



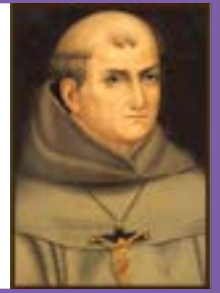
250th Anniversary
CARMEL MISSION
BASILICA

Carmel Mission Basilica

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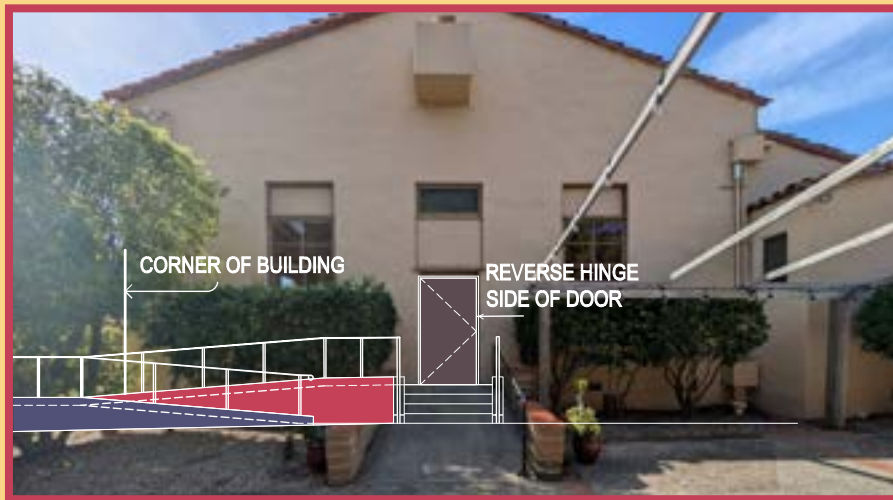
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Founded 1771 by St. Junípero Serra



A SAFE PATH OF TRAVEL

A key project of this year's AMA is the construction of an accessible ramp at the back of Crespi Hall. Crespi Hall is a vital center of Parish life, hosting ministries, events, and gatherings throughout the year.



The 2026 AMA Campaign focuses on improving safe paths of travel, accessibility, and wayfinding across the Mission property. These efforts ensure improvements are made responsibly and with long-term sustainability in mind.



Fifth Sunday in Lent, Sunday, March 22, 2026



February 2026

Dear Friend of Carmel Mission,

As we once again enter the holy season of Lent, it is time to launch our 2026 Annual Ministries Appeal.

I am deeply grateful for your continued generosity and support. Thanks to you, Carmel Mission remains a strong contributor to the diocesan ministries that serve our wider Church. You will receive a letter from our new bishop, Bishop Ramón Bejarano, outlining the important work these ministries provide throughout our Diocese.

In consultation with our Parish Finance Council, I have set a goal of \$300,000 for this year's campaign. As in past years, the first portion of funds raised will support diocesan ministries, with the remaining funds dedicated to critical needs here at Carmel Mission.

As part of our Master Property Plan, we are studying access to the Mission property, convenient parking, and safe paths of travel throughout the grounds. This year's AMA campaign includes safer walkways, improved signage, and thoughtful infrastructure improvements that help guide parishioners, visitors, and pilgrims around our historic grounds.

A central project of this campaign is the construction of a safer, more accessible ramp at Crespi Hall, our parish hall and a vital gathering place for parish life. Crespi Hall hosts ministries, events, and community activities throughout the year, and the proposed ramp would improve access to this space for all.

While this year's campaign looks forward, I would be remiss not to acknowledge the progress already underway thanks to your generosity. This includes continued improvements to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and ongoing planning for the conservation of the precious artifacts housed in the Mora Chapel. These efforts, along with this year's focus, are part of a broader commitment to the thoughtful stewardship of our Mission.

I invite you to prayerfully consider participating in our 2026 Annual Ministries Appeal. Your generosity makes these important improvements possible and supports our ongoing commitment to Carmel Mission.

I thank you in advance for your generosity and wish you and your loved ones blessings of good health and great happiness.

Fr. Paul



**Diocesan Decree for the
Year of St. Francis of Assisi**

Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a special Jubilee Year from January 10, 2026, to January 10, 2027, to commemorate the eight hundredth anniversary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi.

The Apostolic Penitentiary issued a decree granting the Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions which can also be applied in the form of suffrage for the souls in Purgatory.

Besides offering the indulgence to all the Franciscan Families and anyone who observes the Rule of St. Francis, all the faithful without distinction can receive the indulgence *“by visiting in the form of a pilgrimage any Franciscan conventual church, or place of worship anywhere in the world dedicated to St. Francis or connected to him for any reason, and there they will devoutly follow the Jubilee rites or spend at least a suitable period of time in pious meditation and will raise prayers to God so that, following the example of St. Francis, may sentiments of Christian charity towards one's neighbor and authentic wishes for harmony and peace among peoples spring up in hearts, concluding with the Our Father, the Creed and invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Francis of Assisi, St Clare and all the saints of the Franciscan Family”* (Eighth Centenary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi, Apostolic Penitentiary Decree).

Therefore, I, the Most Rev. Ramon Bejarano, Bishop of the Diocese of Monterey, decree that the following churches/chapels are the pilgrimage destinations in this diocese for this special Jubilee.

1. **Old Mission San Juan Bautista and St. Francis Retreat Center, San Juan Bautista**, in the north of the Diocese.
2. **St. Paul the Apostle, Pismo Beach, CA** in the south of the Diocese.

The elderly, the sick and those who for serious reasons cannot leave home will also be able to obtain the plenary indulgence by spiritually joining the Jubilee celebrations and offering their prayers, pains, or sufferings to God.

Conditions for receiving the Indulgence *(for oneself or for the deceased)*

- Sacramental confession to be in God's grace *(within twenty days before or after)*.
- Participation in Mass and Eucharistic Communion.
- Visit in the form of a pilgrimage any Franciscan conventual church or place of worship dedicated to St. Francis anywhere in the world or designated by the local bishop.
- Renews one's profession of faith, through the recitation of the Creed.
- Recite the Lord's Prayer.
- Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

Given at the Diocese of Monterey on February 27, 2026

Most Reverend Ramón Bejarano
Bishop of Monterey



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LITURGY

Today's Readings

Reading I: See, I am doing something new!
(Isaiah 43:19)

Psalm: The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy. (Psalm 126:3)

Reading II: I consider everything as loss
because of the supreme good of knowing
Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:8)

Gospel: Neither do I condemn you. Go, and
from now on do not sin any more. (John 8:11)

Readings for the Week

Monday, March 23

Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62
Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
John 8:1-11

Tuesday, March 24

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21
John 8:21-30

Wednesday, March 25

Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10
Psalm 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11
Hebrews 10:4-10
Luke 1:26-38

Thursday, March 26

Genesis 17:3-9
Psalm 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9
John 8:51-59

Friday, March 27

Jeremiah 20:10-13
Psalm 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7
John 10:31-42

Saturday, March 28

Ezekiel 37:21-28
Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13
John 11:45-56

Scripture Reflection

It is a puzzling part of today's Gospel that when Jesus learns his good friend Lazarus is gravely ill, He does not go right away to be with him and his family. In John's Gospel Jesus has healed the royal officer's son in Capernaum (4:46-54), a man who was paralyzed at the pool of Bethesda (5:1-18), and the man born blind near the pool of Siloam (9:1-41). Why would Jesus not rush to be there to heal His friend. The two days Jesus delays in going to Bethany may have been time He needed to discern if it was "the hour" for Him to take this fatal step. It is clear that to go to Judea would put Jesus at great risk. His disciples try twice to dissuade him from going (11:7-8, 12). Thomas' wry comment, "Let us also go to die with him" (11:16) turns out to be exactly true: the chapter ends with the Sanhedrin planning to put Jesus to death (11:53). Jesus also states clearly that death will not be end result for Lazarus, and that his suffering (and that of his sisters and loved ones) will create an opportunity to glorify God through Jesus' miracle. In the Fourth Gospel, Jesus' mission is to bring life to the full for all. Jesus loves Martha, Mary and Lazarus. But He also loves all other persons - to the death. There are no favorites. The Beloved Disciple is anonymous to stand in for each person who allows themselves to be loved by Jesus and to love Him in return. When one chooses to abide in Jesus, then He is always present, even if not in the same physical, earthly way that the first beloved disciples wanted Him to be. As Martha professes her belief in the risen One, she affirms that He is always truly present and that all who die believing in Him are likewise living and present still. Such belief does not take away grief, Jesus Himself wept for His dead friend Lazarus, but it can turn our mourning to hope-filled joy. The account of the raising of Lazarus prefigures Jesus' own resurrection which we will soon encounter. But there is a significant difference in the accounts. When Jesus summons Lazarus from the tomb, he comes out wrapped still in the burial bands, his face covered with a cloth. Later when Jesus rises from the dead, the burial clothes are completely removed and neatly folded. The One who raises Lazarus from the dead will not need the assistance of other. We, however, do. Today's Gospel points to the importance of community and assisting one another especially in times of sickness and death.



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ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in
the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Altar Flowers Opportunity



If you would like to support
the Easter Flowers with a
minimum donation of \$90
please contact Laura at
liturgy@carmelmission.org
to arrange your donation
and your intention.

Your intentions will be
included in the bulletin for
the Easter season.

Thank you for your generosity.



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MASS AT THE MISSION

Mass Schedule

Saturday Mass

5:30 pm - Mass in the Basilica.

Sunday Masses

9:00 am - Mass in the Basilica.

11:00 am - Mass in the Basilica with Choir.

Moved to the Basilica during construction

Noon Masses

Wednesday - Friday, 12:00 pm — Mass in the Basilica

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 9:00 am - 10:00 am — Confessions at the Basilica

Mass Entrance

Gates open 30 minutes before Mass. Those attending our weekend Masses will be entering through the Visitor's Gate into the Basilica Forecourt or through the Parish Gate into the Central Courtyard. We will have an attendant at each entrance.

Please note that the Basilica Forecourt is an extension of our Mass. We ask that everyone be aware and respectful of the prayerful environment of this setting.

Accessibility

There are 9 designated accessible parking spots near the Visitor entrance and 6 more spots by the Parish Office entrance. If you require any assistance, please let the attendant know. We recommend arriving early so we may better accommodate accessibility needs.





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LENT, HOLY WEEK, AND EASTER

Masses will be celebrated as usual unless stated otherwise.

Ash Wednesday

Mass and Distribution of Ashes

February 18 at 12:00 PM in the Basilica

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday following Noon Mass

February 20 - March 27 in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Taizé Prayer

Every Wednesday at 7:00 PM

February 25 - March 25 in the Basilica

Reconciliation Service

Monday, March 23

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM In the Basilica

Palm Sunday

Weekend Masses

Saturday, March 28: Vigil Mass at 5:30 PM

Sunday, March 29: Masses at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Holy Thursday, April 2

Mass and Adoration

5:30 PM - In the Basilica

After Mass - Adoration until 11 PM in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Good Friday, April 3

The Lord's Passion

1:00 PM In the Basilica

Tenebrae

7:30 PM In the Basilica

Easter

Easter Vigil Mass

Saturday, April 4
8:00 PM In the Basilica

Easter Sunday Masses

Sunday, April 5
9:00, 11:00 AM, & 1:00 PM In the Basilica



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PARISH PRAYERS

Sick in the Parish

All the sick are prayed for during a general intercession at every Mass.

At this time we pray especially for:



Margaret Luke,
Rose Healy,
Paul Borromeo,
Jana Schmidt,
Matthew Escovar,
Anne Emmerich,
Joan Kenny,
Tobi Lunt,
Sean Kenny,
Nancy Buchanan,
Larry Fry,
Richard Cruickshank,

Charles Cardoza,
Frank Machalla,
Brandon Paulikas,
Julieta Evangelista,
Nancy D'Angelo,
Missy Student



Please pray for our Military

Keep in your prayer our brave parishioners, relatives and friends of our parish family who are in service to their country in the Armed Forces abroad:

Major Trevor C. Kuchman, USMC,
Richard Brophy,
Robert Maher

We ask the Lord to keep them safe from harm and pray for their families while they are far from home.

Prayer Requests and Special Intentions

Our prayer request email is a great way to let us know about your prayer requests, or any special intentions you may have. Also, if you know of anyone in our parish family who is ill we ask that you share that with us so we may pray for them, and reach out to them or their family.

**Send Your
Prayer Request**



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PARISH PRAYERS

Recently Deceased in our Parish

Please pray for our brothers and sisters who have died, especially:



Jim Brady,
Laura Pura,
Susan Betz McCance,
Gerry Chiappe,
Robert Moore,
Marie Zenorini-Canepa,
Meridee Doud,
Charleen Sciambi
David Perez
Margaret "Peggy" Ryan

Pearla Tarsitano
John Jennings,
Samantha Jennings,
Cristina Biegel,
William Griffon,
Jeff Brady,
Nelly Ortega,
Douglas Forzani,
Joe Diaz, Jr,
Theron Bergeron,
Trudy Bohland,
Theodor Albert,
Wilma Jauregui,
Jose Ponce Gutierrez,
Teresita Chan,
Walter DeFaria,
Lucille Eggerman,
Dianne Lee (Taylor) Mueller R.N.,
Rebecca Simms,
Debora Frances Embody,
James M. Fremgen,
Patricia Maaske,
Tom Coble,

... that they may rejoice with the Risen Lord. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon them; and may the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Amen.



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STEWARDSHIP

Carmel Mission Legacy



[Visit our Website](#)

[FAQ](#)

AMA 2025 - The Mora Chapel - A Place of Living History

Thanks to your great generosity, we completed another successful AMA campaign, reaching

\$353,514.54

Reports for the week ending on 03/08/2026:

Electronic Donation:	\$ 6,154.50
Mailed Donation:	\$ 3,993.00
Weekend Masses:	\$ 5,548.00
AMA 2025:	\$25,000.00

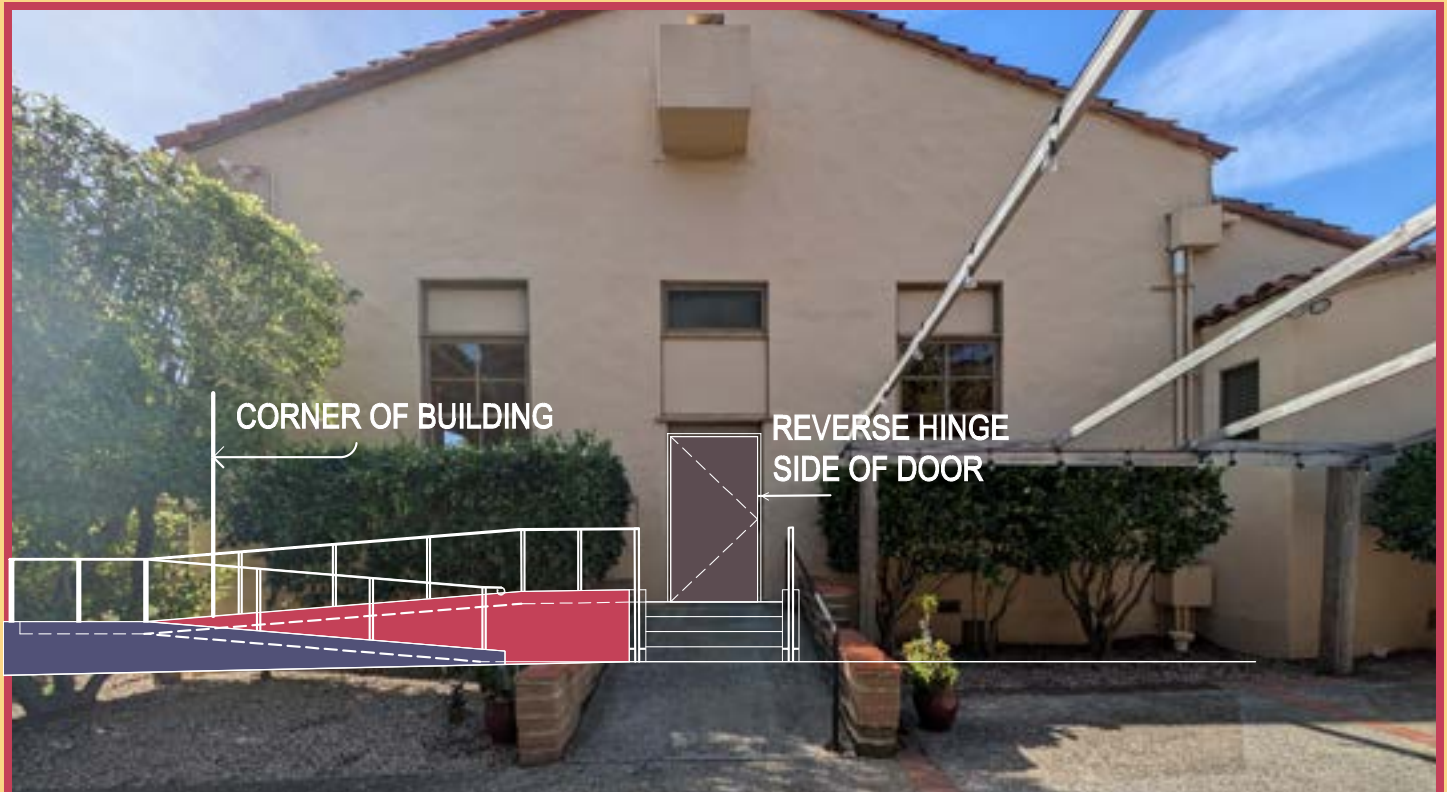
TOTAL \$40,695.50



A SAFE PATH OF TRAVEL

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

A key project of this year's AMA is the construction of a safer, more accessible ramp at the back of Crespi Hall. Crespi Hall is a vital center of Parish life, hosting ministries, events, and gatherings throughout the year.



The 2026 AMA Campaign focuses on improving safe paths of travel, accessibility, and wayfinding accross the Mission property. These efforts ensure improvements are made responsibly and with long-term sustainability in mind.





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RESTORATION: AT THE HEART OF OUR IDENTITY

**Please Watch this Video Message from Fr. Paul:
An Update on Our AMA Projects & the Story They Tell**



From the earliest days of Carmel Mission's history, restoration has never been simply a practical necessity — it has been an act of faith. Since its foundation, generations of parishioners, benefactors, clergy, and staff have poured their hearts into caring for and preserving this sacred place. Today, we are proud to share that we are living through one of the most significant periods of restoration in Carmel Mission's modern history.

Thanks to your generous support of our Annual Ministry Appeal (AMA), more conservation, preservation, and restoration work has been completed than in any other period of the Mission's history. The last 12–15 years mark the beginning of what we believe will be remembered as Carmel Mission's Modern Restoration Era, a time during which we all witnessed the canonization of St. Junipero.

Every dollar you have given to our AMA designated projects has gone — and will continue to go — directly toward this work.

A LIVING LEGACY OF STEWARDSHIP

Did you know that virtually every building at Carmel Mission, outside of the Basilica itself, has changed its purpose over the centuries? Crespi Hall once stood in the middle of our central courtyard. Each of these historic spaces has a story — one of adaptation, resilience, and the faithful care of those who came before us.

Under the leadership of Fr. Paul, our Mission has entered a new chapter of this story. His stewardship, combined with your support, has made it possible not only to restore what exists but also to develop a comprehensive vision for the future — one grounded in structural integrity, faithful preservation, and thoughtful planning.

EXPLORE OUR RESTORATION STORY ONLINE

We have created a dedicated Restoration website — the living home for Carmel Mission's preservation history. There you'll find architectural timelines, notable benefactors, the stories of our pastors and parishioners, and updates as our work continues to grow. This is your history, too.

Visit: www.carmelmissionrestoration.org



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RESTORATION: AT THE HEART OF OUR IDENTITY

AMA PROJECT UPDATES

Our AMA projects are not isolated efforts — they are interconnected chapters of a single, long-term restoration plan. Work on each project also enables us to evaluate building conditions, complete structural reports, and plan future campaigns with accuracy and confidence. Here is where each project stands today:

2024 PROJECT — BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL (BSC) — In Progress

Phase 1 - The ramp, handrails, and door hardware work has been completed.

Additional work on the inside of the BSC revealed termite damage, significant plaster damage, exposed electrical wiring, damaged woodwork, and much needed painting. This work is being performed now, and we will reopen the BSC when complete.

Phase 2 - We plan to expand the pedestrian plaza from the visitor entrance to the BSC north entrance patio to provide an accessible entrance without stairs.

A seismic retrofit analysis and building condition evaluation have been completed, which informs future planning for a full building restoration.

2025 PROJECT — MORA CHAPEL PRESERVATION — Active Planning

The Mora Chapel project is one of our most ambitious undertakings — a coordinated effort to protect, catalog, and temporarily relocate sacred artifacts while the chapel undergoes restoration. Key elements include:

- Complete inventory and condition reporting of all artifacts in the Mora Chapel
- Careful removal and secure temporary storage of liturgical items
- Creation of a dedicated artifact conservation and storage workspace
- Structural and seismic evaluation of the chapel building
- Community updates and media documentation throughout the process

This project will also establish long-term infrastructure for artifact stewardship at Carmel Mission — a resource that will serve us for generations.

2026 PROJECT — A SAFE PATH OF TRAVEL — Project Launch March 21 & 22

This year's AMA campaign focuses on accessibility and safety across our campus, including:

- Crespi Hall accessible ramp
- Window and carpentry repairs
- Seismic structural evaluation of Crespi Hall
- Campus-wide parking lot improvements
- Unified path of travel connecting all buildings
- Exploration of a more accessible route to the Murphy parking lot

Because of the planning work completed during prior AMA campaigns, we enter 2026 with a clear scope, known costs, and a well-developed vision — something that would not have been possible without the groundwork laid together.



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SAINT PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

I extend my sincere thanks to all who made our St. Patrick's Day Dinner such a success.

As usual, our Knights of Columbus stepped up to the plate in a wonderful way and provided a first-class delicious dinner for all who attended. Our Council of Knights has recently welcomed several new members and many of our new Knights volunteered at the event.

We were honored to have our new Bishop Ramón Bejarano join us for the dinner and he truly enjoyed it.

A thousand thanks to our Knights of Columbus!

Fr. Paul



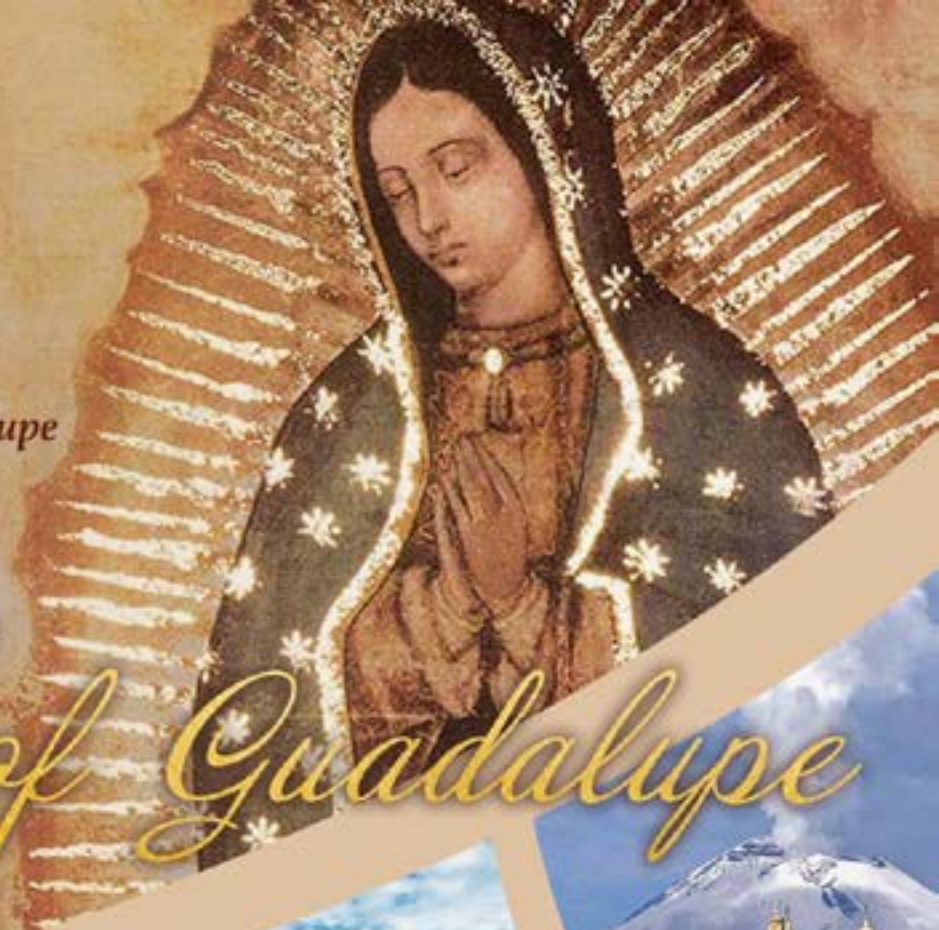
For the first-time ever,
the Diocese of Monterey and the
Diocese of San Diego join together
for a unique experience in
preparation for the

*500th anniversary of
Our Lady of Guadalupe*

Under the Mantle of Our

Lady of Guadalupe

July 27 - August 3
2026



Mexico City



Tlaxcala



Teotihuacán



Puebla

Join Bishop Ramón Bejarano, Bishop Michael Pham, and Bishop Felipe Pulido as they unite again.



Most Reverend
Ramón Bejarano
Monterey



Most Reverend
Michael Pham
San Diego



Most Reverend
Felipe Pulido
San Diego

Cost per person
\$2,450

All Inclusive package (including breakfast/dinner)
departing from San Francisco, CA

Scan the QR code
to register



DIocese of
SAN DIEGO



DIOCESE OF MONTEREY

CHRISM MASS

A Celebration of Unity and Sacred Oils



Tuesday, March 31 • 11:00 AM
Madonna del Sasso Pro-Cathedral • Salinas

All Are Welcome



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CARMEL MISSION COMMUNITY

Carmel Mission Bible Study

Bible Study meets in Crespi Hall every Wednesday at 10:30 am - 11:30 am



Join our the Mission Bible Study on their weekly study of the Gospel of Matthew. We meet at Crespi Hall each Wednesday morning at 10:30 am for about ah hour. You are invited to join us in exploring this Gospel which is so foundational to our Catholic Faith

Questions; Dick Gorman 595-6363.

Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer meets in Crespi Hall every Friday, 12:50 AM - 1:30 PM

All are welcome to join CENTERING PRAYER each Friday at 12:55 in Crespi Hall. We meet for 20 minutes in prayer, with the option to stay for Book Club at 1:30.

For more information about Centering Prayer, please email Sally Greig saljogreig@aol.com

Carmel Mission Book Club



Book Club meets in Crespi Hall every Friday, 1:30 PM

On March 27th, Book Club will begin reading **The Lamb's Supper** by Dr. Scott Hahn. This book aims to deepen our understanding of the Catholic Mass by exploring its connection to the book of Revelation.

Please join us! Everyone is welcome to attend, and books are available at the meetings. For information email christina.renna@gmail.com

Coffee and Donuts

Coffee and Donuts each Sunday following 9 AM & 11 AM Masses.

March 22





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CARMEL MISSION COMMUNITY

Carmel Mission Bereavement Ministry

The Carmel Mission Bereavement Ministry, founded in 2003, is a group of volunteers who provide consolation and support to families who are grieving the death of a loved one. The Ministry, under the direction of the Pastor, offers assistance with planning and staffing the Funeral Mass and assists with receptions held in Crespi Hall. The Ministry has a three-fold purpose of Service to the Parish and Spiritual Development and time for Social gathering for our Members.

If you would like to join with us or learn more about our Ministry, please contact Laura Schwingle, liturgy@carmelmission.org.

Knights of Columbus

Meet on the first Tuesday of each month in Crespi Hall at 6:30 PM.

For more information please email koc@carmelmission.org.



Our Coordinator for the I-HELP Ministry has retired.

Carmel Mission's I-HELP ministry needs YOUR help!

We need YOU to help us continue providing this emergency housing program one evening a month for homeless women on the Peninsula.

Please contact Father Paul at fr.paul@carmelmission.org for more information.

Homebound Ministry



Dear Parishioners of Carmel Mission,

If you or someone you know cannot get to mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact our Homebound Ministry Coordinator, Joan Brophy Thomas at (831) 624 3074.

Please stay safe and sound, Blessings,
Fr. Paul



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BULLETIN ADVERTISEMENT

Advertise your business in your parish community through Carmel Mission's weekly electronic bulletin.

For more information on how to advertise your business on our bulletin, contact Bulletin@carmelmission.org.



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