St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church
Martinez, California

LITURGY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM
SUNDAY: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM
12:30 PM (Spanish)

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

“Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me.”
Luke 10:40

July 21, 2019 • Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
**PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF**

**FR. ANTHONY HUONG LE, PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR**

Deacon Albert Dizon
dcdadizon@yahoo.com
Jessica Griswold, Principal
Saint Catherine Elementary School
jgriswold@csdo.org
925-228-4140

**SAFETY ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR**

925-229-2255
jgriswold@csdo.org
scpreschool@comcast.net

**PAUL AULD, PRE-SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

bkprstcath@yahoo.com

**JESSICA GRISWOLD, PRINCIPAL**

St Catherine Elementary School
925-228-4140
925-229-2255
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**SYLVIA LLOREN**

Director of Music Ministry
stkillorn@aol.com
drestcath@yahoo.com

**ANDREA Watkins**

Director Religious Education
drestcath@yahoo.com

**PARISH WEBSITE:**

www.stcmtz.org

**CONTACTS**

**RECEPTION:**

1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA
604 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA
1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA
925-228-2255 / 925-229-2255
925-228-4140 / 925-228-0697
925-228-2230 / 925-228-1318
925-229-2230 / 925-228-1318

**SAFETY ENVIRONMENT:**

www.virtusonline.org

**SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION**

**BAPTISMS:**

Registration is mandatory two months prior to Baptism month. Please call the office to make an appointment once you have your documents ready. Parents & Godparents are required to attend a mandatory Baptism preparation class one month before reception of the Sacrament. All information regarding requirements and schedules, can be found on the website at www.stcmtz.org.

**CONFIRMATION:**

Youth Confirmation Program Registration begins in August. It is a one year program for all incoming Freshmen or above. Please contact: Paul or Jenny Holland at jenniferdevita@gmail.com for more information. For Adult Confirmation, please call the office.

**ANOTHER OF THE SICK:**

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is one of two sacraments which heals and saves the baptized person from sin. The other sacrament of healing is Penance. For an anointing during working hours, please call the Parish office.

**FUNERALS:**

We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services at 925-932-0900. A representative will contact the parish office to coordinate your arrangements.

**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PASTORAL CARE TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND**

Do you know someone who is homebound and/or ill & would like to receive the Eucharist or just a visit from a friendly face? If so, please email: Deacon Dave Holland at daveh@cfcsocaland.org or call (925-413-9240) with your neighbor’s name, address, and telephone number. St. Catherine Pastoral Care to the Sick & Homebound will arrange for a visitor from the parish.

**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS DEADLINES:**

All requests must be submitted no later than July 19 by noon for the July 27, 2019 bulletin. Please direct your inquiries to: stcathmtz@yahoo.com

All submissions must be submitted via email and copy/camera/paste ready.

**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.stcmtz.org

**PARISH EMAIL:**

stcathmtz@yahoo.com

**NEW OFFICE HOURS:**

Mon-Thur. 8:30 AM - 1 PM
2:00 PM - 5 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM - 1 PM

**GRAMMAR SCHOOL:**

604 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA

**TELEPHONE / FAX:**

925-228-4140 / 925-228-0697

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:**

http://school.stcatherineymartinez.com/

**PRE SCHOOL:**

1125 Ferry Street, Martinez, CA

**TELEPHONE / FAX:**

925-229-2255 / 925-229-2474

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT:**

www.virtusonline.org

**RCIA: “Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults”**

Are you interested in becoming Catholic?

Do you need Adult Baptism?

Holy Eucharist (Communion)? Confirmation?

St. Catherine offers a friendly and supportive program. Please call the office (925) 228-2230 ext. 25 for more information.

**FIRST EUCHARIST:**

The Religious Education Program Registration begins in August and classes start in September. The First Holy Communion program is a two year program. All other classes are one year (K-8).

**CONFIRMATION:**

Youth Confirmation Program Registration begins in August. It is a one year program for all incoming Freshmen or above. Please contact: Paul or Jenny Holland at jenniferdevita@gmail.com for more information. For Adult Confirmation, please call the office.

**MARRIAGES:**

Arrangements and mandatory preparation need to be arranged at least eight months prior to the wedding. No dates can be set prior to an initial meeting with a priest. No exceptions.

**RECONCILE:**

Confession times are weekly on Saturday’s from 3:00 - 4:00 PM and by appointment.

**FUNERAL:**

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is the continuation of the Lord’s compassion for the sick. The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is one of two sacraments which heals and saves the baptized person from sin. The other sacrament of healing is Penance. For an anointing during working hours, please call the Parish office.
This week is the eighth out of nine weeks exploring the topic of hospitality. During the last seven weeks, we have learned a lot about the definition and nature of hospitality. My reflection this week is “Who needs hospitality and why is it important?”

Doesn’t it seem obvious? **Everyone needs to receive hospitality!** Can you imagine living in a place where you are not welcome? A place where nobody will greet you as a stranger, as a visitor, as a guest? A place where you are shunned at every door? How would you survive? Where would you sleep? What would you do? I am reminded of lepers described in the bible.

Lepers in Jesus’ time never knew hospitality. They were unwelcome everywhere -- literally untouchable. Lepers were forbidden from entering towns and required to cross to the other side of the road if anyone approached. They had to shout “unclean” if anyone came close enough to hear. The disease of leprosy is disfiguring but not fatal. In biblical times, people with the disease died from neglect, starvation, abuse, and exposure to the elements. Fortunately, this no longer happens. Today, we have drugs to cure leprosy. More than 200,000 new cases are diagnosed every year around the world according to the Centers for Disease Control (150 to 250 in the United States). Unlike biblical times, lepers now receive hospitality and medical treatment.

So it is a fact that everyone needs to receive hospitality, even the lepers. Less obvious is the fact that **everyone needs to give hospitality.** Human beings are social animals. Psychologists have found that our connections to others are key to not only our survival, but also to our happiness and success in life. Each of us are connected to everyone in the world through our common humanity.

On this day in 1969, man walked on the Moon for the first time at 2:56:15 a.m. Greenwich Mean Time. Astronaut Neil Armstrong stepped out of his spaceship alone but Nasa estimated that it took more than 400,000 engineers, scientists and technicians to accomplish the moon landings and the Apollo 11 mission. Not one of those people could have accomplished a moon landing alone. Every one of those people was essential. More than that, their cooperation, mutual trust, and hard work were essential.

John Donne echoed this sentiment when he famously wrote *No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, ... any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind.*

Donne, an Anglican minister, wrote this in 1623 to illustrate the point that all of us are united under God. Because we are all part of mankind, any person's loss is a loss to all of us. There is no thought of “we” versus “them” in this view because every person is created and protected by God. That is why hospitality is so important.

In Ancient Greece, all strangers, without exception, were under the protection of the god Zeus Xenios. Immediately on his or her arrival, a stranger was clothed and entertained. No inquiry could be made as to their identity or travels until the duties of hospitality had been fulfilled. Only then was the host allowed to ask the stranger’s name and business. When each guest parted from the host he or she was presented with gifts.

Are not all strangers still under the protection of God? Everyone we meet is created in the likeness of God and bears his image. Christ and the apostles ask that we welcome the poor, the outcast, and the stranger. (Luke 14:12-14, Matthew 25:35, Romans 12:13, Hebrews 13:1-3) This is true hospitality. This is the same hospitality that Christ demonstrated for us while he walked on earth.

Between 1982 and 1993, the TV show “Cheers” became one of the most popular television series of all time. In each of the 275 episodes, one of the characters would get into some sort of difficulty and then everyone else would come to the rescue. The show was popular because it beautifully demonstrated how we would like the world to behave in real life. When one of us has a need, everyone else rushes to help. This is how we can make our own environment a place “Where everybody knows your name / and they’re always glad you came!”

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*Jeff Roubal*
5 Reasons Every Layperson Should Pray the Liturgy of the Hours

Engaging your spiritual life can be hard.

Routines are difficult to start and usually more difficult to maintain. If you find yourself struggling in your prayer life or looking for something more, the Liturgy of the Hours might be your answer!

The built in schedule within the pages of the Liturgy of the Hours puts you in a position to pray at the same appointed times every day. Routines are an essential part of growth in any particular area of life, and the spiritual life is no exception. The Liturgy of the Hours provides this and much more.

The Liturgy of the Hours is one of the oldest forms of prayer in the Church. It was cultivated by the desert fathers and later developed by St. Benedict in the 5th century. From the earliest institution of this practice, the Liturgy of the Hours has served as means of encountering Christ throughout the day. Following the words of St. Paul to “pray without ceasing,” (1 Thes. 5:17) the Church has allotted that the Liturgy of the Hours be divided into five segments, or hours of prayer. These hours include the Office of Readings, Morning Prayer, Daytime Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Night Prayer. However, for the laity, it is sufficient and honorable to pray Morning and Evening prayer.

Here are five reasons every layperson should consider adopting this practice:

1) The Church encourages it!

In the Second Vatican Council document Sacrosanctum Concilium, the Church declared, “the laity…are encouraged to recite the divine office either with priests, or among themselves, or even individually” (IV.100). This humble recommendation from the council fathers should be contemplated by everyone. The Catechism states, “the Liturgy of the Hours ‘is truly the voice of the Bride herself addressed to her Bridegroom. It is the very prayer which Christ Himself together with His Body addresses the Father’” (1174).

In other words, the Liturgy of the hours is the prayer of the Church. All members of the clergy and religious are expected to pray the divine office. That means that if you pray the divine office you will be praying in communion with the pope, bishops, priests, deacons, friars, monks, sisters, nuns, etc. Count me in.

2) It provides a foundation for your prayer life

One of the common stumbling blocks to cultivating a prayer life is the absence of a routine. The Liturgy of the Hours is perfect, because it provides you with a prayer schedule for the day. Morning and Evening prayer offer you a consistent means of sanctifying your day, by praising God in the morning and thanking Him in the evening.

This built in routine guarantees that you spend some time in prayer each day and serves a building block to the rest of your spiritual life.

3) It immerses your prayer in Scripture

St. Jerome once said, “Ignorance of the Scriptures, is ignorance of Christ.” In the Scriptures we encounter Jesus Christ who is the Word made flesh. The whole of the Christian life is oriented towards an encounter with Jesus and union with Him. The Liturgy of the Hours is saturated in Scripture.

By praying the Liturgy of the Hours you will immerse your prayer life in the Psalms and readings from the Old and New Testaments, improving your knowledge of the Scriptures and Christ.

4) It follows the liturgical year

There are many celebrations throughout the Liturgical Year and the Liturgy of the Hours immerses you in all them. Each of the seasons of the Church focuses intentionally on specific moments in the life of Christ and salvation history.

The Liturgy of the Hours provides us with a means of prayerfully contemplating these particular events.

5) It’s great for travel

As I mentioned earlier, routines are important. Whenever I travel, my normal prayer schedule is thrown out the window and replaced by spontaneity and chaos. Prayer often becomes an afterthought. The Liturgy of the Hours is what holds my prayer life together during these joyfully uprooting times.

When silent prayer is hard to come by the Liturgy of the Hours provides solace in the midst of a noisy environment. The format of the Liturgy of the Hours enables me to remain prayerful even in a busy setting.

After reading through the reasons to pray the Liturgy of the Hours, I hope that you will take the time to prayerfully contemplate adding this practice to your prayer life. It is guaranteed to help you build and maintain a prayer routine that will draw you closer to Christ. The saints are witness to this.
The brown scapular is one of the most beloved Marian devotionals in the history of the Church.

But what is it? Where did it come from?

The scapular is a sacramental. (It comes from the Latin word *scapula*, which means “shoulder blade.”) It is made of two rectangular squares of cloth attached by strings. It is placed over the head, and worn with one square in front and the other in back.

Tradition tells us that Our Lady appeared to St. Simon Stock on July 16, 1251. Simon was a prior general of the Carmelites and had been praying for the order, which was undergoing intense trials. It is said that Mary appeared to him, surrounded by angels, and gave him the scapular, saying:

“Receive, my beloved son, this habit of thy order...whosoever dies clothed in this shall never suffer eternal fire.”

The scapular given to Simon was not the little one we are used to—it was actually a piece of the religious habit, which some religious still wear today.

Eventually a smaller, more practical scapular was designed for the laity who desired to participate in this devotion. It is usually worn under the clothing. Any Catholic can wear the scapular—even children!

There is a scapular investment ceremony which a priest can perform. After that, you simply wear the scapular faithfully and keep the spiritual commitments that are attached to it.

It is important to remember that the scapular is not a "magic amulet." We cannot wear it, live a sinful life, and expect to be saved from hell.

"The Scapular is an external sign of the filial relationship established between the Blessed Virgin Mary...and the faithful who entrust themselves totally to her protection, who have recourse to her maternal intercession, who are mindful of the primacy of the spiritual life and the need for prayer."
(2001 Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy)

The scapular is not necessary for salvation. But it is a powerful sacramental, and a truly amazing gift from the Blessed Mother.

If you haven't embraced the scapular and its promises, you should!

When worn in faith, the scapular is a devotion which leads us to holiness and protects us from eternal damnation.
God’s works among us!

Greetings to you all in Christ!

Many of you might be familiar with Mike Summit and his lovely canine companion Indy. Mike is a long-time member of St. Catherine’s Parish, from childhood days, attending Mass with his mother, and as an adult, belonging to our parish for the past 8 years. Mike’s story is a touching one that reflects our Christian hospitality and hearing the call of Jesus to help others and share our gifts. Mike shares his recent story with our Parish, as connections with Christ directed him to give, in an effort to save a young lady’s life.

It was Saturday, April 27th, that began a camping weekend away for Mike and Indy. Mike loaded up the truck with Indy and all her necessities, along with camping gear and his motocross bike in tow to enjoy a motocross event with friends and stay at their ranch near Marysville, Ca. Mike and Indy headed for their weekend away, but as Mike traveled closer to the outskirts of the ranch, his GPS navigation gave up and he became frustrated and lost. He spent quite a while attempting to find the ranch and that began the sense of “should we be here this weekend?” Mike recalls his frustration and he eventually connected with his friends at their ranch. Together, they went to sign in for their motocross event where there was an overwhelming crowd of people in a dusty and extremely hot environment. Mike again felt the uncertainty in his gut that this trip wasn’t turning out as fun as he’d imagined. It would be a long and hot weekend for his dog Indy as she lays in on a dirt floor looking miserable. Mike had a sense of finalizing this chapter in his retired life. His dog and life’s comforts were more important than riding in a motocross event. Mike explained to his friends that he was not going to stay through the weekend, that he truly just wanted to go home. That Saturday evening, Indy and Mike returned to Martinez. This provided them the opportunity to wake up early and attend Sunday 7 AM Mass as they regularly do.

Sunday morning, April 28th, Mike was outside congregating, when Father Anthony Le encouraged members to reach out to another near you and ask them “What can I pray for you?” Mike walked over to Barbara Turcios. Barbara shared with Mike to pray for a young lady in need of a heart transplant, named Malysa Logan. Barbara is not only a dedicated, long time member of our Parish, but also the President of the Martinez Rotary Club. Barbara explained to Mike that she attended an Antioch Rotary event the day before, to honor this young Lady’s desperate need for a second heart transplant. Malysa Logan of Modesto CA received a donor heart at the age of 2 years old, and miraculously, that heart has given her life for twenty years. Malysa’s heart has been deteriorating and her medical team at Stanford advised her family to have $100,000 in an account to cover the post-transplant care she will require.

Mike went home and prayed fervently for Malysa. He researched her story online and watched the heartfelt videos and news clippings that followed this child’s life since she was 2 years old. Mike felt God’s love and faith in his soul, he knew he wanted to help save Malysa’s life. Mike made his first decision to sell his vintage motorbike and donate the funds to Malysa’s cause. Within two days of posting his bike for sale, he sold it and had money set aside from this recent transaction. Mike continued to reach out to the people behind Malysa’s cause to inquire how he could donate funds. Mike connected with Lori McGurk, Secretary of the Antioch Rotary Club. Lori shared Malysa’s story and provided the information he needed to help Malysa further.

Mike prayed fervently again on his decisions to help and the timeliness of Malysa’s health. He felt the calling to do more and to provide the additional funds still required for Malysa’s transplant. Mike knew he needed to save this young lady’s precious life.

Within another day, Mike connected with Rick and Jennifer Fuller of Antioch, CA. Jennifer’s son Deon, was the original heart organ donor for Malysa when she was 2 years old. Deon fell ill with Meningitis at the tender age of 4 and overnight, Jennifer Fuller had to make decisions on behalf of her toddler’s life. She knew she wanted Deon’s organs to be donated and to save other lives. Deon saved Malysa’s life and has provided her life for the past 20 years.

Through coordinating schedules, phone calls, and prayers Mike met with Jennifer and Rick and vowed to help by withdrawing funds from his 401K. Mike explained that his life is comfortable, he has what he needs for Indy and himself. What he truly wants to do is help Malysa with the remaining funds she needs. In this short journey, Mike has met with Antioch Rotary Club and the Fuller family to celebrate this wonderful act of kindness, to bring together all the contributions on Malysa’s behalf and to recognize that all of this were answered prayers and actions of God’s work.

Praise the Lord!
St Catherine of Siena Parish
STEWARDSHIP
To create a culture in the parish rooted in gratitude and generosity.

July 14, 2019
WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Sunday Collection $ 5,606.00
Peter’s Pence $ 50.00
Divine Renovation $ 6,225.00
St. Vincent de Paul $ 130.00
Organ Fund $ 1,220.00 YTD: $1,751.00
Crucifix Donation $ 380.00

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

2019 Bishop’s Appeal
SCS Goal Summary:
Parish Goal: $23,000.00
Funds Raised: $19,998.00 % of Goal Raised: 86.95%

Hospitality Sunday
Are you interested in taking part in the welcoming and hospitality of our parish community?
Hosts are still needed for:
August 4, September 1
November 3, 10, 24
December 22, 29

NEW SUNDAY MASS TIMES
Effective August 2019
The 10:30 Mass will be changed to 11 AM
The 12:30 pm Spanish Mass changed to 1 PM

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Martinez, California

Friday, 7/26
7:30 AM CH Rosary
12:00 PM CH Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
8:00 PM CH Benediction

Saturday, 7/27
7:30 AM CH Rosary
9:30 AM PCL SVdP Food Distribution
12:00 PM PCL IGNITE Bible Study
3:00 PM CH Reconciliation

Sunday, 7/28
8:00 AM PH Hospitality - Mohammed Family
2:00 PM PCL Guadalupe Society Exe. Board Mtg.

CH = Church
PH = Parish Hall
PC = Parish Center
RC = Rectory
YD = School Yard
SC = School
YS: Youth Shack
PCL: Parish Center Library

NO Baptisms or classes will be conducted during the months of JULY and AUGUST.
We will resume our normal schedule in September
Part I. Faith Formation (preschool to 8th grade)
8:30 AM   Parents and children are expected to celebrate the 8:30 AM Holy Mass
@9:30   Hospitality
Parents are invited to hospitality, presentation, and sharing in the Hall
Children are sent immediately after the Holy Mass to the Hall with their parents and later dismissed to the classrooms.
@10:45 Parents and children gather in the Hall for dismissal

Part II. Confirmation (9th -11th)
11:00 AM   Parents and children are expected to celebrate the 11:00 Holy Mass
@12:00 PM   All are invited to Hospitality in the Hall
@12:30 PM   Presentation (both) presentation and Sharing for Parents in the Hall
Confirmation candidates are dismissed to have presentation and sharing in the Parish Center/or in the School with leaders.
@1:45 Dismissal

Please note that family and parish-wide events will be added to the curriculum. In this way, adults will find opportunities to get involved in learning more Catholic teachings. There will be retreats, small groups, and faith sharing on Scripture available. The current curriculum for elementary and youth Sunday Family Faith Formation will be enhanced with more family-oriented materials and resources.

We believe this change will wonderfully impact our community. Nonetheless, we understand you might have some concerns and questions.
Please contact us:
Mrs. Andrea Watkins @ drestcath@yahoo.com for children faith formation, First communion and Reconciliation
Mr. & Mrs. Paul and Jenny Holland @ stcathym@gmail.com for Confirmation and Youth Ministry.
Sunday, Jul 21, 2019
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Worriers have a captain
These days, who isn’t a worrier? Climate change is predicted to be irreversible very soon unless drastic changes are made across the globe. Meanwhile, oceans are rising, coastal areas are flooding, weather is erratic, and food supplies are threatened one crop at a time. If Martha were among us today, she’d be the first to lodge a complaint. Let’s marshal our inner Marthas and raise our voices about the need for radical lifestyle changes. And don’t neglect your inner Mary: She needs to keep on listening to Jesus.


Monday, Jul 22, 2019
FEAST OF MARY MAGDALENE

Call him teacher
She turned toward the risen Lord and called him “Teacher,” marking a significant pivot for human history. Mary Magdalene is first to experience the Resurrection, moving from a fear that death meant the end to a trust in ongoing life. In that moment, history moved from the resurrection of Jesus Christ to the universal Christ alive in the mystical body; from “head” knowledge to trusting a voice that recognizes intimate presence; from confusion to conviction—the authority of direct experience announcing the best news ever to the other disciples. Why Mary? Perhaps because she bracketed Jesus’ Passion with fragrant anointing or because she waited outside the tomb, weeping but hopeful.

Today’s Readings: Song of Songs 3:1-4a or 2 Corinthians 5:14-17; John 20:1-2, 11-18 (603). “I have seen the Lord.”

Tuesday, Jul 23, 2019
MEMORIAL OF BRIDGET, RELIGIOUS

Drama with a twist
Today’s first reading on the parting of the sea is so important that the church includes it in the Easter Vigil during a series of readings that summarize salvation history. Our hearts leap for the Israelites who are saved. Yet some may also wonder about the Egyptian families who mourned for their loved ones “cast into the sea.” The church teaches us that sin (such as enslavement of the Israelites) cut in many directions, often hurting the innocent—even those Egyptian soldiers who were obliged by their masters to pursue the Israelites. Can you refrain today from a bad habit, a sin, so it cannot hurt anyone, guilty or innocent?

Today’s Readings: Exodus 14:21—15:1; Matthew 12:46-50 (396). “For whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother."

Wednesday, Jul 24, 2019
MEMORIAL OF SHARBEL MAKHLUF, PRIEST

Choose the reign of God
Who, you may ask, was Sharbel Makhluf? Saint Sharbel, (sometimes spelled “Charbel”) was a 19th-century Maronite monk from Lebanon, the son of a mule driver. He lived a life of solitude, austerity, and prayer. After his death at the age of 70, miracles were attributed to his intercession. He was beatified in 1965 at the close of Vatican II by Pope Paul VI.

In his remarks, the pope said: “May he make us understand, in a world largely fascinated by wealth and comfort, the paramount value of poverty, penance, and asceticism, to liberate the soul in its ascent to God.” Many times a day God invites us to divest from the passing world and invest in the coming reign of God. What choices will you make today?

Today’s Readings: Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15; Matthew 13:1-9 (397). “Would that we had died at the Lord’s hand in the land of Egypt, as we sat by our fleshpots and ate our fill of bread!”

Thursday, Jul 25, 2019
FEAST OF JAMES, APOSTLE

Best friends forever
James and John, the sons of Zebedee, certainly stand out among the 12 apostles. Jesus nicknamed them the “Sons of Thunder,” and from the stories of them in scripture, the two men clearly had big, bold, fiery personalities. Jesus had to put them in their place more than once. And yet, they are also described as being in Jesus’ inner circle, an experience that changed them to the core—James became the first apostle to be martyred and John came to be known as the “apostle of love.” If you made Jesus your best friend, what might happen to you too?

Today’s Readings: 2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 20:20-28 (605). “Whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant.”

Friday, Jul 26, 2019
MEMORIAL OF JOACHIM AND ANNE, PARENTS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Treasure the stories of faith
Saints Anne and Joachim are known to Catholics as the parents of holy Mary. But if asked how we know that, we might be stumped. The truth is there is no mention of Anne and Joachim in the Bible. Their names came to us from a second-century document called the Gospel of James. The church does not recognize that document as a reliable source, but the document’s story of an angel’s promised child to an aging couple has become an accepted tradition in our Catholic heritage. Say a prayer today for those couples whose yearning for children goes unfulfilled.


Saturday, Jul 27, 2019
The harvest is plentiful
Jesus talked a lot about farming in parables to teach his followers. So why don’t Catholics have a harvest feast of some kind? Some folk traditions have popped up over the centuries: In Hungary, the Feast of the Assumption includes thanks for the harvest, and in Poland, harvest wreaths are blessed by priests. The Feast of Saint Martin of Tours on November 11 was celebrated in Europe in the Middle Ages much the same way Americans celebrate Thanksgiving Day today. But notwithstanding, the answer is, we don’t need one. Every Mass is the offering of sacrifice to God.

You’re welcome to celebrate Thanksgiving every day!

Today’s Readings: Exodus 24:3-8; Matthew 13:24-30 (400). “Collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.”
UPCOMING EVENTS

The Seminarians of the Diocese of Oakland will be hosting a Quo Vadis Day on Monday, July 22 from 9:30 AM - 6:30PM at the Diocese of Oakland Youth Retreat Center in Lafayette. This day of gathering is open to young men ages 13-18. If any young man who would like to attend, the Parish would be happy to sponsor in full!

Incredible Tour of India & Singapore
January 10-25, 2020
with Fr. Mathew Vellankal
Pastor of St. Bonaventure, Concord. For brochure contact: fathermat@gmail.com

Retrouvaille... A lifeline for marriages. Do you feel lost, frustrated, hurt, or angry with your spouse? Retrouvaille helps married couples heal and renew their marriages.

The next Oakland Retrouvaille Program begins August 2-4, 2019. To register: contact Gus or Edda Rivera at (510) 709-6063.

You Are Invited to celebrate the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene on Monday, July 22, 2019, at Christ the King Church, 8:00 a.m. Mass. Continental Breakfast follows. All are welcome. No charge. Questions? Animo3@pacbell.net.
### MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry/Organization</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Altar Servers</strong></td>
<td>Jack Watkins: 925-957-0437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beneath His Cross Apostolate</strong></td>
<td>Jessica Preciado: 925-354-1656</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bingo</strong></td>
<td>Don Brocca: 925-858-7330</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Catholic Youth Organization - CYO</strong></td>
<td>Gina Marks: 925-817-9429</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Communications</strong></td>
<td>Sylvia Lloren: 925-228-2230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion TBD</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Faith Formation - Religious Education (PreK-8th Grades)</strong></td>
<td>Andrea Watkins: Ext 30 925-228-2230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Finance Council</strong></td>
<td>Don Brocca: 925-229-4158 &amp; Dennis Koller: 925-335-9395</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grief /Card Ministry</strong></td>
<td>Mary Cook: 925-229-2665</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Guadalupe Society</strong></td>
<td>Guadalupe Cruz: 925-997-2432</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hospital/Homebound</strong></td>
<td>Tom Greerty: 925-228-4387</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hospitality</strong></td>
<td>Debbie Pelizzari: 925-370-3874</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ignite</strong></td>
<td>Cindy Buscaglia: 925-787-8396</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Italian Catholic Federation - ICF</strong></td>
<td>Tom Cook: 925-229-2665</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Knights of Columbus - K of C</strong></td>
<td>Rik Silva: 925-334-2429</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>La Comunidad Latina</strong></td>
<td>Lucia Cruz: 925-348-2620</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lectors</strong></td>
<td>Carlos Melendez: 510-385-0506</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Legion of Mary</strong></td>
<td>Bobby Kiefer: 925-658-1442</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Loaves &amp; Fishes</strong></td>
<td>Denice Silva: 925-372-0740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maintenance</strong></td>
<td>Troy Killorn: 925-228-2230</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mary Help of Christians - MHC</strong></td>
<td>Margarita Flores: 925-812-1279</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Music Ministry—Choir</strong></td>
<td>Troy Killorn: 916-539-3397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Respect Life</strong></td>
<td>Linda Easterday: 925-372-3845</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - RCIA</strong></td>
<td>Pauline Porter/Karen Glen: 925-228-2230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Safe Environment for Children Project - SECP</strong></td>
<td>Andrea Watkins: Ext 30 925-228-2230</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>San Lorenzo Ruiz Community - SLRC</strong></td>
<td>Esther Concepcion: 925-381-1835</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Social Awareness</strong></td>
<td>Anne Crisp: 925-356-8822</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Stewardship</strong></td>
<td>Karen Glen: 925-788-7716</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sociedad Portuguesa Rainha Santa Isabel - SPRSI</strong></td>
<td>Annette Liberty: 925-228-8428</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St. Vincent de Paul Society - SVdP</strong></td>
<td>Karen Glen: 925-788-7716</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ushers</strong></td>
<td>James McLaughlin: 925-228-1051</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Young Ladies Institute - YLI</strong></td>
<td>Peggy Aiello-Hagerthy: 925-228-2628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth Group/Confirmation (High School 9 to 12 Grades)</strong></td>
<td>Paul &amp; Jenny Holland: 925-890-6229</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

- **MONDAY—THURSDAY:** 8:30 AM - 1 PM
  - 2:00 PM - 5 PM
- **FRIDAY:** 8:30 AM - 1 PM

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