4th MARCH 22, 2020
SUNDAY OF LENT
“Do you believe in the Son of Man?”
- Jn 9:35b

Dear Friends,
The students here at St. Mary School often sing a special song during student Masses. The words have been running through my head the last several days, and I believe they can become an important part of all our prayers during these trying days:

Lord I need you, oh I need you
Every hour I need you
My one defense, my righteousness
O God, how I need you

As the situation with the virus continues to impact us, let us remember to always turn to the Lord in trust and faith, knowing that Jesus, the Great Healer, is the source of all our health and safety. May we pray for one another throughout the world, that Christ will give us swift and complete healing.

Father Fred

The annual collection for Catholic Relief Services would have been taken up this weekend. You can use the Online Giving option to donate on our website (www.stmary-wc.org). For more than 75 years, CRS has been providing expertise and compassion to the very poorest of our brothers and sisters in more than 100 countries, and it’s all because of you. Your gift changes lives, families and communities. Please be generous.

The parish office is closed until April 7 or until further notice. The number of bulletins available in the church will be minimal. We encourage you to read the bulletin online, on our website: www.stmary-wc.org.

If you have not been receiving email updates from the parish, you can sign up on our website to receive emails. On the website home page, click on WELCOME, then on JOIN OUR COMMUNITY, then on the BLUE SHEEP on your left.

You can also use the ONLINE GIVING option on the website to submit your church contributions if you normally give through the collection basket in church.

Additionally, if you would like to have the bulletin emailed to you directly from our publisher, J. S. Paluch, you can sign up at https://ebulletin.jspaluch.com.

“Do you believe in the Son of Man?” Jesus wants to motivate each one of us to see the truth. After developing a relationship with Jesus, the blind man “sees” as someone very special. The Pharisees, due to the blindness caused by their ignorance, prejudice, and need for self-preservation, still remain blind. Presuppositions, prejudices, assumptions, and our needs can easily blind us to truth. We see what we want or need to see and not what is really there. In addition, our stubbornness continues to convince us that we are right and that our vision is perfect. Only God can complete the picture. Look around at our world. So much of what is happening today is due to the reluctance of folks to allow themselves to be stretched and brought to see what is really there. Many react to what life presents to them more with the lenses of ignorance than lenses of clarity. The Gospel carries great transformative value. With it, God corrects our vision and replaces our limited sight with the fullness of his sight. God opens our eyes so that we can see that it is not about preserving what we have created but of living in the immensity and wonder of God’s kingdom.

Through a simple, loving relationship with God, we can break through the tethers of prejudice, eradicate fear, dispel the darkness of hatred and sin, discover freedom, live in peace, work for justice, be effective stewards of creation, assist the migrant and the immigrant, and safeguard our economic systems and policies so that they truly serve all of God’s children. What we see is often an artificial lie. Our truth is much bigger than what our limited sight believes it to be. Allow God to work in and through you. Do not be afraid. Be open and be humble enough to know that you need help. Many human beings are living with severe cataracts that produce sight that is at best blurred. Are you one of them? ©LPi

ORGANIZATIONS
CYO, Jerry Florence stmarycyo.wc@gmail.com 510-504-5954
Charismatic Prayer Group, Jim Crowley 944-0359
Eucharistic Adoration, Mary Johnstone 954-7205
Filipino-American (Fil-Am) Ministry, Elena Gaoiran 525-7089
Finance Council, Brian Mulligan 210-1031
Hispanic Ministry, Maria Castro 550-3016
Homebound Ministry, Helene Vizzarra 891-8936
Hospital Ministry, Angeles Ron 856-8780
Knights of Columbus, John Cuddihy 286-4515
Respect Life Ministry, Jim Crowley 944-0359
Rosary Makers, Ana Lau 256-4428
St. Vincent de Paul, Barb Erickson 937-2817
Walking with Purpose, Laura Lencioni 997-4379
**Staff and Administration**

**Website:** www.stmary-wc.org

Parish Office  
Fr. Fred Riccio,  
Pastor  
Fr. John Blaker,  
In residence  
Ana Lau,  
Office Manager  
Aileen Baker,  
Bookkeeper

891-8900  Fax 934-1358  
friccio@stmary-wc.org

**Faith Formation**

Mary Kerfs,  
Administrative Assistant  
Tim Mannix, RCIA &  
Liturgy Coordinator  
Austin Pisciotta,  
Grades 4-8  
Maureen Tiffany,  
Grades K-3  
Heather Abraham,  
Confirmation

891-8939  
lifeteen@stmary-wc.org

143x106 **MASS SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>MASS INTENTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03/21</td>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>Molly McGowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/22</td>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>Grace Karwowski (L)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Set Tran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Michael Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Berta Mora de Flores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>The People of St. Mary Parish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/23</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Chris Emata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:05 pm</td>
<td>Mary Kennedy (L)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/24</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>George Rocha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:05 pm</td>
<td>Russell Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/25</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Karin Lisboa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:05 pm</td>
<td>Michael Volpicelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/26</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Annie Ten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:05 pm</td>
<td>Josefa Lozano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/27</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Marc Daley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:05 pm</td>
<td>Tammy Brandt Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/28</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Mary Kennedy (L)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School**

Office  
Website:  
Alumni:  
Garrett Padia, Principal  
**Advisory Council**  
Joel Williams, President  
**Parents Club**  
Shannon Cvrarich, Co-President  
Lisa Kavanagh, Co-President

935-5054  
smary@st-mary.net  
www.st-mary.net  
smaryalumni@st-mary.net  
935-5054  
768-6711  
949-973-8046  
768-9890

**Even though we are not celebrating public Masses at the moment, be assured that our priests are praying for and honoring these Mass intentions in their daily private Masses.**

**Eucharistic Adoration has been suspended until further notice**

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**  
—Psalm 23
Faith Formation and all ministry meetings and activities have been suspended until further notice.

The Sacred Baroque Concerts with Voci Women's Vocal Ensemble, scheduled on March 29 at St. Mary Magdalen Church, and on April 4 at St. Perpetua Church, have been canceled.

SAINT TURIBIUS OF MOGROVEJO (1538-1606) - March 23
In times of crisis, God always surprises the Church with unlikely saints, through whom Christ's light radiates beyond their local communities to illumine the universal Church. Charles Borromeo was such a saint: appointed Archbishop of Milan at twenty-one by his papal uncle, epitomizing the corruption that the reformers condemned, Charles instead inspired a revival that reinvigorated a Church devastated by the Reformation. His less well-known contemporary, Turibius of Mogrovejo, was God's “saintly surprise” in the New World. Spanish-born lawyer, professor, head of the feared Inquisition, Turibius was still a layman when a grateful king appointed him Archbishop of far-off Lima. Once in Peru, however, Turibius was appalled at the abuse of indigenous peoples by the occupying conquistadores—his fellow countrymen—and by the complicity of the clergy. He became the natives’ devoted advocate, building churches, schools, hospitals, and the first seminary in the Americas, publishing catechisms and prayer books in the native languages he painstakingly mastered. Four hundred years later, whenever Pope Benedict welcomed Latin American bishops to Rome, he always invoked “the shining example of San Toribio.”

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LIGHT. “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light” (Ephesians 5:14). We are at the midpoint of our Lenten journey of conversion. As always, God never gives up on us, especially those who have “fallen asleep” along the road to conversion. The most powerful stories of conversion are proclaimed during these final weeks of Lent. They have the power to shake us out of our sleep. Today’s Gospel story of the healing of the man born blind exposes the real blindness in the time of Christ—the blindness of the self-righteous religious leaders. In a few weeks, at the Easter Vigil, the Church will proclaim “Christ our Light” as the paschal candle is carried into darkened churches throughout the world. May the darkness of sin that still pervades our lives, communities, and world, be dispelled by the Christ who comes to bring sight to the blind and light to the world.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

How to handwash Catholic Style!

Clean hands are life savers... and prayers save souls!
Winter Nights Family Shelter Lenten Service Opportunity
St Mary Parish will be co-hosting again on April 1, 2, 3 & 4 at Winter Nights Family Shelter. Thank you to everyone who donated and signed up after Mass on March 7/8. It’s not too late to contribute your time, talent, and/or treasure by donating, cooking and serving a meal, helping with children’s activities, or sleeping overnight. If you would like to help out this year, please contact Stephanie Baker at 925-788-1773 or sjjbaker@gmail.com. For more information, go to cccwinternights.org.
(Bulletin Editor’s Note: Please call number above to confirm this event will be taking place)

Online Masses and other liturgical resources for Spiritual Nourishment during the Coronavirus Pandemic
Daily Scripture readings from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in English and Spanish
www.usccb.org
Mass celebrated by Pope Francis in Italian:
Mass celebrated by Pope Francis in Spanish:

Daily Mass (including Sunday)
CatholicTV
http://www.catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass
EWTN: http://ewtn.com

Relevant Radio (audio only):
http://relevantradio.com/

Sunday Mass
Catholic Extension Society:
https://www.catholicextension.org/stories/Sunday-catholic-mass-online

Please join Cancer Support Community for its 5th Annual Hope Walk scheduled for Saturday, May 16, at Heather Farm, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. The registration fee is $25 and includes an event t-shirt. Register at hopewalkbayarea.net.

For questions about the walk or the FREE services CSC provides to people who face cancer, call Carol at CSC at 925-953-1209.

Due to the “Shelter in Place” directive from Contra Costa County, we have decided to move our vigil “home.” That means that we will keep our assigned hour of prayer, but instead of going out to Planned Parenthood, we will pray at home.
Seasoned volunteers can now sign up for more hours of prayer, and new volunteers can sign up at:
40daysforlife.com/walnutcreek
O Mary,
you shine always on our way
as sign of our safety and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you,
Health of the Sick,
who at the foot of the Cross bound yourself
to the suffering of Jesus,
keeping strong in your faith.

O Salvation of God’s people,
you know what we need
and we are sure you will provide it for us
just as at Cana of Galilee
the joy and feasting could return
after that moment of trial.

Mother of Divine Love, help us
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us,
He who took upon Himself our sufferings
and is marked by our sorrows
and so lead us, toward the Cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.

Oh Maria,
Tú resplandeces siempre en nuestro camino como
signo de salvación y esperanza.

Nosotros nos encomendamos a Ti, salud de los
enfermos, que ante la Cruz fuiste asociada al
dolor de Jesús manteniendo firme tu fe.

Tú, Salvación del Pueblo de Dios, sabes lo
que necesitamos y estamos seguros de que proveerás para que,
como en Caná de Galilea, pueda regresar la alegría y la fiesta después de este
momento de prueba.

Ayúdanos, Madre del Divino Amor, a conformarnos a la voluntad del Padre y a hacer lo
que nos diga Jesús, que ha tomado sobre sí
nuestros sufrimientos. Y ha tomado sobre sí
nuestros dolores para llevarnos, a través de la
Cruz, al gozo de la Resurrección.
Amen.

Bajo tu protección, buscamos refugio, Santa
Madre de Dios. No desprecies las súplicas de
los que estamos en la prueba y libranos de to-
do peligro, oh Virgen gloriosa y bendita.
Catequesis

Todas las clases y actividades de la Catequesis están suspendidas hasta nuevo aviso. Por favor estén pendientes de los mensajes electrónicos que está enviando la parroquia con información actualizada sobre esta difícil situación por la que estamos atravesando.

(925)357-3048 jcain@stmary-wc.org

Santo Toribio de Mogrovejo (1538-1606)
23 de marzo
Toribio nació en Mallorca, España y desde muy joven mostró un interés y conocimiento notable del derecho civil llegando a ser profesor de Derecho en Salamanca y juez inquisitorio. Siendo laico, recibió el nombramiento de Arzobispo de Lima, por pedido del rey Felipe II al Papa Gregorio XIII. Llegó a Lima, Perú, en 1581 y quedó sorprendido al ser testigo de los abusos de los conquistadores y la poca atención del clero hacia los pobres, pues se habían puesto del lado de los opresores. Esta situación lo conmovió tanto que fue el primero en convocar un concilio de obispos en América. Como fruto del mismo concilio se logró la impresión de catecismos y libros de texto en el idioma vernáculo, promoviendo además, una renovación en la vida de los sacerdotes. Visitó todas las comunidades de su diócesis en tres ocasiones, sufriendo los embates del clima, el hambre y la falta de mapas. Además de fundar hospitales y el primer seminario de América, fue quien trajo justicia y paz al Nuevo Mundo. Se le honra como el santo patrono de los obispos latinoamericanos.

—Miguel Arias, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Las oficinas parroquiales estarán cerradas a partir del 17 de marzo hasta nuevo aviso.
En la página web de St. Mary (www.stmary-wc.org) existe la opción de contribuir con la parroquia electrónicamente.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

| Lunes | Is 65:17-21; Sal 30 (29):2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54 |
| Martes | Ez 47:1-9, 12; Sal 46 (45):2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16 |
| Miércoles | Is 49:8-15; Sal 145 (144):8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30 |
| Jueves | Ex 32:7-14; Sal 106 (105):19-23; Jn 5:31-47 |
| Viernes | Sab 2:1a, 12-22; Sal 34 (33):17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30 |
| Sábado | Jer 11:18-20; Sal 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53 |
| Domingo | Ez 37:12-14; Sal 130 (129):1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45] |
Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!
Sign up here:

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.