

Diocesan Events

1. **OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – CATECHETICAL SUNDAY** is September 16, 2018. This year's theme is "Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ." On Catechetical Sunday those who have been designated by the community to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Whether you are planning to celebrate during or outside of the Mass, the USCCB website has resources for commissioning services. Some material is also in Spanish. Go to <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/catechesis/catechetical-sunday/>. If you have questions or need help, please contact the Office of Religious Education at 209/466-0636.
2. **Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship**—Monday, October 1, St. Francis of Rome, Riverbank. Two Presentations - **Clergy & Religious**, 9:30am – 12:00pm, **People of God (Laity)** 6:30 – 8:30 PM-English & Spanish. Bishop Cotta invites clergy, religious and laity to attend an important workshop on the document "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship." Considering the very divisive political climate of our day, Bishop hopes we will all take the time to educate ourselves as we fulfill our civic duty. Steve Pehanich, Director of Communications and Advocacy from the California Catholic Conference of Bishops will facilitate. To register email Patti Ianni at pianni@stocktondiocese.org. For questions or concerns call Msgr. John Armistead or Digna Ramirez-Lopez at the Pastoral Center: 209/466-0636.
Download the promotional flyer:
[English: Faithful Citizenship](#)
[Spanish: Faithful Citizenship](#)
3. **Human Trafficking – Is Your Soul for Sale?** – Parents, Catechists, School Teachers (anyone who has or works with children) are invited to come and learn about the horrifying reality of human trafficking. Suzanne Schultz, San Joaquin County Family Justice Center, will present a comprehensive look at the dark world of the human sex trafficking industry in our community. You will learn how to recognize the signs of human trafficking, what to do if you suspect a child is a victim and how social media/phone apps are used to target our children. Stockton – Friday, October 5, 6:30 – 8:30pm, Annunciation Gym. Modesto – Thursday, October 11, 6:30 – 8:30pm, St. Stanislaus Gym. ADULTS ONLY DUE TO GRAPHIC CONTENT. RSVP required, visit <https://goo.gl/forms/4kDpl2W3Y8RXkHx23> to RSVP.
Download promotional flyer: [Parent Education on Human Trafficking](#)
4. **Bishop's Awards Dinner – Make Your Sponsorship Today!** This special event on Saturday, October 6, gives us an opportunity to highlight the positive contributions made by this year's Honorees throughout our local parishes within the Diocese of Stockton. Bishop Myron J. Cotta and Jim and Lori Pecchenino, Event Chairpersons, are pleased to recognize the service and dedication of each Honoree: Patrick Velasquez, Jennifer Overby, Dominican Sisters Katherine Hamilton, OP and Abby Newton, OP, and Sister Ann Venita Britto, F.C. Sponsorships and tickets are still available! For more information, please contact Martha McCoy at 209/546-7646 or mmccoy@stocktondiocese.org or visit stocktondiocese.org/bishops-awards
5. **LIFE & DIGNITY MINISTRY OFFICE – Rachel's Vineyard Retreat** (Spanish) September 22-24, (English) November 21-23. Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. The weekend offers a supportive and non-judgmental environment to transform the pain of the past into love and hope. We encourage women, men and couples to attend. For Spanish Retreat details contact



Gloria at 510/485-2574 or afterthechoice@oakdiadmin.org. For English Retreat details contact Kim Fuentes at 209/465-5433 or kfuentes@stocktondiocese.org. Flyers can be downloaded at www.stocktondiocese.org/project-rachel

- 6. SCHOOL OF MINISTRY OFFICE** – New courses will start in September 2018. There will be two locations for the *Introduction to Theology for Ministry* courses. An English course at St. Michael's in Stockton on Thursday evenings, 7:00pm to 9:30pm, and a Spanish course at St. Anthony's in Manteca on Wednesday evenings, 7:00pm to 9:30pm. A *Scripture Institute* bible study course covering the *Old Testament* is scheduled to be held at the Ryan Center in Stockton on Monday evenings, 7:00pm to 9:30pm. For more information please contact Cynthia Chavez or Isela Quezada at 209-466-0636 or email som@stocktondiocese.org. To download the flyers please visit: <https://stocktondiocese.org/diocesan-departments/school-of-ministry/ministry-training/specialized-ministry-training/upcoming-training/>

Informational Items

1. We offer a special congratulations to Bishop Myron J. Cotta who will celebrate the 31st Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood on September 12th. With gratitude to God and to Bishop Cotta for his ministry among us: Ad Multos Annos!
2. **Whole Person Care Parish Representatives** – Pastors, if you have not already done so, please e-mail the name(s), phone number(s) and e-mail address(es) for your parish representative(s) to kfuentes@stocktondiocese.org. It is important to have every parish represented in the next phase of the planning process. For more information, contact Kim Fuentes at 209-466-0636.
3. **2018 Marian Conference** – On October 12 and 13, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Brentwood (Diocese of Oakland) California will be hosting the 2018 Marian Conference with the theme: "With Mary, we say YES to the Lord!". For more information and to register for the conference please visit: <http://ihmbrentwood.com/marianconference/>