

Dear People of Divine Savior and our cherished visitors:

Last week we reflected on the prayers of a Pharisee and a tax collector. The Pharisee basically was praying to himself as he recounted all the positive things he had been doing. He also added how grateful he was that he wasn't like the sinners of his day. The tax collector, on the other hand, simply said, "God, be merciful to me a sinner." Jesus would typically stop such a parable with words like that, leaving the people of his day as well as all of us to reflect on the merits of each prayer. The gospel writer added his own comments.

The point is that the tax collector took a very important step and acknowledged his dependence on God for mercy. What we don't know is whether he did or did not accept God's mercy and change his behavior, something not easily done if he continued to be a tax collector. Some people use the Sacrament of Reconciliation in similar ways, confessing sins, being blessed in the name of God's mercy, but then going back to sinful behavior. For some who are heavily into an addiction, celebrating the Sacrament may in fact be part of their addiction as they go through the motions but fail to change their behavior.

We have a very different example in today's Gospel. We have another tax collector, a chief one at that, who was also a wealthy man. We notice that Jesus did not focus on any unholy behavior but simply invited Himself to Zacchaeus' house. When the townspeople grumbled about Jesus' going to such a sinner's house (we can't help but notice how they had no difficulty focusing on what they judged to be sinful behavior), we notice that Zacchaeus did not agree with the grumblers and say to Jesus that he was really not worthy to have Jesus stay with him.

Just as last week's Pharisee and tax collector were in the house of God's Presence, neither of them allowed this encounter with God's sacred Presence to change their lives. All Ziggy wanted to do was to get a glimpse of Jesus; that was enough for Jesus to take the opportunity to lead Ziggy to the next step, which Ziggy took. Given that this merciful encounter with Jesus affected Zacchaeus in a healing way, he realized that to bring the sacred meeting full circle, he would choose to change his ways by what he decided to do with his money. It is the same with us. When we admit our unholy ways, we pray that we can accept God's mercy that is extended to us even before we ask and allow God's goodness to help us change our lives.

Many of us realize that our predominant unholy behaviors are really habits and we tend to beat ourselves up for the constant repetition of them. This might be a case where the actual sin is in being so hard on ourselves instead of reminding ourselves that despite the repetition of non-serious sins we continue to be loved as God's precious people. The more we remind ourselves of how we continue to be loved the more likely we are to see gradually a reduction in our undesirable behavior. It surely beats wasting energy on criticizing ourselves. We want to keep in mind the words of our Psalm: "the Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness."

~Fr. Roman

Schedule for the week of November 3—November 8th

Table with 3 columns: Time, Activity, Location. Rows include Sunday-3rd (RCIA Inquiry, Discovery Session), Monday-4th (Fr. Roman's small faith group), Tuesday-5th (Reflections of the Word), Wednesday-6th (SVdP Meeting), Thursday-7th (Prayer Shawl Ministry).

The Children's Choir will be singing at the 9:30am Mass this Sunday, November 3rd.

CHRISTMAS BASKET Applications are now available to RECEIVE a Christmas Basket. They can be obtained from your child's elementary school, from parish faith formation leaders, parish website, or from the parish office. Confidentiality is strictly maintained.



SPONSOR Family applications are also available in the vestibule, the church office and via the parish website; these applications have a bright orange sheet attached. Questions about the Christmas Basket Ministry? Call 916-220-2604 or email: christmasbasket@divinesavior.com

All information is available in both English and en Español.

SECOND COLLECTION Next week our parish will take up the Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS). The guiding mission of the AMS is to provide the sacraments—and the re-affirming Word of Christ—to the men and women serving in our armed forces, patients in VA Medical Centers, civilians working for the federal government beyond U.S. borders, and the families of these populations. To provide these services they need your help—the AMS receives no federal funding. Special envelopes are available in the Vestibule.

MASS INTENTIONS

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, Intention. Lists various prayer requests for November 2nd through 10th, including names like Bernard & Olympia Gonzales, Long Ha, Jana Castillo, etc.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Table with 2 columns: Day, Readings. Lists scriptural readings for Monday through Sunday, such as Rom 11:29-36, Ps 69:30-31, etc.

Please pray for those who are sick, in pain or recovery, or in need of spiritual healing. (Names will appear for 3 weeks unless an extension is requested.)

- List of names for prayer: Alice Amantea, Bill Amantea, Sheldon Anderson Jr, Taryn Benson, Eduardo Bravo, Lauri Comly, Madeleine Crepin, Michael W. Donner, Reggie Faulk, Ruben Gomez, Stephany Hammer, Bridgette Hubbard, Michele Kinaan, Angelita Martinez, Allen D. Nelson, Shirley Newton, Patty Nicholson, Karen Paddock, Eleanor Peterson, Roxanne Rosales, Gerry Ryde, Tom Sekel, Shari Sigl, Joan Spagnolo, John Wick.

Please pray for the souls of those who have died:

- James Rafferty, Rich Alway

—For these and all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

VOCATIONS CROSS

Sunday, November 3rd at the 9:30am Mass, Steven and Sharon Boyd will take home the Vocations Cross to pray daily for Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and the Religious Life.



Pray for our Military Personnel wherever duty calls them to serve, homeland or overseas. Adrienne Aleschus, James Aleschus, John Aleschus, Logan Amos, Sean Amos, James Atwood, Andrew Bauer, Jordan Biasotti, Anthony Brooks, Jonathan Brooks, Jacob Camarillo, Aimee Chabot, Ephrem Choi, Elsie Cruz, Matt David, Travis Dardis, Derek Deatherage, David DeLaCruz, Alisen Dowell, Joe Downey, Andrew Durham, Brian Eberhard, Katharine Ernst & A.J. Smith, Tom Feyoe, Mathew Fox, Timothy Fox, Joseph Gast, Tyler Gedstad, Ereik Hartsell, Jeremy Herbert, Susan Hocker, Yutaro Hosaka, Ben Isla, Tyler Kenobbie, William Kraintz, Tyler Kraintz, Andy Kuehn, Dayna Landry, Charles Philip Lopez, Kelly Mancini, Doran Martin, John Masterson, Bennet D. McGrane, Garrett McMann, Aaron McMurray, Francis Montojo, Joseph M. Paddock, Nathan Paddock, Chris Payant, David Petisor, Darin Pillman, Tim Pillman, Rachael Portoman, Logan Rasmussen, Trey Rasmussen, Tim Reid, Neal Ridge, Tony Rodriguez, Nicholas Roha, Ryan Roux, Matthew Sandoval, April Skou, Jacob and Nikki Steeb, James Thatche, Jadyne Trujillo, Aimee Vigil, Noah Villarreal, Danny Walsh, David Wentling, Kyle William and Brian Wright, Alexander Wrinkle.

Parish Announcements

Year over Year Plate Collection Performance			
	Week # 17	YTD thru Week # 17	Online giving
2019-2020 Year	\$ 12,301	\$ 279,204	\$ 40
2018-2019 Year	\$ 12,067	\$266,857	
October Building Fund	\$8,033		

The Parish Financial Statement for fiscal year 2018- 2019 is available in the vestibule, the parish office or on the parish website.

Ministry Opportunities



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Mary at mtthmaryk@outlook.com. We take communion to those unable to get out to Mass for an extended period, and we serve 7 assisted living facilities along with doing private communion requests--made through the parish office.

MOVING ON FELLOWSHIP

Next meeting **Monday, Nov. 4th, 10:30am**, no-host brunch, Annie's Restaurant (back room), Beech & Greenback. Very informal meeting of Divine Savior widows and widowers who try to offer support, encouragement, practical help and prayer to the bereaved. This is the month we remember those departed. If you wish, bring a picture of your deceased loved one(s) and share a special memory with us. For more information call Pat at 530-307-2147.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

If you have the talent to knit or crochet, please consider joining our prayer shawl ministry. We meet twice a month (1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1-3pm) in the Parish Office. Please contact Nancy Begley at 916-705-5464 for more information.

Ministry Happenings

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE SOCIETY

Day of the Dead (Dia de los Muertos)/All Souls Day Celebration -- The Our Lady of Guadalupe Society is pleased to announce that the annual Community Ofrenda is available through November 10th. All parishioners are invited to bring photos of their deceased loved ones to place on the tables in remembrance and celebration of their lives. Please be sure to write your name/phone number on the back of the picture frame. You can also write their name in the parish's Book of the Dead.



FAIR TRADE COFFEE

Sales will take place next **Saturday and Sunday, November 9th & 10th** at each Mass in the Vestibule.



Faith Formation News

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Divine Savior, you are the best! When we need help, you respond. Thank you for your yes!

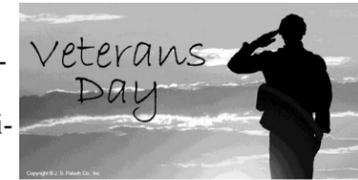
We need leaders for Children's Liturgy of the Word. This wonderful ministry is ideally offered each Sunday at the 9:30am Mass. Can you help one or two Sundays a month? Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could also offer it during the 5:30pm Sunday evening Mass?

Please call or email Elaine for further information 559-307-4216 or elaine@divinesavior.com

Parish Announcements

DID YOU KNOW

We invite you to stop by the Del Table in the vestibule and write a prayer for a veteran or their family. These prayers will be brought forward at Mass next weekend October 9/10. We will also have a military tribute to all veterans and spouses at the beginning of Mass. Don't miss it!



If you are reading this and it looks blurry, just a reminder that we have reading glasses available for your use in the vestibule. There are also ponchos in case you get caught in the rain that we are all praying for.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Prepare for the coming of Christ with a joyful celebration in song and stories for the whole family. Sarah Hart in concert at Divine Savior on **Friday, December 6th at 7:00pm in the church.** **Don't forget to invite your friends and family.** There is no charge. Find out more about Sarah at <https://www.sarahhart.com/>

Parish Announcements

Do you want to help plan parish social events and activities for all ages?

The first of our four "Discovery sessions" based on the parish survey will focus on social ministries. **Please join us TODAY, Sunday, Nov. 3rd at 1pm in Hospitality** as we share ideas and plan future Divine Savior events. Your input will make a difference! All are welcome!

ADVENT ACTIVITIES



FAMILY FRIENDLY ADVENT CELEBRATION

Divine Savior is hosting a family friendly Advent Celebration on **Saturday, December 7th from 2 to 4 pm** in Hospitality and Hall A. Come celebrate with fun and fellowship as we prepare our hearts for Christmas with a variety of activities, crafts, and music for all ages! For more information contact Laini Harris at greeneyedhockeygal@yahoo.com. Be sure to check the bulletin in the coming weeks for more info!

This Winter's Eve

An Advent/Christmas Celebration of Stories & Songs with Sarah Hart and special guest PJ Anderson

Prepare for the coming of Christ with a joyful celebration for the whole family