

# DIOCESAN

## News

Diocese of Stockton

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## GOOD NEWS

### Visit from D.C.

Bishop John Manz, Auxiliary Bishop in the Archdiocese of Chicago, came to Stockton from October 19 to 22 as the Episcopal Liaison of the US-CCB Committee on Migration and Refugee Services.



*Bishop John Manz and migrant families after Mass at French Camp*

After an orientation session lead by the Diocesan Migrant Ministry team and the Director of the Hispanic Apostolate, he visited the camps of both single men and families in San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties. His celebration of Mass in French Camp and at the chapel in Westley were high points. A meeting with representatives from agencies providing services to the migrant community gave him an understanding of local support. He had an opportunity to hear the needs of the migrant farm workers directly from them and to know more about the realities they face.

Bishop Manz also had direct contact with those who accompany migrants pastorally. He wanted to support and encourage efforts being made on behalf of the migrants and assure them that they are a part of a national effort.

### Our Seminarians

During the next few months several of our Seminarians will be ordained to the Diaconate. We hope to welcome four new priests to our Diocese after their priestly ordinations in May and June. **Please pray for all of our Seminarians.**

### Thinking of Priesthood or Religious Life?

Discernment opportunities for men and women considering the call to serve as priests and religious will be held during the month of December. Please call Sr. Wanda Billion at the Chancery Office for more information: (209) 466-0636.

### Learning About Our Faith

Beginning in January, the School of Ministry is offering a Basic Theology for Ministry program, which is an introduction to the basic teachings of the Church.

The Basic Theology Program is divided into four courses. These courses offer formation for those involved in parish ministry. Any Catholic will benefit from participation in this program.

The first eight-week course focuses on Theological Foundations that include an introduction to the Trinity, Scripture, Revelation, Church, Jesus and Mary. Sessions for Unit 1 will be held on **Tuesday evenings, from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm** in the diocesan Ministry Building, second floor conference room. Sessions start on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. Registration will take place at the first session.

For more information, contact the School of Ministry at 466-0636 ext. 629 or ext 630.

## FUTURE EVENTS

### Guadalupe Procession Dec. 10

The annual pilgrimage to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe will begin at St. Mary's Church at 11:30am, then process to the Stockton Ball Park where Bishop Blaire will celebrate Liturgy at 1:30pm.

### Walk for Life

Join us for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco on January 20, 2007. Buses will leave from several locations throughout the diocese. Advance reservations are required. A \$20 fee includes the bus ride and t-shirt.

Last year over 500 people from our Diocese participated in the "Walk for Life."

For information and registration forms, please call the Respect Life Office at 209/465-5433 / 800-396-8777 or download the form from the Diocesan website at:

**[www.stocktondiocese.org](http://www.stocktondiocese.org)**  
Click on Ministries & Offices  
Go to the Respect Life page

