

July 12, 2020

Dear Parishioners of Divine Savior and our cherished visitors:

Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 65:10-14; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-9

This weekend, and for the next two, we will be reflecting on three parables that Matthew included in this section of his Gospel. Given the last words of this Sunday's Gospel, "whoever has ears ought to hear," we get the idea that the seed symbolizes the very Word of God. In effect, Jesus is talking about Himself and how He has or has not been received by those hearing His words.

Last weekend, we reflected on how we allow Jesus to clear away what interferes with our understanding of God as Jesus revealed the true nature of God; likewise, we regain a more intimate connection with the "little one" that God created. Jesus promised to clear away the crud that has accumulated on our inner child that keeps us from experiencing as fully as possible the love and tenderness that Jesus made known. At the same time, this cleansing allows us to be (more) attentive to the Holy Spirit who dwells in the depths of our being. We cannot clearly hear the gentle whisper of the Holy Spirit if Her wisdom is muffled by the guilt and shame and hurt and pain we are holding inside.

One way to image what Jesus calls the path in today's Gospel is a heart so calcified by what we have not allowed Jesus to clear away that the Word has little if any effect. The rocky ground and the thorn-filled area would be images of a heart and soul and intuition that are more ready to take in Jesus' Word, but as Jesus states so clearly, with the unresolved issues interfering with the Word's doing what God intends, we are unable to experience transformation despite Jesus' best efforts. Given the power of the Word, for all we know, it has at least some effect on the built-up debris, softening it even a little, putting little cracks into its hardness.

The more we allow Jesus to clear up and heal the built up hurt and pain, the more likely His Word can take root within us and, given the good seed that His Word is, we can begin to experience new life. To the degree to which our hearts and souls are cleansed, the greater the possibility that we will be able to accompany others in helping them to let Jesus clear away debris.

How blessed our community can be the more we build mutual trust so that we will be inclined to let others in on our piled-up pain, heartache and hurt. How strong our bonds of community can become the more we share with one another how Jesus' Word is transforming our inner being so that we can really feel the New Life that Jesus wants for us and give thanks for it.

We know that there are many hurting people in our world. We know that what is true for our interior is just as true for others. Some are so hardened and embittered because of life that they simple want to be left to their misery. But we never want to underestimate how, through us, we can encourage others to let the gentle rain of God's love soften up even the most jaded individuals. We never know how Jesus' Word, spoken into any of God's beloved ones, accomplishes the end for which Jesus intended.

~Fr. Roman

## Deepening Our Christian Faith - a small faith group study with Fr. Marcel

Interested in deepening your faith, join Fr. Marcel's small faith zoom sessions beginning on Sunday, **July 12<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Sessions will continue weekly on Sundays from 2-3pm.** For more information or to join this group, email Fr. Marcel at [frmarcel@divinesavior.com](mailto:frmarcel@divinesavior.com)

## OUTDOOR, DRIVE-UP COMMUNION

For those who participate at home via live-stream, we are offering outdoor, drive-up Communion on Sundays immediately following 11:30 Mass.



## The Many faces of ProLife

Voting is the primary means in which Catholics, "rooted in conscience and in faith, can participate in the just ordering of society and the state," says Bishop McElroy of the San Diego Diocese noting that Pope Francis says that political lives "must be seen as an essential element of our personal call to holiness." For Bishop McElroy's talk on Conscience, Candidates and Discipleship in voting in the 2020 election, [click here](#).

Typically, all of us receive much material pertaining to elections. Please be careful to notice who is providing these materials and whom they represent. Some purport to be Catholic, but do not represent our Holy Father or our Bishops. For additional reading, please go to the parish website [click here](#).



**Please pray for those who are sick**, in pain or recovery, or in need of spiritual healing.

Bill Amantea  
Talon Bonanno  
Eduardo Bravo  
Lauri Comly  
Noreen Davis  
Carol Dziedzic  
Reggie Faulk  
Linda Goulet  
Sandra Harris  
Martin Jennings  
Carl Larson  
Vicente Meno  
Allen D. Nelson  
Shirley Newton  
Jacque Olson  
Karen Paddock  
Gladys Reilly  
Roxanne Rosales  
Gerry Ryden  
Tom Sekel  
Isrrael Lopez Silva  
Stella Zipp

Sheldon Anderson Jr.  
Julie Bouse  
Pat Collier  
Madeleine Crepin  
Michael W. Donner  
JoAnn Elder  
Dorothy Feldman  
Bud Green  
Bridgette Hubbard  
Michele Kinaan  
Betty Marmon  
Mauri Murillo  
Glen Newton  
Patty Nicholson  
John Padden  
Linda Parker  
Christopher Revak  
Madeline Rose  
Donna Schulte  
Shari Sigl  
Jim Turner

*Please pray for the souls of those  
who have died:*

Jack May Fred Quiman

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

## SENIOR WORKSHOPS

Senior Care Solutions is now offering their Senior Workshops through Zoom sessions.

*A Daughter's Journey* presentation is on Thursday, July 23 from 10- 11:30am

To register [click here:](#)

More info is available on the Senior Care Solutions website <http://www.seniorcs.com/>



*Lectors Ushers Tech  
Temperature Checkers*

Are you participating at Mass in the church or thinking you are ready to return? We would love to have you join our team of Liturgical Ministers. To volunteer or for more information email [elaine@divinesavior.com](mailto:elaine@divinesavior.com)

Called to *Serve*

## Going Deeper with Fr. Roman

Be sure to watch the last two editions of "Going Deeper" with Fr. Roman:

A Childlike Faith: [Click here:](#)

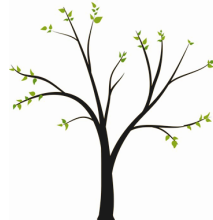
Seeds of Faith: [Click here:](#)



## Seeking Prayer Tree Team Members!

Have some time on your hands? Still staying at home a lot? Join us in prayer for the intentions listed on our website and in the Divine Savior Book of Prayer. We ask that Prayer Tree Team members pray every day for these intentions - you can utilize whatever form of prayer is most

comfortable for you....offer a rosary, attend Mass virtually or in person and offer a prayer before Mass begins, compose your own prayers and read the list aloud, say a quick Our Father while waiting at a stoplight, post the list on your refrigerator. . . Prayer is POWERFUL: never underestimate what God can do! Web page: [click here](#) Contact [Caroline@divinesavior.com](mailto:Caroline@divinesavior.com) for more info!



## Financial Support of the Parish

I want to express profound gratitude for the steady stream of contributions by many parishioners to our parish. Much appreciation and abundant blessing to everyone helping in any small or big way. You can mail in donations, drop in parish mail box or those who want to switch to electronic giving, please go to our parish website <https://www.divinesavior.com/giving>. Please note that we have added a new option, "text giving."

**Fr. Roman Mueller, S.D.S.**

## QUO VADIS (WHERE ARE YOU GOING?)

**Retreat for Boys is going VIRTUAL via Zoom!**

Boys ages 13-17 will learn about the Priesthood, Diaconate and Married Life through daily on-line sessions. Using this virtual tool, there will be time for fellowship, games and prayer about their vocation. For more info contact the Diocese of Sacramento Office of Vocations at 916-733-0258 or email [msmith@scd.org](mailto:msmith@scd.org). Register by July 24 at <https://scd.formstack.com/forms/quovadis>

**Cost:** \$10 donation (for expenses involved).