

Dear People of Divine Savior and our Cherished Visitors:

This is the last Sunday before the beginning of Lent, which we celebrate this Wednesday (Ash Wednesday). We also reflect on the last segment of the "Sermon on the Mount". This sermon makes up the entirety of chapter five, a segment dedicated particularly to Jesus' expanding on the law of Moses. This last segment also includes the words, "So, be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." Our first reading includes a similar statement, "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy".

The Jewish religious leaders interpreted those statements in a unique, but unfortunate way. They took it upon themselves to decide who was fit to belong to the community to keep it as holy as possible. As we will reflect in the weeks ahead, there were many people who were not allowed into the community for a wide variety of reasons. Sadly, a similar situation prevails today. Jesus mission was to establish a community into which all are welcome, regardless of their seeming unholiness. Pope Francis reminds us that we are to follow the example of Jesus and be welcoming to anyone. Some may come to us with lives that are quite at variance with the commandments, church teaching and other rules. People tend to change within the context of a community that welcomes them, especially a community whose members admit to their own shortcomings.

Signs of holiness involve how we deal with people who are violent towards us and how we relate with those that we consider our enemies. In both cases, Jesus calls us to be non-violent. Jesus has surely set the example for us. Given all the efforts on the part of various people to dishonor Him, Jesus held the high ground consistently. Even when He was arrested, Jesus made it clear it was not the time for violent retribution. Despite being brutally tortured, forced to carry His cross, and being crucified, Jesus offered no resistance. Even when in excruciating pain while hanging on the cross and being mocked and tormented, Jesus did not respond in kind. When one of the criminals hanging next to Him asked for mercy, Jesus responded to Him with kindness and mercy.

How did a human being remain non-violent through all that suffering? Our second reading reminds us how we can imitate Jesus. We are to remember that we are temples of God and that the Holy Spirit dwells within us. Relying on the Holy Spirit, we do our best to keep focus on our identity as the vessels in which God dwells, and with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit to guide us, we do our best to make choices to diffuse situations in which evil is done to us. When Jesus refers to turning the other cheek, being sued for our garments, being pressed into service or giving to the one who asks, these are examples that fit very well at the time of Jesus.

The question for us is what behavior will we engage in when people treat us in evil ways? Jesus calls us to do whatever it takes to keep from offering resistance of any kind. What Jesus is asking is that we find every way possible to act lovingly even to those we consider our enemies. Of course, this calls us to examine how long we consider someone an enemy instead of seeing them as another beloved person of God with whom we have serious concerns.

~Fr. Roman

Parish Announcements

Schedule for the week of February 24th—February 28th

Table with columns for time, activity, and location. Includes sections for Monday-February 24th, Wednesday-February 26th, Thursday-February 27th, and Friday-February 28th. Ends with a reminder: 'We have a 5:30pm Sunday evening Mass every week.'

MASS INTENTIONS

Table listing mass intentions for February 22nd through March 1st, including names and times.

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, Sheldon Anderson Jr, Sharon Backus, Talon Bonanno, Eduardo Bravo, Lauri Comly, Noreen Davis, Michael W. Donner, JoAnn Elder, Dorothy Feldman, Bud Green, J.J. Hall, Bridgette Hubbard, Michele Kinaan, Vicente Meno, Shirley Newton, John Padden, Gerrie Parker, Eleanor Peterson, Jeanne Renn, Roxanne Rosales, Gerry Ryden, Tom Sekel, Shari Sigl, Sandy Stoler, Bill Amantea, Jenny Azbill, Marlena Beyer, Julie Bouse, Pat Collier, Madeleine Crepin, Nenita dela Cruz, Carol Dziedzic, Reggie Faulk, Gladys Gonsalves, Gary Green, Sandra Harris, Martin Jennings, Kirk Leavitt, Allen D. Nelson, Patty Nicholson, Karen Paddock, Linda Parker, Gladys Reilly, Christopher Revak, Madeline Rose, Donna Schulte, Lee "Lucky" Shaver, Roberta Sly, John Wick.

Please pray for the souls of those who have died:

- Rhyss Undajon-Haskell, Sara Hill, Rosemary Nealy

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

VOCATIONS CROSS

Sunday, February 23rd at the 7:45am Mass, Barbara Tarsoly will take home the Vocations Cross to pray daily for Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and the Religious Life.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-11a, 23; Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11

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, Ereka Hartsell, Michael Haug, Jeremy Herbert, Susan Hocker, Yutaro Hosaka, Ben Isla, William Kraitz, Tyler Kraitz, 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, Joshua Paige, 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, Davis Wood, Brian Wright and Alexander Wrinkle. If your loved one is out of the military please call Mary at 916-988-4984 to have them removed.

CRAB FEED 2020 SOLD OUT!!! If you would like to be added to the waiting list, please call the church office, 916-989-7400. Includes image of a crab and palm trees.

DONATIONS NEEDED Thank you to all those who have already donated or purchased tickets to this wonderful event. We are still looking for GIFT CARDS and WINE, WINE, WINE for our FUN, EXCITING RAFFLE GAMES. Donations may be dropped off at the parish office or call 916-989-7400 to schedule a pick up. Includes images of gift cards and a gift box.

Parish Announcements

DID YOU KNOW—

You have four opportunities to receive Ashes on Ash Wednesday, February 26th:

Liturgy of the Word & Ash Distribution
6:30am & 12:00pm

Mass & Ash Distribution
8:30am & 7:00pm

**LITURGY CORNER—
FAST, ABSTAIN AND RECONCILE**

Although the need for conversion is ongoing, during the Lenten season the entire Universal Catholic Church unites in communal acts of penance through abstaining from meat, fasting from excess food intake, and reconciling oneself with Christ and his Church through the Sacrament of Reconciliation and also all informal opportunities to reconcile with others. In order that we might participate fully in this Lenten season with all our Catholic brothers and sisters throughout the world, the Church states the following regarding Abstinence and Fasting:

Abstinence: All persons, 14 years and older, are to **abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.** When considering your meals, keep in mind that only fish and shellfish are not considered meat. Beef, pork, chicken and turkey are meat.

Fasting: Everyone from ages 18 to 59 is to **fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.** Voluntary fasting on other weekdays of Lent, especially on Wednesdays and Fridays, is highly recommended. Fasting is generally understood to mean that one full meal may be eaten. Two other small meals may be eaten, but together they should not equal a full meal, and eating between meals breaks the fast.

Reconciliation: Our parish priests are available every Saturday, year-round, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) with you, from 3-4pm in the church, in the Reconciliation Room located to the left of the altar area. Our Lenten Communal Reconciliation Service will be held on April 3 at 7pm in the church. Multiple priests will be available.

Parish Announcements

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The Annual Catholic Appeal is THIS weekend Feb. 22/23 and we will once again have the opportunity to walk with others as Jesus asks us to do. Together as Catholics, the Appeal is a way we can all help in a powerful way. Many of our sisters and brothers in the North State have endured catastrophic natural disasters. Others still struggle on the margins of communities.

Let us remember them and that each of our gifts, no matter the amount, really do make a difference in someone's life. Last year our parish received \$17,622 back from the appeal that we used to support our Community Meal ministry, St. Vincent de Paul and Laundry Love. Please prayerfully consider what you can give this year.



RECYCLING THIS SUNDAY AFTER ALL THE MORNING MASSES

Where: back parking lot near the dumpster

What: ALL CA CRV Aluminum, Glass and Plastic water bottles, beverage containers and cans. **We no longer accept any number 1 plastic containers.**

Why: Salvatorian Haiti Project



Parish Announcements

Year over Year Plate Collection Performance

	Week # 33	YTD thru Week # 33
2019-2020 Year	\$ 20,884	\$ 609,421
2018-2019 Year	\$ 19,043	\$ 583,505

MOVING ON FELLOWSHIP

Monday, March 2, - 10:30am
Annie's Restaurant (back room) Beech & Greenback
No-host Brunch

We are an informal group of Divine Savior widows and widowers who welcome all those who have lost a loved one. We offer support, friendship, prayer and practical help to the bereaved to assist them in "moving on". For more information, call Pat Biasotti, 530-307-2147

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SOCIAL

The 2nd Annual St. Patrick's Parish Social is on **Sunday, March 15th** —in honor of St. Patrick we will have a parish wide ice cream social with Irish music and games for the entire family. It is a free event being held in Hall A & B on **Sunday, March 15th** from 4 - 5:30pm. All are welcome! Come join the fun.



DIVINE SAVIOR'S ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

March 27- 29 2020
Christ the King Retreat Center, Citrus Heights

Registration forms are available in the Church vestibule. Call the Retreat Center 916-725-4720 or register online at: <https://christthekingretreatcenter.org/>

Questions or additional info, call Parishioner, Cathy Conte, 916-962-0302 or email, cathyconte@yahoo.com.

Ministry Opportunities

MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

In this ministry we take the Eucharist to the homebound, some at home and some in local assisted living facilities. We thank the many dedicated members of this ministry and we welcome others to join. If you are interested in more info, please email Mary at mtthmaryk@outlook.com.



Parish Announcements

**BIG DAY OF SERVICE 2020
SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020**

Join hundreds of your neighbors from Orangevale and Fair Oaks for one big day of community service. The first event in 2018 was a HUGE success with 1,000 people participating. In 2019, Divine Savior hosted the morning rally & kick-off and the event grew to almost 1,200 volunteers. **This year will be even bigger, and for the first time, Divine Savior will have a handful of projects going on in the Giving Garden.** If you would like to work specifically on the Divine Savior Giving Garden projects contact Debbie Coughlin at debmic15@gmail.com To find out more information about all the projects go to: <https://www.bigdayofservice.com/page/event>. You can register and sign up to help on one of the projects in the community.



SPECIALTY CAKES NEEDED FOR THE CRAB FEED DESSERT TABLE

We are looking for specialty dessert bakers to donate their special desserts for inclusion at the Crab Feed Dessert Table. Please call the Parish Office at 916-989-7400 if you can help.



Adult Faith Formation News

ARE YOU THINKING OF BECOMING CATHOLIC



If you are thinking of becoming Catholic, there are RCIA sessions, called "Inquiry." In a warm and accepting environment, you are welcome to share your questions. If you are interested, please contact the parish office 916-989-7400 or sharon@divinesavior.com



Please join us during Lent for Stations of the Cross with a soup supper to follow. 6:30pm on Fridays in the Church

- February 28th hosted by: Bridges/OLG Society
- March 6th hosted by: RCIA
- March 13th hosted by: S.A.V.E. Ministry
- March 20th hosted by: CFF/RCIAA
- March 27th hosted by: Parish Pastoral Council

As an added *positive* action, **BYOD (Bring Your Own Dishes! And non-disposable utensils, cups and cloth napkins!)** to Stations and Soup. In doing so, you serve as protectors of God's gift to us – the Earth – by reducing the mounds of paper and plastic that pollute our oceans and earth.