take a hard look at whether you are holding on to a wrong that was committed against you. Take it to God in prayer. The more we open our hearts to forgive others, the more at peace we can be. Ponder the last words of today's reading from Sirach: *Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor; remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults.*

### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Bishop Robert Barron, in his *Word on Fire Bible* on the Gospels, has four suggestions related to this Gospel on how to become "a better forgiver." The one that stood out to me immediately is "forgive offenses quickly." Don't let them fester and "settle deeply into your psyche." This seems like very sage advice because we can all have a tendency to "stew" about things that are bothering us, which rarely makes them better. Bishop Barron's other suggestions are: Pay attention to your own sins, go to confessions regularly, and offer forgiveness through a concrete act or sign. Which brings us back to the simplicity of it all: God will always forgive us, so we must always forgive others. Doesn't it make sense that to live in the house of our merciful Father, we must emulate him and have loving hearts rather than vengeful hearts?

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If interested in placing an advertisement in our Sunday Bulletin, please contact Msgr. Fran.



## NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

JOIN THE REVIVAL!

<https://www.dsj.org/eucharistic-revival/>

## SUPPORT OUR PARISH

A direct and safe way to our online giving page.



PARISH COMMUNITY



**Thank you for your generosity!**

### PASTORAL PLANNING UPDATE

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

AUGUST 2023



To see updated message from Bishop Cantú or for more information

visit <https://www.dsj.org/pastoral-planning/>



SAINT CLARE SCHOOL

## SAINT CLARE SCHOOL



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*Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been renewing marriages for 50 years!*

*Take an opportunity this year to invest time for your marriage. Experiences in the Bay Area for the remainder of 2023 are on September 29 - October 1 and November 17 - 19.*

*Please register at [wwme.org/apply](http://wwme.org/apply) or for more information call: Ken and Claranne at 408-782-1413.*