St. Catherine of Siena Parish follows Jesus by welcoming all, sharing our gifts, and giving glory to God.

La parroquia de Santa Catarina de Siena sigue a Jesús dándole la bienvenida a todos, compartiendo nuestros dones y dando gloria a Dios.
PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF

Fr. Anthony Huong Le, Parochial Administrator

deacon Albert Dizon  dncdndz@gmail.com
Jessica Griswold, Principal
Saint Catherine Elementary School
jgriswold@csdo.org
925-228-4140
Paul Holland
Co-coordinators, Youth Group and Confirmation Program
paul@cfsoakland.org
Troy Killorn
Director of Music Ministry
stkillorn@aol.com
Sylvia Lloren
Bulletin Submissions
stcathmtz@yahoo.com

CHURCH LOCATION: 606 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA
PARISH OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS: 1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA 94553-1720
TELEPHONE / FAX: 925-228-2230 / 925-228-1318
PARISH WEBSITE: www.stcatherinemartinez.com
PARISH EMAIL: stcathmtz@yahoo.com
SUBMISSIONS: bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com
OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-1PM & 2 PM-5 PM
GRAMMAR SCHOOL: 604 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA
TELEPHONE / FAX: 925-228-4140 / 925-228-0697
SCHOOL WEBSITE: http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com/
PRE SCHOOL: 1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA
TELEPHONE / FAX: 925-229-2255 / 925-229-2474

SAFE ENVIRONMENT: www.virtusonline.org
BAPTISMS: Registration is mandatory two months prior to Baptism. Parents & Godparents are required to attend a mandatory Baptism preparation class before reception of the Sacrament.
MARRIAGES: Arrangements and mandatory preparation need to be arranged at least eight months prior to the wedding.
FUNERALS: We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services at 925-932-0900. A representative will contact the parish office to coordinate your arrangements.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS EARLY DEADLINES:
All items must be submitted by Fri, May 24 by noon for June 2
Please direct your inquiries to the email above. Thank you.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM
SUNDAY: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM English
12:30 PM Spanish
WEEKDAYS: 8:00 AM
HOLY DAYS: 8:00 AM, 12:10 PM and 7:00 PM
ADORATION: Thursdays from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM
RECONCILIATION: Saturdays from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS

Altar Servers
Jack Watkins………………………….925-957-0437
Art and Environment
TBD………………………………….925-228-2230
Beneath His Cross Apostolate
Jessica Preciado……………………..925-354-1656
Bingo
Don Brocca………………………….925-858-7330
Catholic Youth Organization - CYO
Gina Marks………………………….925-817-9429
Communications
Eugene Dizon…………………………925-370-8143
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Viviana & Marty Magee……………925-228-6460
Faith Formation - Religious Education (PreK-8th Grades)
Andrea Watkins……………………925-228-2230
Finance Council
Don Brocca…925-229-4158 and Dennis Koller…925-335-9395
Grief Ministry/Card Ministry
Mary Cook (in assoc with Legion of Mary)…..925-229-2665
Guadalupe Society
Guadalupe Cruz……………………...925-997-2432
Hospital/Sick/Homebound
Tom Greerty (in assoc with Legion of Mary)…..925-228-4387
Hospitality
Mary Cook (in assoc with Stewardship)…..925-229-2665
Ignite
Cindy Buscaglia………………………925-787-8396
Italian Catholic Federation - ICF
Tom Cook…………………………….925-229-2665
Knights of Columbus - K of C
Rik Silva……………………………...925-334-2429
La Comunidad Latina
Lucia Cruz…………………………...925-348-2620
Lectors
Carlos Melendez…………………….510-385-0506
Legion of Mary
Bobby Kiefer……………………….925-658-1442
Loyas & Fishes
Denice Silva…………………………925-372-0740
Maintenance
Troy Killorn………………………….925-228-2230
Mary Help of Christians - MHC
Margarita Flores……………………925-812-1279
Pastoral Advisory Council
Karen Glen….925-788-7716 & Karen Sandri….925-370-7997
Respect Life
Linda Easterday……………………925-372-3845
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - RCIA
Pauline Porter/Karen Glen………………925-228-2230
Safe Environment for Children Project - SECP
Andrea Watkins……………………925-228-2230
San Lorenzo Ruiz Community - SLRC
Esther Concepcion…………………925-381-1835
Social Awareness
Anne Crisp…………………………...925-356-8822
Spark (young adult group ages 18 years to 35 years)
TBD………………………………….925-228-2230
Stewardship
Karen Glen………………………….925-788-7716
Sociedade Portuguesa Rainha Santa Isabel - SPRSI
Annette Bement……………………….925-228-8428
St. Vincent de Paul Society - SDP
Karen Glenn…………………………925-788-7716
Ushers
James McLaughlin………………….925-228-1051
Young Ladies Institute - YLI
Peggy Aiello-Hagerthy…………………925-228-2628
Youth Group/Confirmation (High School 9 to 12 Grades)
Paul & Jenny Holland……………….925-890-6229

MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS

Before serving or continuing in your ministry, complete the Diocesan required Safe Environment for Children Project Training @ www.virtusonline.org. Thank you.
Dear Families in Christ,

First and foremost, we must be intensely in love, energetic and optimistic Disciples of God, to get involved and successful in this heavenly mission to attract the lost sheep in the wilderness. We must trust in Lord Jesus, for living forth with such devotion with this special intention of welcoming, attracting, holding the attention, to re-engage our away-brothers and sisters, neighbors and friends.

We should pray to God for new life—eternal life with God and all the Saints in Heaven, to faithfully serve them, to bring mercy to return to us in building up our church—and those in need. This initiative requires us to engage in intelligent interpersonal communications, pursue commitment, friendly persuasion, foot works, smart letters, newspapers articles, phone calls, e-mail, kindness, forgiveness to those brothers and sisters driven away from us. A personal one-on-one handshake and a chat is effective. Why? Because we care about everyone regardless of race, skin pigmentation, nationality or sexual orientation. We want them all back.

For some dubious reasons, they abandoned the House of God. Implementing psychological diagnosis, we must locate, invite them to return to us, to set aside those immature shortcomings of the past and help them by stepping into a new level of friendship, favor and humane magnetism. The efficacy is never to give up, no matter how stubborn the lost sheep is, because it’s the work of God’s Disciple on earth— to save the souls of His children. We must be kind, understanding in our approach without undue pressure. As a disciple of God, we owe them kindness, hospitality from the church. God does determine our destiny to rise higher in our life here on earth and to heavenly kingdom. We must leave behind the negative mindset, that truly God and our Church here is determined to give them peace, friendship, warm welcome, favor, charity and abundance of joy meant for us all along.

At St. Catherine of Siena, nothing will change for the better in our life until we make up our mind that we are not going to accept failure and mediocrity. The good news is: we should leave our church and be ashamed of yourself. Welcome home brothers and sisters!

This month of May, our Blessed Mary Mother of God is never far from our minds and hearts. Her prayerful intercession is powerful and loving. Don’t hesitate to pray and ask. When God touches us and we respond to love, His power with Mary’s intercession moves us to proceed with haste toward members of God’s family. The charity of God urges us on... (2 Cor. 5:14). For our Lady, full of grace, her total surrender to the Lord, deepened her insight into the mystery of God’s work is powerful. The need for our faith is never taken away in this life, but the strength of faith opens the door to the rush of God’s power and then infinite love may have its way. We have great opportunities in our own lives to experience this marvelous event of grace. Charity of God is not difficult when we “tune in” to what happens to us in Holy Communion. God who is mighty has done great things for us and holy is His name. (Luke 1:49). With faith, the blessed Mary Mother of God shows an enthusiasm to enter into God’s plan and she sings His praises in her most beautiful prayer. This month of May we set aside this special month to Honor her. “Woman this is your Son.” (John 19:26). “There is your Mother” (John 19:27).

“Look up to the Star, call upon Mary”—Advice of St. Bernard

God bless you all. Come back again.

CC. Salonga
Dear All,

May we all experience a great joy of knowing the Risen Christ.

Recently I came across a wonderful article written by Fr. Bill Peckman, who is the pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Boonville, MO and St. Joseph Parish in Fayette, MO.

Fr Bill tells the simple truth about what being a “Parishioner” really means. He also talks about being a pastor and what he does. What he says touches me deeply because it is exactly what I wanted to share with you. I believe we can all learn something from him. Below is the article in its entirety:

Some might differentiate between a “parishioner in good standing” or not. I do not ascribe to such a notion. Parishioners must share in the responsibilities that are part and parcel of belonging to a parish. Why? Because the nature of a parish is that of a family and not a business. A parish is not a business that offers holy stuff.

Some parishioners, by virtue of infirmity or advanced age, might well be parishioners in the fullest sense of the word even though their physical limitations prevent them fully living the life of the parish. From these individuals, their prayer is so very important. It is not a second class offering, but their way of connecting to the life and mission of the parish. Hence, not all the following applies to them.

Here’s what it means to be a parishioner:

1) Mass attendance on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
Catholic Mass attendance is the center of the Catholic life. By Mass attendance, I do not merely mean being present in a building where Mass is happening, but being engaged in thought, word, and action in the worship Of God. When a Catholic willfully exempts themselves from the Mass, they gut the very means of growing in faith. The Church considers this so important that it mandates that all Catholics go to Mass on Sundays (Saturday night is fine as well) and considers it mortally sinful when one chooses to not go to Mass.

2) Support of the parish and its ministries
Support is twofold. First there is the financial support of the parish. Support comes predominantly through the thanksgiving sacrifice. This is what the collection is properly called. The collection is not a cash register where we pay for services rendered, but a place where we make part of our thanksgiving sacrifice to God. This is why I do not look at giving records. The tithe is between you and God and it is to God that you will be responsible. The tithe is your giving thanks to God for the blessings He has given you. The tithe is to be used, according to Scripture, for the mission of the Church and care of the poor. I will talk about the tithe once a year as I do not want to use time set aside for the worship of God to talk about money.

Money is only part of the equation. We also contribute by giving of our time and energy to help execute the responsibilities Parishes depend on volunteers for many things. I know everyone is busy. It is fact of life for most people. That said, as the old saying goes, “Many hands make for light work.” Whether it being in teaching, youth, Mass, shut-ins, school, and various other aspects of parish life, giving of some of your time helps to build up the parish and continue its mission.

3) Participating in the Mission of the Church
The Mission of the Church is geared towards its growth. Parents do this in the raising of their children to be faithful followers of Christ. We do this by evangelizing the fallen away and the unchurched. We do this by being a faithful beacon in the community around us. Therefore prayer, Mass attendance, educating ourselves on what constitutes the faith, and teaching our youth to correctly prioritize life are so important. The Church is not a museum for the 99 sheep who don’t stray but is geared to the 1 who does.

I will not change the teachings of the Church. That would be irresponsible. The goal of any parish to ‘go make disciples of the nations’ and to ‘teach all that Jesus taught us.’ This is the commission of the Jesus Christ at the end of the Gospel of Matthew. This is dominant message in my preaching and teaching.

My Duty as a Pastor
Having said what is the duty of being a parishioner, let me now say how I see my duty as pastor. First and foremost, I understand my role as a pastor of souls. I am called ‘father’ for a reason. I am to look to the good and care of those placed under my pastoral care.

As parishioners, you belong to God first, you are members of His flock. You are not my subjects, but the portion of God’s family assigned to my care. I have the responsibility of looking to the good of every parishioner even when they are not looking to their own good. As I see myself as father of the parish, I do not see myself as predominantly a CEO, CFO, storekeeper, or absentee landlord. My goal is to incorporate all the good traits of a good dad in how I guide the parish.

Furthermore, I am bound to teach what the Church teaches in the way the church wants. I am ‘by the book’ in many ways in that I will follow my duties as is prescribed by such documents as Canon Law, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, the Catechism, and the Scriptures.

I believe that if I do not respect the authority placed over me that I have no right to expect anyone to respect the authority I have as a pastor. If I make changes, it will be to bring us in line with the teachings of the Church. Truth is to be applied with charity. My goal as pastor will be to fix what can be fixed, grow what can be grown, and protect my flock whatever would prey on them.

I believe that parishes are not merely meant to survive, but to thrive. This takes our cooperation with Christ. This takes the grace of the sacraments.

Isn’t it beautiful and challenging? What he teaches us is exactly what God and the Holy Mother Church is asking of us to do.

Yours in Christ always,

Fr. Anthony Le
INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SAT 5/18  4:30  Kerry Marie Nakasone †
SUN 5/19  7:00  Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish
          8:30  Int. Lily Quisumbing †
          10:30  Erlinda & Agapito Bonafacio †
          12:30  Louisa Dona, Otto Dona †
MON 5/20  8:00  Ruperto Evangelista †
TUE 5/21  8:00  Aiello-Hagerthy & Tavares Families†
WED 5/22  8:00  Int. St. Catherine of Siena School
THU 5/23  8:00  Special Intention
FRI 5/24  8:00  Joe and Gustavo Cardenas †
SAT 5/25  8:00  Int. Ryan Ramos
          4:30  John Pagnini †
SUN 5/26  7:00  Lydia Vecchi-Aiello †
          8:30  Jennie Samuels †
          10:30  Terry Greerty †
          12:30  Int. St. Catherine of Siena Parish -
               Mary Help of Christians

Call the Parish Office for Mass Intentions or Annual Memorial Candles
(candles are located at the Most Sacred Heart Alcove)

St. Catherine Parish offers deepest sympathy and prayers for the family; and, the repose of the soul of
William Channel
who entered eternal life.

LET OUR ADORATION NEVER CEASE!
New Day and time

“The Church and the world have a great need for the Eucharist. Jesus awaits us in this Sacrament of love. Let us take the time to celebrate and contemplate the fullness of our faith.” – Saint Pope John Paul II

- Select an hour or two on any Thursday from noon to 5:00 PM
- Sign-up on the schedule in the vestibule of the church on the counter near the Msgr. Deans room-the Chapel on Thursday’s
- Preferably two at a time per hour for coverage and safety.
- A minimum of five parishioners for an hour each week will provide complete coverage.

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 19, 2019
"Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race."
— Revelation 21:3
Join in the Weekly Scripture Reflection with the Clergy
Tuesdays
7:00 PM
Parish Center
St. Gabriel Room

Congratulations to our Parish Children who received their First Holy Communion this weekend
May 18 and 19, 2019

May 18, 4:30PM Mass
Daphne Cameron Azevedo
Christopher Benavidez Farias
Andres Cuevas
Matilda Rose Davoren
Diego Andres Gil Fernandez
Aldo Gael Gonzalez Chavez
Luis Angel Gutierrez Encinas
Phillip Soriano Locsin
Evan Paul Lucero
Maolan Cristiano Melendez
Roman Nicolas Montes
Mariangel Rangel Negrette
Daniel Angel Segovia Dijas

May 19, 10:30AM Mass
Graziella Marie Coniglio
Salvatore Vincent Coniglio
Natalie Jade Smirni-Gonzales
Georgia Madeleine Leonard
Sophia Grace Modenesi
Makayla Catherine Padilla
Lucas Manuel Pain
Bradley Elizabeth Parker
Sicy Soleil Rangel
Antonio Mateo Rodriguez
Cora Rose Shoemaker
Nathan Von Shoemaker
Javier Antonio Vaquerano

May 19, 12:30PM Mass
Azucena Araujo Espinoza
Jazmin Araujo Espinoza
Kevin Chavez Zaragoza
Luis Armando Chavez Zaragoza
Moises Chavez Zaragoza
Alejandro Gonzalez
Joaquin Nachito Guerra
Brayan Lopez Amaral
Alexis Ramirez Contreras
Dylan Ramirez Ordaz
Elizabeth Rincon
Brian Antonio Rivas
Alberto Daniel Rubio
Briana Marlen Rubio
Andrea Cecilia Ulloa

May 19, 8:30AM Mass
Isla Gayle Ablaza
Madelyn Paige Alford
Daniel Joseph Biscevic
Peyton Grace Fugate
Ryder James Moore
Evan J. Rogers
Layla Marie Sattes
Kennedy Green Silvera
Emelia Dawn Hope Wilbur

A very heartfelt ‘thank you’ goes out to our wonderful Faith Formation Catechists! We are very blessed to have such wonderful and dedicated teachers. These amazing individuals have been sharing the gift of Faith and God’s love for many years. Many children and their families have been touched by their selfless love for our Church. We love you Jennifer Woodhall, Veronica Alvarez, Rafaela Torres, Tina Kadavil, Gia Hernandez, Linda Modenesi, Sylvia Lloren, Debbie Frieberg, Diana Palmer, Felice Chisar, Rose Marie Griffin, Fernando Nunez, John and Kathy Fuller, Kahi Bernard!

May God bless you all, always!
Every year, we are invited by Catholic Charities of the East Bay, to help those in need in our community. Your gift during the upcoming parish second collection makes it possible for Catholic Charities to help people facing difficult circumstances move forward in life. This includes helping children who face pervasive violence at school, home, or on the streets; families or seniors facing homelessness; and people fleeing violence in their homelands. Please give generously to this collection. For more information, contact Stephan Pippen, Development Manager at (510) 508-1063 or spippen@ccerb.org.

St. Catherine of Siena School Mission Statement

Saint Catherine of Siena School answers the call to nurture each child – spirit, mind and body – in a safe, caring environment by providing Christ-centered, challenging curriculum preparing each child for a future as people of faith, service, respect, and responsibility.
HOSPITALITY

To form a joyful family community that reaches out and receives one another as Christ reaches out and receives us.

Hospitality Sunday’s

Are you interested in taking part in the welcoming and hospitality of our parish community?

Hosts are still needed for:

June 2, June 16
July 14, July 28
August 4, August 11

Individuals, organizations, and ministries are invited to host. Please email or call the parish office.

“On Saturday morning, May 11th, the St. Catherine of Siena Vincentians and our neighbors received a wonderful treat. As we were serving our neighbors in need, the Knights of Columbus, came and served us. Steve Scheye, one of the members of the Knights, brought over scrambled eggs, hash browns, bacon and sausage. It was a big hit, enjoyed by our Vincentians and neighbors as well.”

A Big THANK YOU!

to the Knights of Columbus.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU EVERYDAY

YOU ARE INVITED TO A MATERNITY SHOWER Hosted by St. Catherine Respect Life Ministry

SUN, MAY 26 8 AM TO 2 PM

During Hospitality after Masses Your contributions will be donated to Birthright in Concord

Suggested gift donations: body lotions, maternity clothes: tops, pants in all sizes; nursing pads, nursing bras, & maternity panties. If you don’t have time to shop or are not sure what to donate, gift cards are always welcome.

Any questions? Text or Call Debbie Pelizzari 925-286-1207 or Linda Easterday 925-997-4546

FORMED® THE CATHOLIC FAITH, ON DEMAND.

An inspiring feature film on Saint Pope John XXIII, starring Edward Asner in an acclaimed performance as the beloved pontiff, who came from common stock and was known for his simplicity, courage, and love for humanity. Shot on location in Rome and Italy, and produced by the Italian film company Lux Vide, makers of Pope John Paul II and Saint Rita, this movie tells the whole life story of John XXIII from his youth through his young priesthood, episcopacy, life as cardinal, and eventually his life as Pope. Elected supposedly as an “interim Pope” who would just keep the status quo and listen to the advisors around him, John XXIII proved to be his own man when he surprised the Church and world by calling for the Second Vatican Council. This film also underscores his wonderful sense of humor and great charity towards others, especially the poor, downtrodden, and the outcast. This feature can be enjoyed through the SCS Access: Go to internet explorer and click http://formed.org. enter code: XPTJ8K (case sensitive)

There Is Sweet Music Here
Cantare Chorale, Chamber Ensemble and Children’s Choir Saturday, June 1 at 7:30pm
Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church
49 Knox Drive, Lafayette

Cantare Con Vivo closes the season with all the choirs on stage, commemorating the 20th Anniversary of our Chorale and the Children’s choral programs. We will present a variety of American music, including contemporary, classical, folk, popular and show songs, in addition to spirituals and patriotic selections. Titles include Ol’ Man River, You’ll Never Walk Alone, Not One Sparow, Angel Band, Water Night, Please Stay, Seasons of Love, and many others.

Tickets: $27.50 general, $22 senior, $10 students
See Melody Herder-Jimison or special pricing on tickets. docmelody@comcast.net or (925)768-1126

JOIN US AT THE BEAUTIFUL Annual Outdoor Memorial Mass at the old Siena Historic Cemetery Honoring our Pioneer Parishioners

Saturday, May 25, 9 AM

The St. Catherine Cemetery is located on the Carquinez Scenic Route passed Rankin Park. Gates open at 8:30 AM. Bring a hat and water. Folding chairs will be available. Refreshments courtesy of Catholic Funeral & Cemetery Services
Experience the joy of bringing the gifts of bread & wine to the altar at Mass during the offertory. As music is played & lyrics are sung, walk up the aisle to present the work of our hands to Father Anthony Le waiting at the base of the steps. The presentation is a prayer itself & the blessing received as you process closer to the altar confirms that these gifts will soon become the body & blood of Our Lord. If you would like to present the gifts at Mass, please let one of the ushers know prior to the start of Mass.
| **READINGS & REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK** |  |
| **SUN, MAY 19, 2019: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER** | **THU, MAY 23, 2019: The tie that binds** |
| Life is hard—find a community! | What comes to mind when you think of love? Maybe it’s the deep connection you have with a loved one. Jesus talked about love in this way: The close relationship he had to the Father was the one he had with his disciples. He also gave us an example of a love that respects others, is patient, and is willing to make sacrifices for the good of others. Love, then, is about both contemplation and action: entering the bond you have with Jesus and the Father and also responding to it. Christ said another thing about love: It makes you happy. There’s a unique joy in loving others. Find it today. | **TODAY’S READINGS:** Acts 14:21-27; Revelation 21:1-5a; John 13:31-33a, 34-35 *(54).* “They strengthened the spirits of the disciples and exhorted them to persevere.” | **TODAY’S READINGS:** Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11 *(288).* “I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.” |
| **MON, MAY 20, 2019: It’s good to evolve** |  |
| Bernardine of Siena (1380-1444) was known as a gifted preacher. But many of his sermons were polemics against Jews and homosexual peoples. The cultural, political, and religious context of his time gave tacit approval to such inductive. But Catholic thinking today has evolved. The catechism now teaches that people with same-sex attraction “must be accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity” *(#2538).* And, according to the catechism, the church “enjoys a link” with the Jewish people; the “first to hear the word of God” *(#839).* Do you hold assumptions about others that need to be reexamined? | **TODAY’S READINGS:** Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26 *(285).* “The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything.” | **TODAY’S READINGS:** Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17 *(289).* “It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you.” |
| **TUE, MAY 21, 2019: Dying to find a better way** |  |
| Christopher Magallanes was a priest in Mexico during a difficult time in Mexican history. On the heels of the Mexican Revolution of 1910-17, the Catholic Church and the Mexican state were at loggerheads. Magallanes wrote and preached against armed rebellion, but was falsely accused of promoting armed uprising during what came to be called the Cristero Rebellion. Arrested in 1927 on his way to celebrate Mass, he gave his few possessions—as well as absolution—to his executioners. His last words were, “I die innocent and ask God that my blood may serve to unite my Mexican brethren.” Since 1929 church and state in Mexico have by and large avoided further violent conflict and are on much better terms than in the past. Pray for peaceful resolutions to conflicts in the world today. | **TODAY’S READINGS:** Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a *(286).* “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” | **TODAY’S READINGS:** Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21 *(290).* “If the world hates you, realize that it hated me first.” |
| **WED, MAY 22, 2019: Persist in your faith** |  |
| Margharita was the only child of a late 14th-century Italian couple. Rita, as she was known, was a 12-year-old bride to a difficult husband, the mother of two sons, and an early widow whose husband was killed in a violent vendetta. Upon the later deaths of her sons, Rita entered the Augustinian monastery in her hometown of Cascia. Biographers write of her having been a persistent woman of faith who refused to give up a dream of monastic life as well as a peacemaker who reconciled the warring factions that contributed to her husband’s death. All agree that she became known as a mystic whose devotion to Christ’s suffering produced a wound on her forehead as she ministered to the sick and counseled the steady stream of visitors to the convent. In her memory, let’s ask today for grace that empowers us to persist in faith and peacemaking in relationships. | **TODAY’S READINGS:** Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8 *(287).* “Whoever remains in me and I in [them] will bear much fruit.” |  |
| **SAT, MAY 25, 2019:** Book your faith |  |
| A Benedictine monk, Saint Bede (673-735) lived his whole life in the same monastery where his parents had sent him for his early education. While we know him as the source of much of early English history, he was also a great student of scripture and a teacher. Church history, scripture—these are two important areas to know something about to have a better grasp of your faith. Find some books on the subject, like A Concise History of the Catholic Church by Thomas Bokenkotter and Invitation to the Old Testament and Invitation to the New Testament, both by Alice L. Camille. | **TODAY’S READINGS:** Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21 *(290).* “If the world hates you, realize that it hated me first.” |  |
LECTURAS Y REFLEXIONES DE LA SEMANA

19 MAY 2019 QUINTO DOMINGO DE PASCUA
La vida es difícil—¡encuentra una comunidad!

El día de una mudanza es una demostración de que todos nece- sitamos algunos amigos. ¿Quién más va a levantar el otro extremo de ese piano? Pero los beneficios de la comunidad van más allá de llevar la carga física. Necesitamos amigos para celebrar las victorias, animarnos durante las competencias, estar con nosotros cuando llegan malas noticias, y llorar con nosotros cuando estas mos afligidos. También necesitamos aliento y desafío para hacer lo correcto aun cuando seá difícil o costoso, y para alabumar cuan do el camino es oscuro. Bienvenidos a la iglesia.


“Fortalecieron los espíritus de los discípulos y los exhortaron a perseverar.”

20 MAY 2019 DÍA DE SEMANA DE PASCUAL
Es bueno evolucionar

Bernardo de Siena (1380-1444) fue conocido como predicador talentoso. Pero muchos de sus sermones fueron polémicas contra judíos y personas homosexuales. El contexto cultural, político y religioso de su tiempo dio una aprobación tácita a tal invectiva. Pero el pensamiento católico de hoy ha evolucionado. El catecismo ahora enseña que las personas con atracción por el mismo sexo “deben ser aceptadas con respeto, compasión y sensibilidad” (n.° 2358). Y, según el catecismo, la iglesia “disfruta de un vínculo” con el pueblo judío, el “primer en escuchar la palabra de Dios” (n.° 839). ¿Tiene suposiciones sobre otros que necesitan un vínculo” con el pueblo judío, el “primo en escuchar la palabra de Dios” (n.° 839).


“Fortalecieron los espíritus de los discípulos y los exhortaron a perseverar.”

21 MAY 2019, SEMANA DE PASCUAL
Morir por encontrar una mayor manera

Christopher Magallanes fue un sacerdote en México durante un momento difícil en la historia de México. Inmediatamente después de la Revolución Mexicana de 1910-17, la Iglesia Católica y el Estado mexicano estuvieron en desacuerdo. Magallanes escribió y predicó en contra de la rebelión armada, pero fue acusado falsamente de promover el levantamiento armado durante lo que vino a llamarse la Rebelión de Cristero. Detenido en 1927 en su camino para celebrar la misa, entregó sus pocas posesiones, así como la absolución, a sus verdugos. Sus últimas palabras fueron: "Muero inocente y le pido a Dios que mi sangre sirva para unir a mis hermanos mexicanos". Desde 1929, la iglesia y el estado en México han evitado en general más conflictos violentos y están en mejores condiciones que en el pasado. Ore por las resoluciones pacíficas a los conflictos en el mundo de hoy.

Lecturas de hoy: Hechos 14:19-28; Juan 14: 27-31a (286).

“La paz os dejó; Mi paz te la doy.”

22 MAY 2019 MEMORIAL DE RITA DE CASCIA, RELIGIOSA
Persiste en tu fe

Margarita fue la única hija de una pareja italiana de finales del siglo XIV. Rita, como se la conocía, era una novia de 12 años de un esposo difícil, madre de dos hijos y una viuda temprana cuyo esposo fue asesinado en una violenta vendetta. Tras la muerte posterior de sus hijos, Rita entró en el monasterio agustino en su ciudad natal de Cascia. Los biógrafos escriben que ella fue una mujer de fe persistente que se negó a abandonar el suelo de la vida monástica, así como una pacificadora que concilió a las facciones en guerra que contribuyeron a la muerte de su esposo. Todos están de acuerdo en que se la conoció como una mística cuya devoción por el sufrimiento de Cristo le produjo una herida en la frente mientras atendía a los enfermos y aconsejaba el flujo constante de visitantes al convento.

En su memoria, pidamos hoy la gracia que nos capacite para persistir en la fe y en la paz en las relaciones.


“El que permanezca en mi y yo en [ellos] dará mucho fruto.”

23 MAY 2019 SEMANA DE PASCUAL
Persiste en tu fe

¿Qué te viene a la mente cuando piensas en el amor? Tal vez sea la conexión profunda que tienes con un ser querido. Jesús habló sobre el amor de esta manera: la estrecha relación que tuvo con el Padre fue una que tuvo con sus discípulos. También nos dio un ejemplo de un amor que respeta a los demás, es paciente y está dispuesto a hacer sacrificios por el bien de los demás. El amor, entonces, se trata tanto de la contemplación como de la acción: entrar en el vínculo que tienes con Jesús y el Padre y también responder a él. Cristo dijo otra cosa sobre el amor: “te haces feliz. Hay una alegría única en amar a los demás. Encuéntralo hoy.


“Te he dicho estas cosas para que mi alegría esté en ti y para que tu alegría sea completa.”

24 MAY 2019 MEMORIAL DE DAMIEN DE VEUSTER, SACERDOTE
Que la iglesia y el estado convivan en paz

En 2007, el Papa Benedicto XVI publicó una carta a los 9 millones de católicos en China, en la que dedicó el 24 de mayo de cada año como Día Mundial de Oración por la Iglesia en China. El Santo Padre escribió: “Los católicos de todo el mundo… demostrarán su fraterna solidaridad y solicitud por usted, pidiéndole al Señor de la historia el don de la perseverancia en testimonio, en la certeza de que sus sufrimientos pasados y presentes por el Santo. El nombre de Jesús y su intrépida lealtad a su Vicario en la tierra serán recompensados.” Oremos hoy para que las relaciones polémicas entre China y la Iglesia Católica sigan mejorando.


“Si el mundo te odia, date cuenta de que primero me odiaba”.

25 MAY 2019 SEMANA DE PASCUAL Reserve su fe

Un monje benedictino, Saint Bede (673-735) vivió toda su vida en el mismo monasterio donde sus padres lo habían enviado para su educación temprana. Si bien lo conocemos como la fuente de gran parte de la historia temprana del inglés, también fue un gran alumno de las Escrituras y un maestro. La historia de la iglesia, las escrituras: estas son dos áreas importantes sobre las que se debe saber algo para tener una mejor comprensión de su fe. Encuentre algunos libros sobre el tema, como Una historia concisa de la Iglesia católica por Thomas Bokenkotter e Invitación al Antiguo Testamento e Invitación al Nuevo Testamento, ambos de Alice L Camille.


“Sí el mundo te odia, date cuenta de que primero me odiaba”. Resiste la prisa

26 MAY 2019 SEXTO DOMINGO DE PASCUAL

Se gana una gran cantidad de dinero a cada instante debido a nuestra incapacidad de resistir el deseo de dar clic en ese titular, de revisar nuestros mensajes, de ver si alguien en el mundo está haciendo algo más interesante que nosotros en este momento. Mientras nuestra intención es escabullirnos del presente por solo un segundo, ese segundo puede convertirse en minutos u horas a medida que nos vemos atraídos más profundamente a la adicción a los medios. No es meramente una distracción. La suma total del desambular de nuestra alma perdida a través de constantes crisis mundiales, conspiraciones, anuncios de dietas, tragedias locales, y ofertas comerciales es un ataque de ansiedad que abarca a todos la sociedad. Cultiva la paz.


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