



The Cathedral of
ST. EUGENE

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Frank Epperson, Rector
Rev. Alan Acevedo, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Jeffrey Keyes, In Residence
Deacon Mike Heinzelman
Deacon Gary Moore
Deacon Russ Bowden

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Email Comments/Suggestions to:
cathedralresponse@gmail.com

Parish Office Phone	542-6984
Parish Office Fax	542-1621
Religious Education	326-3408
Finance Council – Marty McCormick	526-1700
Choir Directress – Pam Zieminski	578-8848
School Office	545-7252
Preschool Office – Sharry Caesare	528-9133
Homeschool Academy– Jessica Warner	206-5579

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Entrance is located at SW corner of Rectory

WEBSITES

Parish: www.steugenes.com
School: www.steugenesch.org

REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH

Our warmest welcome to all who worship in our community. If you are not registered in the parish, please complete a registration card. Cards are available at church entrances or at the parish office.

MARRIAGES & BAPTISMS

Please contact the office at least 12 months in advance for weddings and 3 months in advance for baptisms. Check the parish website for more information.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office when a parishioner is home bound or hospitalized to arrange for Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick.

2323 Montgomery Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
(707) 542-6984



MASS TIMES

Daily Mass: 6:45 and 8:00 a.m.
Saturday: 8:00a.m; 4:30 p.m. & Sp.6:30 p. m.
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
12:00 noon and 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday Latin Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Latin Mass: 1:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Saturday or by appointment

PERPETUAL ADORATION

Perpetual Adoration is in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. To sign up for your hour with our Lord, call Annette (English) at: 542-3635 or Maria Vega (Spanish) at: 710-5094

Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament is held in the chapel every First Friday following 8:00 a.m. Mass. *During this time of Covid-19, Benediction is not being held.*

DEVOTIONS

Recitation of the Rosary is Monday – Saturday at 7:30 a.m. in the Cathedral

Chaplet of Divine Mercy is Saturday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Cathedral

CATHEDRAL SHOPS

Cathedral Thrift Shop Hours: Tues & Wed. 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Cathedral Books & Gifts Hours: Wed-Sat 8:30-4:30 & Sun 8:30-1:30, Closed Mon/Tues - Phone: 542-0250

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JULY 17, 2022

PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY JULY 17

Masses – Cathedral – 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00, 1:30 pm (Latin) & 5:30 pm
Coffee Social – Parish Life Center – 8AM – 12:00 PM

MONDAY JULY 18

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am

TUESDAY JULY 19

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Women of the Word – PLC (Hope Rm) – 9:30 am
Latin Mass – Cathedral – 5:30 pm

WEDNESDAY JULY 20

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am
Outdoor Rosary – Fatima Grotto – 6:00 pm

THURSDAY JULY 21

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am

FRIDAY JULY 22

Morning Masses – Cathedral – 6:45 & 8:00 am

SATURDAY JULY 23

Morning Mass – Cathedral – 8:00 am
Confession – Cathedral – 3:30 – 4:30 pm
Sunday Vigil Masses – Cathedral – 4:30 pm & 6:30 pm (Spanish)

~PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION~

Register your child now for the Parish School of Religion (PSR) 2022-2023 school year! The Parish School of Religion partners with the Cathedral of St. Eugene families to bring the youth of the parish to Christ through authentic catechesis in the Beauty, Goodness, and Truth of the Catholic Faith. We offer: Ongoing Catholic formation for students 1st grade through high school; two-year preparation for the Sacraments of 1st Communion & Confirmation; dedicated teaching by the Marian Sisters of Santa Rosa & lay catechists. **Where:** St. Eugene's School **When:** Tuesdays from 3:45 - 5:00pm; September through May. Pick up registration forms in the vestibules, at the parish office, or register online at our parish website (www.steugenes.com). ***Last day to register is Sunday, July 31st.*** Contact Sr. Mary Emmanuel, MSSR with any questions at 707-326-3408 or srmaryemmanuel2@gmail.com

Hearing Aid Users, Switch to T-Coil

ADMINISTRATION

For the Week of: 7/03/22

Sunday Donations Received:	\$12,810.00
2nd Collection : Peter's Pence	\$3,537.00

~CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS~

During the month of July only, Fr Donald Calloway's book, *Consecration to St Joseph*, is 25% off, both English and Spanish translations. **Important notice: the bookstore will be closed from 7/18 - 8/2 for our annual inventory.* Be sure to get your shopping done in the first 2 weeks of July! The shop is open Wed-Fri 9:30-4:30 & Sun 9:30-1:30. (707) 542-0250.

~ CREDIT CARD DONATIONS~

Consider paying your parish contributions on line using your credit card. You can process a one-time gift or you create an account. Once you establish an account, you can set up recurring entries to automatically process your donations. You can also pay your 2nd collections by credit card. From the STEUGENES.COM website, press the GIVE button in the upper right corner. Then press GIVE ON LINE NOW. If you would like assistance setting up your account, contact bookkeeper@steugenes.com and we can walk you through the process.

SECOND COLLECTION INFORMATION

~TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM~

This weekend, July 16 & 17, the Second Collection will be for our Tuition Assistance Program. There is no Second Collection next weekend, July 23 & 24. As always, thank you for your generosity!

ST. EUGENE'S SCHOOL NEWS

~CATHEDRAL SCHOOL OPEN~

Saint Eugene Cathedral School is open and accepting applications for the upcoming school year. If you have any questions, please contact: office@steugenesch.org. Please join us for a school tour on Friday, August 12th @ 9:00 a.m.

~THE LITTLE FLOWERS~

Our Little Flowers Girls' Club will be starting up again in the coming months! This club is for girls from K-4th grade. The group meets once a month and at each meeting there is a lesson on a Catholic Virtue and a Saint plus many more fun activities. More information will be forthcoming about sign up dates and meeting times!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	July 16
8:00 am	McShane & Stronge Families, living & deceased
4:30 pm	George & Chris Schirle, deceased
6:30 pm (Sp)	Celeste Vasquez, living
Sunday	July 17
7:30 am	Theodore C. McCarthy, deceased
9:00 am	William Avilla, deceased
10:30 am	People of St. Eugene's
12:00 pm	Julio & Sergia Masalta, deceased
1:30 pm (EF)	Lisa Tran, living
5:30 pm	Fred Wallace, deceased
6:00 pm	Mary Tran, living
Newman Ctr.	
Monday	July 18
6:45 am	Fred Wallace, deceased
8:00 am	Deirdre McCormick, deceased
Tuesday	July 19
6:45 am	Fred Wallace, deceased
8:00 am	ICF Members, living & deceased
5:30 pm (EF)	Michael Tran, living
Wednesday	July 20
6:45 am	Eugene Cashman, deceased
8:00 am	Benigno & Ruperta Marapao, deceased
Thursday	July 21
6:45 am	David Gosling, deceased
8:00 am	Leopoldo Tercero, deceased
Friday	July 22
6:45 am	Maribel Landeros & Elena Gonzalez, living
8:00 am	Joe Saludes, deceased
12:00 pm (Hosp)	Mary Tran, living
Saturday	July 23
8:00 am	Michael Hart, deceased
4:30 pm	Bob Stone, deceased
6:30 (Sp)	Alfredo Nunez Vargas, deceased & Holy Souls in Purgatory

~PLEASE PRAY FOR~

Those who are ill need your support and prayers: Tristan Humble, Samuel Agius, Sandy Torti Wilcox, Marjorie Miles, Amelia Lansangan, Gail Brown, Leo Del Santo, Emeline Jane Smith, Rosalind Britto, Ken Davis, Rita Wyatt, Karen Mills, Eileen Carol, Nancy Amador, Patrick Welter, Cristeta Marentes, Jesus Navarro, Michael Boland, Stephen Warner, Aida Catapang, Bob Goldman, Pat Davenport, Joan Cosgrove, Paulita Castro, Jean L. Alfano, Theresa Pham, Rainey Olson, Michele Otten, Pauline Goslovich, Mary Gonzales and Nick Sidjakov.

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY

~INTERNATIONAL ROSARY CRUSADE~

People around the world are still praying the Rosary in a public place every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. for an end to the many ills that have befallen the world: pandemic, war, and also the rise of atheism and anti-Christian sentiment and laws. This month, in particular, we are also giving thanks to the end of federally legalized abortion on demand in our country. Join us as we pray! We meet at the Fatima Statue/grotto outside the east entrance of the Cathedral **every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.** to publicly pray the Rosary and implore our Lady for help.

~RCIA CLASSES TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER~

Our Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) classes will begin on September 11th. Classes will be held on Sundays, from 10:30 - 11:50 am until mid-May in the Parish Life Center Hope Room. RCIA mainly serves those who have a desire to enter the church or baptized Catholics who desire the sacrament of Confirmation. However, anyone who wishes to learn more about the Catholic faith is welcome to attend. Information/schedule/application "packets" will be available in the church vestibules, the Parish Office, and the St. Eugene's Gift Shop/Bookstore the weekend of August 6&7. Please return completed applications, baptismal certificate if applicable, and a \$25 fee, to the Parish Office, or bring those to the first RCIA class Sept. 11. Walk-ins are welcome on Sept. 11-- applications will be provided at that time. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office at 707-542-6984.

~ADORATION CHAPEL~

It has been one year since our Chapel has re-opened and been completely refurbished! We are very grateful to all of the good people who volunteer to give an hour to the Lord as an Adorer. We are currently in need of Adorers for Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 8 -9:00 a.m. If you think you can fill one of those slots, please contact Annette Righetti at k_a_righetti@yahoo.com or call 707-542-3635.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY

~RAFFLE TICKETS~

Work will be starting soon on the grotto dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe on the east-side stone wall next to the church. Raffle tickets **are being sold in the Parish Office and our Gift Shop/Bookstore to help with costs.** The cost is \$1.00 per ticket.

~FATHER'S DAY REMEMBRANCE~

Victor Slagle *Alexander Schonfeld*

The bulletin submission deadline is Thursday @ 3:00pm for the Sunday after next bulletin. We reserve the right to edit or omit items. E-mail items to: office@steugenes.com.

MY CATHOLIC FAITH

REFRESHING OUR MEMORIES

~FROM THE PASTOR~

Dear Friends, this week I am going to stray a bit from sharing articles that pertain to our readings. As I looked back at earlier articles shared over the years, I came upon some topics that are not often addressed, like why we worship on Sunday and not on Saturday, and why sacramentals are so important in fighting against the forces of evil. So, permit me, if you will, to re-run the following articles and refresh all of our memories on the importance of these topics.

THE NEW SABBATH

~FROM SATURDAY TO SUNDAY~

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, in teaching us why Christians worship on "the eighth day" says this: "Jesus rose from the dead "on the first day of the week." Because it is the "first day," the day of Christ's Resurrection recalls the first creation. Because it is the "eighth day" following the sabbath, it symbolizes the new creation ushered in by Christ's Resurrection. For Christians it has become the first of all days, the first of all feasts, the Lord's Day (*he kuriake hemera, dies dominica*) Sunday: *'We all gather on the day of the sun, for it is the first day [after the Jewish sabbath, but also the first day] when God, separating matter from darkness, made the world; and on this same day Jesus Christ our Savior rose from the dead.'* Sunday is expressly distinguished from the sabbath which it follows chronologically every week; for Christians its ceremonial observance replaces that of the sabbath. In Christ's Passover, Sunday fulfills the spiritual truth of the Jewish sabbath and announces man's eternal rest in God. For worship under the Law prepared for the mystery of Christ, and what was done there prefigured some aspects of Christ: *'Those who lived according to the old order of things have come to a new hope, no longer keeping the sabbath, but the Lord's Day, in which our life is blessed by him and by his death.'* The celebration of Sunday observes the moral heart to render to God an outward, visible, public, and regular worship "as a sign of his universal beneficence to all." Sunday worship fulfills the moral command of the Old

Covenant, taking up its rhythm and spirit in the weekly celebration of the Creator and Redeemer of his people."

~A DAY OF REST~

Just as God "rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had done," Christian life has a rhythm of work and rest. The institution of the Lord's Day helps everyone enjoy adequate rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social, and religious lives. On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, the performance of the works of mercy, and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body. Family needs or important social service can legitimately excuse from the obligation of Sunday rest. The faithful should see to it that legitimate excuses do not lead to habits prejudicial to religion, family life, and health. http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c1a3.htm

~IN THE BIBLE~

The New Testament refers to churches meeting on Sunday for teaching and breaking bread. (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1-2)

There is no Bible mention of any church meeting on any other day of the week than Sunday. (Acts 13:14-15; 16:13; 17:1-3; 18:4)

~IN THE EARLY CHURCH~

"But Sunday is the day which we all hold our common assembly, because Jesus Christ, our Saviour, on the same day rose from the dead." Justin Martyr Apology, Chapter LXVII, 2nd Century A.D. 140

"We keep the eighth day with joyfulness, the day on which Jesus rose again from the dead." Chapter XVII., Barnabas 2nd Century A.D. 120

<https://pastorhistorian.com/2005/09/13/quotes-from-the-early-church-fathers-on-the-sabbathlords-day-issue/>

ANGELS—GOOD & BAD

~TWO KINGDOMS~

“There are only two kingdoms in this cosmos. There is the kingdom of God and the kingdom of Satan. (This assertion is taken word for word from the opening of Pope Leo XIII’s encyclical *Humanum Genus* issued on April 20, 1884. See also Saint Thomas Aquinas explanation at *Summa theologiae* III, q. 8, a. 7). **Thanks to Adam, we were born in the wrong kingdom.** The kingdom of darkness. Adam sold us up the river to sin. Saint Paul wrote that through original sin, we are “children of wrath, even as the rest” (Eph 2:3) To use a well known image from your children’s Bibles, Adam and Eve were cast outside of the gates of Eden. **All children since that day are born “outside the gates.”** Regretfully devils roam “outside the gates.” Read the Gospels. The devils are real and they are after us!”

~EXORCISM~

“This is why the Catholic sacrament of baptism always begins with an exorcism of the infant. That’s right an exorcism. We are not assuming that the infant is possessed by a devil. No. Rather we are assuming that the infant is “outside the gates” and not yet under the protection of Christ the Savior and King. The traditional Catholic baptismal liturgy is chiefly concerned with the idea of gates. In fact, the liturgy appeals to doors and gates regularly. This is a reference to being cast “outside the gates.” <http://taylormarshall.com/2013/06/exorcism-satan-and-baptismal-liturgy.html>

~THE POWER OF SACRAMENTALS~

“Maybe the thought of doing spiritual battle against demonic forces conjures up Hollywood images from *The Exorcist*, with an outstretched crucifix and dramatic exchanges of liquids, both holy and not. Maybe it strikes you as hokey or superstitious. Maybe the thought of it harkens uncomfortably far back in human history to a time before computers and antibiotics and space travel, to when people had to resort to magical, pagan-esque rituals to protect their hapless, unenlightened selves from the horrors of the natural world. The truth is, though, we are still an incarnate people, made from dust and atoms and flesh both weak and redeemed by the One Whose flesh was pieced for us. When Jesus bent in the dirt at the feet of the deaf and mute man, He spat into dust and mixed mud in His palm, smearing the

most base and ordinary elements into a miracle-working paste that was activated not by superstition or any kind of inherent qualities that dirt possessed, **but by the nuclear reaction between His grace and the deaf man’s faith.** That, in a nutshell, is the power of sacramentals, which is a fancy theology word for the seemingly ordinary items we as Christians have access to in our lifelong battle with evil.”

~THE POWER OF SACRAMENTALS~



“The faith of the Church imbues these ordinary elements (water, salt, crucifixes, icons, medals, etc.) with a blessing that is effective in it’s own right, but is only fully realized when combined with personal faith and a rightly-ordered life. Holy water

is not magic, any more than the rings I wear on my left hand, blessed and sanctified in the sacramental exchange of our wedding vows, are somehow sufficient to guarantee my fidelity to my marriage. I must cooperate with that inherent grace in the daily choices I make to honor those vows and serve that man. The rings are holy, but they can only strengthen what is already there. That analogy is imperfect, but hopefully helpful enough to communicate the point, which is this: **the grace is all God’s giving, but He chooses, as He has chosen all along, to sanctify the ordinary and the extraordinary.** For complete article go to: <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/mamaneedscoffee/2017/02/weapons-for-battle-the-use-of-sacramentals-holy-water-blessed-salt-crucifixes-in-the-christian-life/>

~THE POWER OF HOLY WATER~

Demons hate holy water. St. Teresa of Avila once said, “I have found by experience that there is nothing from which the devils fly more quickly than from holy water. They also fly from the cross, but they return almost immediately. Certainly, the power of holy water must be great; for my part, my soul feels particular comfort in taking it, and very generally a refreshment and interior delight which I cannot express” (Autobiography of St Teresa of Avila). Holy water is an excellent way to protect yourself, your family, or your home from the snares of the evil one! Many people keep a small font in their homes so that they can bless themselves as they come and go each day. What a powerful way to proclaim that we belong to Jesus!

MI FE CATOLICA

REFRESCANDO NUESTROS RECUERDOS

~DEL PASTOR~

Queridos amigos, esta semana voy a desviarme un poco de compartir artículos que pertenezcan a nuestras lecturas. Al mirar hacia atrás en artículos anteriores compartidos a lo largo de los años, me encontré con algunos temas que no se abordan a menudo, como por qué adoramos el domingo y no el sábado, y por qué los sacramentales son tan importantes en la lucha contra las fuerzas del mal. Por lo tanto, permítanme, si lo desean, volver a publicar los siguientes artículos y refrescar todos nuestros recuerdos so-

EL NUEVO SÁBADO

~DE SÁBADO A DOMINGO~

El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, al enseñarnos por qué los cristianos adoran en "el octavo día" dice esto: "Jesús resucitó de entre los muertos "el primer día de la semana". Debido a que es el "primer día", el día de la resurrección de Cristo recuerda la primera creación. Debido a que es el "octavo día" después del sábado, simboliza la nueva creación introducida por la resurrección de Cristo. Para los cristianos se ha convertido en el primero de todos los días, la primera de todas las fiestas, el Día del Señor (he kuriake hemera, dies dominica) domingo: "Todos nos reunimos en el día del sol, porque es el primer día [después del sábado judío, pero también el primer día] cuando Dios, separando la materia de las tinieblas, hizo el mundo; y en este mismo día Jesucristo nuestro Salvador resucitó de entre los muertos". El domingo se distingue expresamente del sábado que sigue cronológicamente cada semana; para los cristianos su observancia ceremonial reemplaza a la del sábado. En la Pascua de Cristo, el domingo cumple la verdad espiritual del sábado judío y anuncia el descanso eterno del hombre en Dios. Porque el culto bajo la Ley se preparó para el misterio de Cristo, y lo que se hizo allí prefiguró algunos aspectos de Cristo: "Aquellos que vivieron según el viejo

orden de las cosas han llegado a una nueva esperanza, ya no guardando el sábado, sino el Día del Señor, en el que nuestra vida es bendecida por él y por su muerte. *La celebración del domingo observa el corazón moral para rendir a Dios un culto externo, visible, público y regular "como signo de su beneficencia universal para todos". La adoración dominical cumple el mandato moral del Viejo Alianza, tomando su ritmo y espíritu en la celebración semanal del Creador y Redentor de su pueblo*".

~UN DÍA DE DESCANSO~

Así como Dios "descansó en el séptimo día de toda su obra que había hecho", la vida cristiana tiene un ritmo de trabajo y descanso. La institución del Día del Señor ayuda a todos a disfrutar de un descanso y ocio adecuados para cultivar su vida familiar, cultural, social y religiosa. Los domingos y otros días santos de obligación, los fieles deben abstenerse de participar en trabajos o actividades que obstaculicen la adoración debida a Dios, la alegría propia del Día del Señor, la realización de las obras de misericordia, y de la adecuada relajación de la mente y del cuerpo. Las necesidades familiares o el servicio social importante pueden excusarse legítimamente de la obligación del descanso dominical. Los fieles deben velar por que las excusas legítimas no conduzcan a hábitos perjudiciales para la religión, la vida familiar y la salud.

~EN LA BIBLIA~

El Nuevo Testamento se refiere a las iglesias que se reúnen el domingo para enseñar y partir el pan. (Hechos 20:7; 1 Corintios 16:1-2)

No hay mención bíblica de ninguna reunión de la iglesia en ningún otro día de la semana que no sea el domingo. (Hechos 13:14-15; 16:13; 17:1-3; 18:4)

~EN LA IGLESIA PRIMITIVA~

"Pero el domingo es el día en que todos celebramos nuestra asamblea común, porque Jesucristo, nuestro Salvador, el mismo día resucitó de entre los muertos". Disciplina de Justino Mártir, Capítulo LXVII, Siglo 2 d.C. 140 d.C.

ÁNGELES: BUENOS Y MALOS

~DOS REINOS~

“Solo hay dos reinos en este cosmos. Existe el reino de Dios y el reino de Satanás. (Esta afirmación está tomada palabra por palabra de la apertura de la encíclica *Humanum Genus* del Papa León XIII publicada el 20 de abril de 1884. Véase también la explicación de Santo Tomás de Aquino en *Summa theologiae* III, q. 8, a. 7). Gracias a Adán, nacimos en el reino equivocado. El reino de las tinieblas. Adán nos vendió río arriba para pecar. San Pablo escribió eso a través del original pecado, somos "hijos de ira, así como el resto" (Efesios 2:3) Para usar una imagen bien conocida de las Biblias de sus hijos, Adán y Eva fueron arrojados fuera de las puertas del Edén. Todos los niños desde ese día nacen "fuera de las puertas". Lamentablemente, los demonios deambulan "fuera de las puertas". Lea los Evangelios. ¡Los demonios son reales y están detrás de nosotros!"

~EXORCISMO~

“Es por eso que el sacramento católico del bautismo siempre comienza con un exorcismo del niño. Así es un exorcismo. No estamos asumiendo qde las puertas" y aún no está bajo la protección de Cristo el Salvador y rey. La liturgia bautismal católica tradicional se ocupa principalmente de la idea de puertas. De hecho, la liturgia apela a puertas y portones regularmente. Esta es una referencia a ser arrojado "fuera de las puertas". ue el bebé está poseído por un diablo. No. Más bien estamos asumiendo que el niño está "fuera

<http://taylormarshall.com/2013/06/exorcism-satan-and-baptismal-liturgy.html>

~EL PODER DE LOS SACRAMENTALES~

“Tal vez la idea de hacer una batalla espiritual contra las fuerzas demoníacas evoca imágenes de Hollywood de El exorcista, con un crucifijo extendido e intercambios dramáticos de líquidos, tanto sagrados como no. Tal vez te parezca un hokey o supersticioso. Tal vez la idea de ello

se remonta incómodamente muy atrás en la historia humana a un tiempo antes de las computadoras, los antibióticos y los viajes espaciales, cuando las personas tenían que recurrir a rituales mágicos y paganos para proteger a sus seres desventurados y no iluminados de los horrores del mundo natural. La verdad es, sin embargo, que todavía somos un pueblo encarnado, hecho de polvo, átomos y carne, ambos débiles y redimidos por Aquel cuya carne fue desmenuzada para nosotros. Cuando Jesús se inclinó en la tierra a los pies del hombre sordo y mudo, escupió en polvo y mezcló barro en su palma, untando la mayoría de los elementos básicos y ordinarios en una pasta milagrosa que no fue activada por la superstición o cualquier tipo de cualidad inherente que poseía la suciedad, sino por la reacción nuclear entre Su gracia y la fe del hombre sordo. Eso, en pocas palabras, es el poder de los sacramentales, que es una palabra de teología elegante para los artículos aparentemente ordinarios a los que nosotros, como cristianos, tenemos acceso en nuestra batalla de por vida contra el mal".

~EL PODER DE LOS SACRAMENTALES~

“La fe de la Iglesia impregna estos elementos ordinarios (agua, sal, crucifijos, iconos, medallas, etc.) con una bendición que es efectiva por derecho propio, pero que solo se realiza plenamente cuando se combina con una fe personal y una vida ordenada. El agua bendita no es magia, como tampoco los anillos que llevo en mi mano izquierda, bendecidos y santificados en el intercambio sacramental de nuestros votos matrimoniales, son de alguna manera suficientes para garantizar mi fidelidad a mi matrimonio. Debo cooperar con esa gracia inherente en las decisiones diarias que tomo para honrar esos votos y servir a ese hombre. Los anillos son sagrados, pero solo pueden fortalecer lo que ya está allí. Esa analogía es imperfecta, pero espero que sea lo suficientemente útil como para comunicar el punto, que es este: la gracia es todo lo que Dios da, pero Él elige, como él ha elegido todo el tiempo, santificar lo ordinario y lo extraordinario".

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"The miracle is not that we do this work,
 but that we are happy to do it" ~ Mother Teresa

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