



Dear Parishioners of Divine Savior and our cherished visitors:

Isaiah 55:1-3; Ps. 145: 8-9, 15-18; Romans 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 14:13-21

We will return to more parables in six weeks. In the meantime, we reflect on various teachings and actions of Jesus. In today's Gospel, we see that Jesus is affected at hearing of the death of John the Baptist. We can only imagine that Jesus realized ever more fully that if John were murdered for speaking truth to power, Jesus could very likely suffer the same treatment. So Jesus naturally wanted to go off by Himself to reflect on what John's death meant and to spend quiet time in prayer, during which time His and our Heavenly Father would reassure Jesus that He was beloved.

Focused as Jesus was on self-care, His heart was nonetheless moved with pity when He saw the vast crowd that had gathered at the pier. We can easily relate. Medical personnel look forward to a much-needed break as another patient arrives, in drastic need of their care. Parents who are exhausted but see that their children need their affection and time. Spouses who meet each other at home after work to find each other drained because of all the extra strain that is put on all of us.

Then, our phone rings and we know that it is someone else expecting something of us. In Jesus' case, His disciples allow the approaching darkness of the day to dim their mind. This leads to their burdening Jesus with their lack of creativity. Recognizing the reality that the people needed to eat, the only thing they come up with is to dismiss the people. After all, the people were silly enough to decide to come out here. If the disciples' pity had been anything like Jesus' pity was, it certainly evaporated. It can remind us of how burdensome it is when elected officials simply do not seem to grasp the expansive needs of people and fail to provide the supplies and relief needed.

Just as Jesus expected more from His disciples, so we expect more from our elected officials. Like the disciples, our elected officials bicker with each other about God knows what. But the people are hungry! Jesus shows us how to take care of people in need. What others see as limited or not enough, Jesus takes and prays a blessing. By doing so, He acknowledged God's goodness in a spirit of deep gratitude for all that God offers us. We can feel helpless, unable to find ways to reach decisions to help the needy, or can remain too lazy or disinterested to think beyond our nose; or, we can acknowledge that we are part of something immensely bigger than ourselves and choose to be thankful to God for all of His blessings. Our second reading asks "what can separate us from the love of God" revealed by Jesus. The simple answer is our inability or our choice not to be grateful.

Today's first reading is an apt description of what is available in our country. There is no reason for anyone to be thirsty or hungry if we use well and share and make available to all what God provides in abundance. We have no idea of the goodness we can bring about as we acknowledge and renew our conviction that what is primary is our relationship with God who shows us how to be gracious, merciful, compassionate and kind.

~Fr. Roman

Please join us as we show our appreciation for **Sharon Laitinen** this **Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>** immediately following the 9am Mass and outdoor Communion. Sharon will be there to wave and receive well wishes.

**Let's all come show her our love!**

## Parish Five Year Strategic plan

Divine Savior is pleased to publish the **Divine Savior Catholic Church Strategic Plan** [Click here](#) to view. This plan is the result of responses from a 2019 parishioner survey designed to shape a common vision for our parish community.

Why publish this when the parish is still operating with live stream Mass only and ministries are meeting using Zoom? Simply put, planning must continue in order that our parish can stay ahead of the many changes we are faced with in our parish, pandemic or not. With a plan in place, decision makers can adapt, adjust, and, when appropriate, implement parts of the plan.

In the near future, our Parish Finance Council will provide a Fiscal Year 2019/20 Financial Report. Due to strong parishioner stewardship, tremendous work by office staff working with the Sacramento Diocese to stay financially healthy (e.g., Paycheck Protection Program money) and making painful but necessary budget cuts, our parish is still executing its mission and will be entering the new fiscal year with zero debt.

~ Parish Strategic Planning team: Steve Roberts, Mike Hackett, Michele Wong, Tom Jones, Dan Freeman.

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

Sheldon Anderson Jr.	Talon Bonanno
Julie Bouse	Eduardo Bravo
Pat Collier	Lauri Comly
Noreen Davis	Michael W. Donner
Rosemary Dubé	Carol Dzedzic
JoAnn Elder	Reggie Faulk
Dorothy Feldman	Linda Goulet
Tiffany Gragg	Bud Green
Sandra Harris	Bridgette Hubbard
Martin Jennings	Diane Jones
Carl Larson	Betty Marmon
Vicente Meno	Mauri Murillo
Allen D. Nelson	Glen Newton
Shirley Newton	Patty Nicholson
Jacque Olson	John Padden
Karen Paddock	Linda Parker
Gladys Reilly	Christopher Revak
Roxanne Rosales	Madeline Rose
Gerry Ryden	Donna Schulte
Tom Sekel	Shari Sigl
Isrrael Lopez Silva	Dorothy Wong
Stella Zipp	

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

Bill Amantea                      Mary Knepshild

*—For these and all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God,*

## Liturgy News

We will celebrate outside Mass in August beginning on Sunday, August 9th at 7:30am. All current guidelines will remain, **including to RSVP** for attendance, wearing a mask, maintaining physical distancing before, during and after Mass, and in addition we would ask that everyone bring a chair. [Click here](#) to RSVP.

## Going Deeper with Fr. Roman

Be sure to watch this weeks edition of “Going Deeper” with Fr. Roman: Loaves & Fishes. [Click here:](#)



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

Sundays at 2pm, all are welcome to virtually attend Fr. Marcel's small faith group discussion. Together, lets deepen our Christian faith.

Please email Fr. Marcel for zoom meeting info or further information at [frmarcel@divinesavior.com](mailto:frmarcel@divinesavior.com)

## Collection for the Church in Latin America

Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, [click here](#)

## Honoring the Dignity of God’s People

### The ENVIRONMENT

How concerned am I about caring for the earth? On a scale of 1 (low) to 10 (high), where would I place myself? Did you know that 59% of the world’s resources are used by only 10% of the world’s population? A key Catholic principle is for “universal destination of material goods.” To begin exploring, take the carbon footprint survey. Go to [footprintnetwork.org](http://footprintnetwork.org). There are new terms describing this issue – ecocide and ecojustice. Start learning in order to take action and move up on that scale towards a 10. [Click here](#) to go to Divine Savior’s Social Justice page of the website and look under Care of God’s Creation.

*“God . . . took the man and settled him in the garden. . . to cultivate and care for it.” (Gen 2:15)*



## FAITH FORMATION ENROLLMENT

The Faith formation team continues to explore all of the ways that the Holy Spirit can creatively guide our ministries. Whether virtually or in person, know that continuing to form your children/teens in the faith is our utmost priority. To enroll [click here](#).

For more information about children's ministry, including sacrament preparation, please contact Jen Shaver at [jennifer@divinesavior.com](mailto:jennifer@divinesavior.com),

For information about middle school ministry contact Brian Collier at [brian@divinesavior.com](mailto:brian@divinesavior.com)

For information about Confirmation for 8th - 10th grade, please contact Debbie Sultan at [lifeteen@divinesavior.com](mailto:lifeteen@divinesavior.com)

For children ages 7 - 17 who have nor been baptized or teens who have not made their First Communion contact Jen Shaver at [jennifer@divinesavior.com](mailto:jennifer@divinesavior.com)

*growing in faith together*



Golf is one activity we can still play! Have you signed up for the 2020 Knights Charity

Through

Golf Tournament on Saturday, September 28th? [Click here](#) to learn more about signing up or to sponsor a hole!



## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Divine Savior invites everyone to Eucharistic Adoration following the livestream of daily Mass on Friday, August 7th. Adoration begins immediately after Mass and continues until 10:30am.

