Our Lady of Tahoe Catholic Church Third Sunday of Lent



Pastor: Father Larry Morrison fr.larry@ourladyoftahoe.org

Office Manager: Susan Marschner

susan@ourladyoftahoe.org

Saturday: 5pm | Sunday: 10am

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday: 11:30am

Confession: Wednesday at 11am or by appointment

Baptisms and Marriages: Contact the parish during business

hours, M-F, 9am - 3pm or visit our website:

www.ourladyoftahoe.org

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Phone: 775-588-2080

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ourladyoftahoe

What was it that roused Jesus? Fury? Not just that money changed hands and animals were sold for sacrifice in the Temple; but the fact that the merchants were selling animals at a far higher price in the Temple than would be paid outside and changing money at a rate that brought undue profit to the moneychangers. These hucksters were profiting from people's piety, exercising a kind of monopoly that battened on the good will of the worshippers. Trade had taken over from prayer. Jesus signed his death warrant when he cast commerce out of the temple. He stood up for the truth about God and about religion and the poor, as the moneychangers of the temple were exploiting the poor with high prices. Lent gives us new insights into how Jesus lived his life, always within the shadow of his death. Even this scene at the start of the gospel has us remembering that this would lead him to death and to glory. The glory of God here is Jesus fully alive to the exploitation of the poor, the mistreatment of the house of God, and fully alive to the faith that was beginning to grow in his disciples.

Many of the early martyrs of our church are shrouded in legend. We are fortunate to have the records of Perpetua and Felicity from Perpetua's own hand. The account of their lives known as "The Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicity" was so popular in the early centuries, that it was read during Liturgies. In 203, Perpetua made the decision to become a Christian, although she knew it could mean her death during the Septimus persecution. Her brother followed her leadership and became a catechumen as well. Her father was frantic with worry and tried to talk her out of her decision. At 22, this well-educated, highspirited woman had every reason to live, including a baby son who was still nursing. We know she was married by her writings, but never any mention of her husband so it is assumed she is a widow. Her answer was simple, "See that pot over there? Can you call it by any other name? Neither can I call myself by any other name than what I am, a Christian". Her father was so upset that he attacked her, but she reports that after that incident she was glad to be separated from him for a few days, even though it meant arrest and imprisonment. Perpetua was arrested with four other catechumens, including two slaves - Felicity being one of them. She was quickly baptized before being taken to prison. Perpetua was known for her gift of "The Lord's Speech", receiving messages from God. She tells us that at the time of her baptism, she was told to pray for nothing but endurance in the face of her trials. The prison was so crowded with people that the heat was suffocating. There was no light anywhere and Perpetua "had never known such darkness." Perpetua had no trouble admitting she was very afraid, but in the midst of all this horror her most excruciating pain came from being separated from her baby. The young slave, Felicity was even worse off for Felicity suffered the stifling heat, overcrowding, and rough handling while being eight months pregnant. Two deacons who ministered to the prisoners paid the guards so that the martyrs would be put in a better part of the prison. From there, her mother and brother were able to visit Perpetua and bring her baby to visit her. When she received permission for her baby to stay with her, her prison suddenly became a 'palace" for her. Once more her father came to her, begging her to give in, kissing her hands, and throwing himself at her feet. She told him, "We lie not in our own power but in the power of God." When those at the arena tried to force Perpetua and the rest to dress in robes dedicated to their gods, Perpetua challenged her executioners. "We came to die out of our own "free will" so we won't lose our freedom to worship our God. We gave you our lives so that we wouldn't have to worship your gods". The two men were attacked by bears, leopards, and wild boars. The women were stripped to face a rabid heifer. When the crowd, however, saw the two young women, one of whom had obviously just given birth, they were horrified and the women were removed and clothed again. Perpetua and Felicity were thrown back into the arena so roughly that they were bruised and hurt. Perpetua, though confused and distracted, still was thinking of others and went to help Felicity up. The two of them stood side by side as all martyrs had their throats cut. Perpetua's last words to her brother were, "Stand fast in the faith and love one another". Practical Take Away - St. Perpetua knew that God was the answer, and in following His ways and becoming a Christian, meant to lay down her life. She gladly laid down her life to follow her God. She did so, by being a witness and friend to Felicity, who suffered with her and also was martyred. They truly set an example so strong that the early church used her writings in the Liturgy to help be a witness to others. Their strong examples of faith strengthened the faith of other early Christians, and instead of their deaths putting an end to Christianity it helped Christianity to grow. May our faith always hold the same merits to those around us - causing them to grow in faith as well.



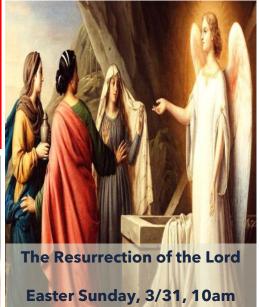
Catholic Relief Services carries out the commitment of the Bishops of the United States to assist the poor and vulnerable throughout the world. Your support for this collection provides emergency assistance to victims of war and natural disasters; assists migrants and refugees who need housing, education, and specialized legal assistance; and supports travelers and others whose livelihoods require special pastoral support to access the sacraments. In addition to aiding those with immediate needs, your support helps long-term efforts to build peace in regions that have been affected by decades of conflictsuch as the Korean peninsula. Your donation also helps with the deadly wildfires in Chile, which began on February 2 and has displaced thousands and threaten to cause continued destruction. The current fires have led to Chile's worst natural disaster since the 2010 earthquake, which took nearly 500 lives and displaced more than 1.5 million people. Your support of this collection on March 9th and 10th makes a difference for so many around the globe. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection this year. With every best wish and an assurance of prayers, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Daniel H. Mueggenborg
Bishop of Reno







Mass Intentions

Saturday 2 5pm Intentions of OLT Parishioners Sunday 3 † Dwaine Peetz 10am Wednesday 11:30am † Willie Takahashi **Thursday** 11:30am 8 **Friday** 11:30am **Healing for Eileen Martinez**

Pro Populo
David and Stephanie Scott
Jeanne and Franz Goepfert

Nancy Martinez

Last weekend's collection came to \$3,118.12. Donations are the financial lifeblood of the church. We ask that you continue this spirit of giving in not only your spiritual life but your personal and public lives as well, representing the enduring gifts of Jesus Christ. Thank you!

Synod Interim Listening Sessions

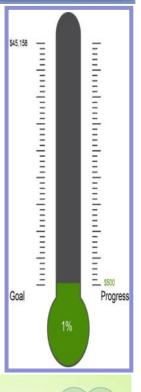
This week, the Diocese of Reno will begin hosting Listening Sessions for the Synod on Synodality for the Interim Stage. These sessions are open to all the faithful. Please visit https://

renodiocese.jotform.com/2405 07005514040 for details. The next Men's Fellowship meeting is <u>Thursday, March 7th</u> at 6pm. Open agenda. We hope to see you there!

"But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses."

- 1 Timothy 6:11-12

The Catholic Services Appeal is the direct annual appeal to the people of the diocese to make a gift and support the mission and ministries of the Diocese of Reno. The appeal provides **Catholics opportunities to** support a wide range of ministries and programs that benefit more than 80,000 people each year. These ministries reach many different people. Your gift reflects your commitment to furthering God's work, enabling us to train future leaders of the Church, support religious education for young people, strengthen parish ministries, and support the clergy and seminarian education. Our 2024 assessment is \$45,158.00.







Bible Study Update - Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come

Our journey through Revelation has taken us through Chapter 1 to hear the heavenly perspective then Chapters 2&3 to understand the earthly perspective through the lens of the letters to the seven churches. The pattern of these letters is fascinating, but the messaging is very important especially in light of our Lenten themes of Repentance and Conversion! In Revelation 3:20, Jesus stands at the door and knocks. He waits for us to open the door to him. In our next session (Revelation 4&5) We will see what happens when we open the door! Don't miss it! Please join us for Revelation 4&5 on March 6 (Wednesday) at 10am. All are welcome! Questions? Please call Janine at 775-339-1961

St. Patrick's Day Party!

Please join us Sunday, March 17 for dinner at Our Lady of Tahoe in the parish hall! We open at 4pm, dinner is served at 5pm. There will be corn beef, cabbage, potatoes, cottage pie (beef). Pre-purchase tickets at mass for \$30 per couple, \$15 for singles, no charge for children under 8. If bought at the door, the cost per person is \$20.00.If you can bring an appetizer or dessert, that would be much appreciated!

As disciples of Jesus Christ, and in the name of Mary, Our Lady of Tahoe Catholic community <u>welcomes and embraces all</u> those who come to us. With guidance of the Holy Spirit, through worship, the sacraments, and loving service, we provide for one another's spiritual and material needs. In being so nourished, we reach out in faith to serve the larger community.



Robert Cristando

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Plan a Gift that Works for You

Charitable Bequest: Leave a portion of your estate such as cash or stock to Our Lady of Tahoe in your will.

Appreciated Securities: Donating stock is a simple, smart way to give. Email us at susan@ourladyoftahoe.org for account transfer information.

IRA QCD: If you are 70 1/2 or older, ask your professional advisor if giving directly from your IRA is a tax-wise way for you to give.