



City of the Lord
www.CityoftheLord.org

*'Receptivity & Commitment to the Person and Culture of the Holy Spirit
Particularly in Covenant Love'*

*The Monterey Bay branch leaders may be contacted with any issues. Please remember
to pray for them: Rob Albright, Greg Beardsley, Pam Flynn, and
Tim Gassaway (PBC)*

This MONTH in COTL Feb. 12th - Feb. 25th, 2018

Feb. 16-18 Convocation in Phoenix – please pray for all those who are going. Mike Bergez,
Dean & Jossie Diaz, Mike and Pam Flynn, Tim Gassaway and Denny Powell

Birthday and Anniversary

2/18 Lisa Flynn's birthday
2/19 Susie Kehoe's birthday
2/26 Jean Powell' birthday

Dates for 2018:

2/23 -25 Guys Compass Teen Retreat - boys - contact Ben LeBeau -
Benjamin.lebeau@spo.org
2/25 5:00 pm - Post Convocation dinner @ Seascape (please RSVP)
3/1 6:00 pm - GCG @ Packer's
4/20-22 Kid's retreat at Ojai
5/11-13 Gals Compass teen retreat
6/25-29 Camp Powell
10/12-15 Men's retreat @ San Antonio

Be sure to read Tim's article on St. Paul Street Evangelization

Pope's Intentions for
February, 2018
Say "NO" to corruption
That those who have material, political
or spiritual power may resist the lure
of corruption.

Liz has moved and her new address is: 6909 Rolling Ridge,
Bakersfield, CA 93306 and her phone number is: (661) 489-4091.

Saint Paul Street Evangelization Monterey Bay

"It was a pleasant surprise to see you out here today."

It was another beautiful day on the shoreline of the central coast of California when a man named Mike said that to us. I was joined by my wife Suzanne, Dennis, Rob, and his nine year old grand daughter Giselle. Mike and his wife had come to visit their daughter at UCSC. They were all walking along the beach walk when they came across our table. They were looking at all our Sacramentals, when I asked him if he was Catholic. He said that he was brought up with a Catholic education, but he had not been to Church in many years. I asked him what happened to cause him to stop coming to church. He told me there was nothing in particular; he just drifted away and didn't make it a priority. I told him that Jesus loved him and that he wants to bless his life. I gave him a pamphlet on "Reasons to return to the Catholic Church." They continued on their walk and ended up returning about ten minutes later. There were a lot of people at our table when I said to him, "We are part of a group called Saint Paul Street Evangelization. We are a bridge between the street and the Church. Helping people return to a sacramental life in the Church." He thanked us for being out on the street and said "It was a pleasant

surprise to see you out here today." That was the same response we received from Jackie from Capitola. She used to be a Lecturer 20 years ago while in the Life Teen Program where I used to serve. I gave her the same pamphlet and encouraged her and her children to return to the church.

It was the busiest day we had ever had. There was a "Save our Shores" march just wrapping up when we arrived. There were lots of marchers walking by on their way back to their cars. Many people used colorful language to voice their disapproval of what we were doing. One man on his bike yelled "It's a myth" as he rode by. Another man on a skateboard yelled "Just so you know mother earth is god." He looked back at me and said again, "Just so you know." Then a couple women showed up and were looking at our brochures, one of the women grabbed one and said "The good news huh." She asked me several questions on my thoughts on Jehovah's Witness'. I had read some apologetics on the subject and she reaffirmed my knowledge on the subject. I shared many of my thoughts on the many flaws with the doctrine. Then she dropped the bomb, "Where does the church stand on homosexuality?" I told her, "It is not a sin to be a homosexual; it is only a sin if you act upon it." That's when she said f_ _ _ you guys, and threw the pamphlet down on the ground, and stormed off. I think she planned the whole conversation out. There was a surfer there who witnessed the whole thing, and reached down and picked up the pamphlet and gave it to Dennis and said, "I thought I would save this for you." We did not let anything dampen our spirits. We were always courteous and responded with "Have a nice day." or "God bless you." I pray that I can bring home some of that same non-confrontational attitude home. My wife Suzanne and the kids thought that would be great.

We handed out the usual rosaries Saturday. A man who just moved here from Portland Oregon said, "I just need one of the cheap plastic ones." I told him "No problem, that's all we have." He took a pamphlet on "Confession." I thought what a blessing it is to have a venue to stir up thoughts of God on the street. Quinton, a young student from Santa Cruz High said he was happy to get a new rosary because his last one had just broken. Nick, who was a Greek Orthodox, said it was the shiny objects on our table that attracted him to have a closer look at what we had. He was looking at the metal crucifixes, and medals we had. There was a surfer who had a tattoo

on his back that read, "Searching for Meaning" who took a rosary and said he was going to begin Catechism classes, after I asked him if he went to church. I told him he was searching in the right spot.

As usual, just as we begin to pack up our stuff, some people came up and wanted what we just packed up. This time three women who were visiting from Iran, came up and introduced themselves. The mothers name was Pheri, and they were happy to receive free rosaries and medals.

I am honored to share what our experiences are, not to draw attention to ourselves, but to share the grace and joy which we have received from God. I believe God desires all his people to experience the same joy that comes from sharing the gift of faith which we received from others to likewise share those we meet.

God bless you all,
Tim