

# DIOCESAN

## News

Diocese of Stockton

October, 2009 ■ Vol. 4 No. 9

### GOOD NEWS

#### Novena of Prayer for Priests

The Vocations Office is sponsoring a Novena of Adoration Days in thanksgiving for our Priests, Seminarians and for Vocations to come. A parish in each area of our Diocese will host a Holy Hour including one with Bishop Blaire on **Tuesday, October 6, 2009, from 7-8 pm** at St. Luke Catholic Church. The Novena will be from October 5-13.

#### Young Adult Ministry Basic Training

The Office of English Youth & Young Adult Ministry, in collaboration with the Diocese of Sacramento, will host Sr. Eileen McCann. She will explore "Sons and Daughters of the Light", a vision which calls us to empower our Catholic young adults: single people, married couples, with or without children, to realize the gifts they are and bring to our society and our Church.

**Presenter: Sr. Eileen McCann, CSJ**  
Coordinator of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, USCCB  
*Coordinator for Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Secretariat for Family, Laity, Woman and Youth for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.*

**Mon, Oct 12, 1:00-4:00 pm**  
**or 6:30-9:00 pm**, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Elk Grove, \$25.00 per person. For more information contact Ann Marie Avansino (209) 466-0636 ext 633.

#### "Bright Lights"

Five people in the Catholic community will be honored by the Diocese of Stockton on **October 17, 2009**. The Eighth Annual Bishop's Awards is chaired by **Frank and Mercy Dumo**. The five "Bright Lights" honorees are:

##### **C. Joseph Crane**

*Life of Community Service,*  
St. Bernadette, Stockton

##### **Sr. Regina Alonzo**

*Life of Religious Service,*  
Sisters of the Cross, Modesto

##### **Rev. Dr. Bill Brennan**

*Life of Religious Service,*  
Church of the Presentation, Stockton

##### **Charles and Hedy Harding**

*Life of Service to the Poor,*  
Our Lady of Fatima, Modesto  
(Hedy passed away on April 19, 2009 and will be honored in memoriam)

##### **Antoinette (Toni) Moran**

*Life of Youth Service,*  
Church of the Presentation, Stockton

"The 2009 Bishop's Awards Dinner will celebrate the humanitarian work being done every day by Catholics in our Diocese," said Bishop Stephen E. Blaire. "Their lives embody the concepts of charity and social justice and are shining examples of faith, courage, and service to God and community."

Proceeds will benefit Catholic Charities and SEEDS (Growing Faith through Student Scholarships).

The event is open to persons of all faiths and will be held at Church of the Presentation, 6715 Leesburg Place, Stockton. Tickets are \$150 a person. For information, call Rebecca Glissman: (209) 472-1008, Ext. 14

#### Make Drinking Water Safe for All Californians

More than 150,000 Californians lack safe water for drinking, bathing and washing dishes. In some Central Valley communities, more than 90 percent of drinking water is contaminated and unfit to drink. In a state as rich as California, no one should be denied clean water. AB 1242 (Ruskin) makes it state policy that every person has a right to safe, affordable water for basic human needs. The bill also directs state agencies to adjust their policies and funding priorities to ensure that all Californians have access to clean, affordable water.

#### For more information:

Contact Betsy Reifsnider, environmental justice coordinator for the Stockton Diocese at: [betsyr@ccstockton.org](mailto:betsyr@ccstockton.org) or 209-444-5925.

**Church Teaching:** "The right to food, like the right to water, has an important place within the pursuit of other rights, beginning with the fundamental right to life. It is therefore necessary to cultivate a public conscience that considers food and access to water as universal rights of all human beings, without distinction or discrimination." - Pope Benedict XVI, encyclical Caritas in Veritate, July 2009.