St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church
Martinez, California

May 10
2020

FIFTH SUNDAY OF Easter

JESUS SAID,
"IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE THERE
ARE MANY DWELLING PLACES."
John 14:2

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LITURGY SCHEDULE - Suspended until further notice

SATURDAY: 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM
SUNDAY: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM
1:00 PM (Spanish)

ADORATION: Thursdays from 12:00 - 8:00 PM
HOLY DAYS: VIGIL MASS 7:00 PM ; 8:00 AM , 7:00 PM
RECONCILIATION: Saturdays from 3:00 to 4:00 PM

PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF

PARISH OFFICE (925) 228-2230
FAX: (925) 228 - 1318

Fr. Anthony Huong Le,
Parochial Administrator - Ext 6
franthonyl@stcmtz.org

CHURCH LOCATION:
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PARISH OFFICE/CENTER & MAILING ADDRESS:
1125 Ferry Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1720

PARISH WEBSITE: **www.stcmtz.org**
OFFICE HOURS:

THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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dcndaveh@stcmtz.org

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Co-coordinators, Confirmation Ministry
paulh@stcmtz.org & jennyh@stcmtz.org

ST. CATHERINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jessica Griswold, Principal
jgriswold@csdo.org
SCHOOL K-8: 604 Mellus Street,
Martinez, CA 94553
TELEPHONE: **925-228-4140**
FAX: 925-228-0697
OFFICE HOURS: 9AM – 2 PM

SCHOOL WEBSITE: http://school.stcatherinemartinez.com

ST. CATHERINE PRE-SCHOOL
Mea Auld, Pre-School Director mauld@csdo.org

Before serving or continuing in your ministry or organization, please complete the Diocesan required Safe Environment for Children Project Training @ **www.virtusonline.org**

SAFE ENVIRONMENT: www.virtusonline.org

Prayer for the Pandemic Corona Virus situation

Almighty and merciful God,
who show your love to all creation everywhere,
hear graciously the prayers we make
for all those affected by the corona Virus
in various parts of the world.
We come before you asking
for quick control of the outbreak,
for the healing of those affected,
for the victims and their families.
We pray for the doctors,
nurses and healthcare workers
that they may courageously and cautiously
take care of those affected.
We pray for those doing the research
that an effective vaccine
to combat the sickness is speedily found.
We pray for the Government and
health authorities
that they take appropriate steps
for the good of the People.
Lord, we ask all these
through the loving intercession of
St. Catherine of Siena,
St. Joseph, and Our Blessed Mother.
Amen

For Emergency Anointing of the Sick
(Only for those who are experiencing an imminent death)
Call (925) 228-2230 Ext 1006
Please leave your name, phone #, address

Though the office is closed, the office staff will be checking in on their phone messages to provide as much assistance as possible with this critical time. We ask that you please utilize the designated personnel extensions to leave our staff your message. Thank you

Our Sunday bulletin is an important way for us to communicate with you, especially during these days of the Coronavirus pandemic. It might be the only way that we can reach some of you. Every bulletin that you receive is paid for through the generosity of the businesses that you see advertised on the back cover. Most of these advertisers are members of our local community, and many belong to our parish. We urge you to think of them when you decide to have a meal or other item delivered to your door. Tell the business owners that you appreciate their support of our parish through their advertisements in the bulletin. This is one small way that we can work within our own community to weather the challenges that we face. Together we can help each other make it through.

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St. Catherine of Siena Parish follows Jesus by welcoming all, sharing our gifts, and giving glory to God.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF Easter

MAY 10, 2020

Jesus said,
"I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me."
John 14:6

A SPIRITUAL LIFE IN A CONCRETE WORLD

Today's readings describe the complexities of trying to live a spiritual life while still living in a world that demands concrete action. Acts tell us about disagreements beginning to emerge in the early Christian communities over divisions of labor. Some people are praying and preaching while others are feeding the hungry. In First Peter we are reminded that Jesus is the cornerstone. Jesus was rejected yet is the very foundation for building the community, and yet he is also a stumbling block for those who do not follow the path laid out by his life and works. In John we hear again the contrast of the spiritual and the concrete, of houses with many rooms, of truth and life. Is it surprising that the apostles and we are sometimes confused about how to live the life Jesus intended for us?

FINDING REALITY IN FAITH

The readings today describe a faith community struggling with the realities of preaching, teaching, praying, and spreading the word of God while others are concerned about putting food on the table and a roof over their heads. In Acts decisions are made about a division of labor. Some will preach and others will ensure that the community is fed. In First Peter there is talk of spiritual houses, builders, and cornerstones, of faith and stumbling blocks. In John, Jesus begins to prepare the apostles for his departure. Jesus talks about his Father's house but the apostles want concrete answers to their questions. They want to see the Father. They don't know the way. Jesus' response is both spiritual and concrete. His answer is both faith and works.

FINDING FAITH IN THE REAL WORLD

The tensions within the readings are tensions we feel every day between our faith and the world in which we live. We stumble over stones that litter the way, over lies that hide the truth, even over the reality of death. We want our faith to be solid, so we can test its permanence and reality. But faith is not concrete. Faith is a living thing, a leap into the unknown. Works are concrete. The works of the apostles are what sustained them even as they struggled with their own faith. We must feed the hungry and shelter the homeless even as we speak to ourselves and others of faith beyond brick and mortar. While we live in a world of harsh realities, we must remember there are realities beyond those we see but not beyond our belief. We know that the faith born of love for others and lived out in caring for the sick and sorrowful, the hungry and homeless, the poor and imprisoned is real.

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 6:1–7
Psalm 33:1–2, 4–5, 18–19
1 Peter 2:4–9
John 14:1–12

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WORSHIP

To facilitate a transforming encounter with God as we come together in worship.

Why St. Joseph kept the Holy Family in isolation

St. Joseph and the Virgin Mary had an adventurous start to their marriage! Not only was Mary pregnant with the Son of God, but shortly after Jesus' birth, **they had to "isolate" themselves from family and friends.** The Gospel of St. Matthew explains what happened.

*The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and **stay there until I tell you**. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. **He stayed there until the death of Herod**, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, "Out of Egypt I called my son." (Matthew 2:13 -15)*

In a certain sense, St. Joseph had to "quarantine" his family and "stay at home" in Egypt until a "deadly plague" ended.

What St. Joseph and the Holy Family did in Egypt during this time of "isolation" is unknown. The Bible is silent about this time in Jesus' life and local tradition claims that the Holy Family lived in Egypt for as long as four years.

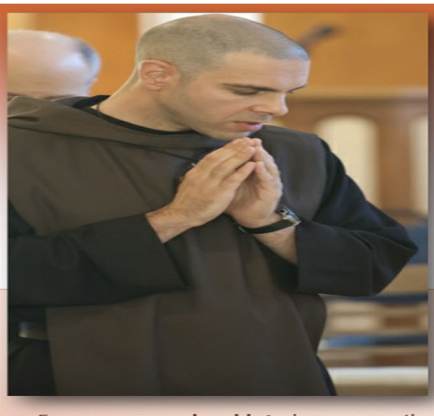
It must have been difficult for the Holy Family, living in a country that was not their own, **isolated from family and friends.** Mary couldn't rely on her family members to help her during the first few years of Jesus' life on earth. **Even St. Joseph** was **laid off from work**, and probably had to endure a time of **unemployment**, while he **searched for work** in a new land.

In many ways, the Holy Family likely **felt alone** and **cut-off** from the world they were most familiar with.

If you ever feel alone during a time of quarantine, staying safe at home, look to the Holy Family and invoke their heavenly aid. They understand the feelings you are experiencing and can provide you **comfort and peace** during your crisis.

Rest assured, **you are not alone**, as the Holy Family is at your side, ready to embrace you with their love and compassion.

Holy Family, pray for us!



Join ***Beneath His Cross*** in a conference call in honor of our **4th Anniversary** on Tuesday, **May 12, 2020**

3:00 p.m. California Time Zone

with special guest speaker

Father Cassian DiRocco

Please call this number to join (701) 779-9746

- I encourage you to begin calling at 2:45 p.m. in case any difficulties arise. So we may begin *promptly* at 3:00 p.m.
- Once you join the call we ask that every person puts their phones on **mute**. Please figure out ahead of time where your mute buttons on your phones are. That would be wonderful.
- For our **prayer booklet** please e-mail us off our website **www.beneathhiscross.com** and we will be happy to send you our prayer booklet.
- We will pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Chaplet of Reparation promptly beginning at 3:00 p.m. to prepare our hearts for our 3:30 p.m. Conference with Father Cassian DiRocco. Rosary for Priests will be after Father Cassian speaks.
- If you would like to join us in a nine-day novena to our patroness Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament please e-mail us off our website. (Novena begins May 5th - 13th. (Our Anniversary date is May 13th feast day not only of Our Lady of Fatima but of our patroness Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament)

GUIDELINES FOR DRIVE THRU COMMUNION

In this time of limited access to the Sacraments due to COVID 19, many of us have gone without reception of Holy Communion for several weeks. After consideration, the public health guidelines and the safety of our local community, St. Catherine of Siena, will offer the drive-in reception of Holy Communion on Sunday, May 10th through May 31st. The distribution will take place from 12:15 pm,- 1:00 pm, following the 11 am Sunday Mass.

The success of this initiative depends on the care and attention of everyone involved. The following is our official guide for drive-in communion procedures. Please be sure to read these guidelines and familiarize yourself with our process to make your reception of Holy Communion speedy, simple, and safe for all who seek the Lord's presence in the Most Holy Sacrament.

BEFORE COMING TO THE CHURCH

If you are elderly, ill, at risk of illness, or afraid of becoming sick, PLEASE do not feel compelled to come. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass and receive Holy Communion in the Easter Season is still dispensed for all Catholics in the Diocese of Oakland. Receiving Holy Communion at this time is strictly voluntary.

Ensure that all persons intending to receive the Eucharist are wearing face masks.

AT THE CHURCH

1. Pull up in front of the church; the line will begin there

2. Father Anthony and the Deacons will approach the first three cars. When those cars have been served, the other vehicles will be directed forward.

3. Father Anthony or the Deacons will raise a consecrated Host and say, "Behold, the Lamb of God, behold Him who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lord."

4. You will respond with, "Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and my soul will be healed."

5. Father or the Deacon will administer Holy Communion, saying, "The Body of Christ."
   The response is "Amen."

6. Reverently receive the Eucharist in your hand and wait for them to walk back before lowering your mask and consuming the Eucharist.

7. Father or the Deacon will then give you and your family a blessing.
   After the blessing, please drive home safely.

STEWARDSHIP

To create a culture in the parish rooted in gratitude and generosity.

DISCIPLESHIP

To empower a community of Christian people walking together as disciples of Jesus in order to share His good news.

May 3, 2020

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

		ON-LINE
Weekly Offering:	$ 4050.00	$ 2,912.00
Diocesean 2nd collection:		$ 40.00
St. Vincent de Paul:		$ 135.00
Parish Maintenance:		$ 35.00
School Support:		$ 190.00

Thank you for your continued support, both spiritual and financial.

If you are looking for a ways to help your parish, here are a few options:

1) **On-line Giving**: **www.stcmtz.org**

2) **My parish App**:
CLICK on the "giving icon"

3) **Diocesan Support for the Parishes**
Go to the Diocese of Oakland home page
CLICK on the Giving tab
Select the Parish Support option
https://www.oakdiocese.org/parish-support

IN LIGHT OF COVID-19

We're relying on our app to communicate with you

Please download our app and allow notifications.

To Download
Text "App" to 88202 or search "myParish" in your app store.

myParish

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SAT	5/9	8:00	Anastasia Arias†
		4:30	Int. Tom Balestrieri—Birthday
SUN	5/10	7:00	Nonnie Chambers & Nora Cordova†
		8:30	Ginny Rossi
		11:00	Int. People of the Parish
		1:00	Dolores Cardenas & Julia Polina
MON	5/11	8:00	Arthur, Blanche & Richard Brouette†
TUE	5/12	8:00	Kirk & Brydie Kuykendall†
WED	5/13	8:00	Living/Deceased Josephs of the Tavormina
THU	5/14	8:00	Special Intention Family
FRI	5/15	8:00	Mary Ann Martini†
SAT	5/16	8:00	Debbie Arias Pelizzari—Birthday
		4:30	Kerry Marie Nakasone
SUN	5/17	7:00	Int. People of the Parish
		8:30	The Fenny & Morgan Families†
		11:00	Mario Rose†
		1:00	Louisa Socorro Doña†

St. Catherine Parish offers deepest sympathy and prayers for the family; and, the repose of the soul of

all Victims of the Coronavirus ,
Estella Rosete
Lucy Bautista
Florence Gallo
Sue Cevasco
Adam Glen

who entered into eternal life.

Your parish brings you the light of Christ.

Please help keep the light shining by giving through your parish's online program or app.

Reflection

Dear Families in Christ,

Today we honor our Mothers in a special way. In our celebration, we include those of our Mothers who have already gone home to God. Warm memories and faith enable us to celebrate their eternal happiness in heaven. Our Blessed Virgin Mother Mary is in our minds, hearts and prayers in our solemn devotion to her during this beautiful spring Rosary month of May. Her beauty is a reflection of holiness, loveliness and humility of this Blessed teenage Woman chosen by the Heavenly Father to be His Son's Mother on earth. Having given herself completely to God and His Holy will, let it be done to me according to your word." (Luke 1:38).

We revere and respect our Mothers still with us. Great affection and gratitude are the themes of honor we attribute to them. Here at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, we greatly honor, respect, appreciate, promote and pray for: all Mothers, Grandmothers, Step/God Mothers, Mothers-in-Law, Foster/Adopted-Mothers. Motherhood is a great mystery. The giving and forming of life is just the beginning. Mothers teach us how to live and how to love. They care for us, heal our wounds, comfort us, ally our fears and dry our tears. They do everything from changing our diapers, cook, guide our steps when we walk out into the real world. They help us in our homework; encourage us to be Altar Servers. Mothers laugh with us, cry with us and for us; they motivate us, correct us, and forgive us. They worry about us—and grieve over our mistakes. They cheer our little and big victories and bring solace to our small and large defeats. A woman can never stop being a mother even when her little ones are no longer little.

On this special day, we must pray for the broken-hearted mothers and suffering mothers. We have many Mothers to think about—the Mothers who brought us into this world, our Holy Mother Church, our Blessed Mother Mary, Mother of Jesus, and the "Mother" nature. They share in the mystery of motherhood. We shall honor and love them as in the Fourth Commandment. "With your whole heart honor your father, your mother's birth pangs forget not! Remember, of these parents you were born; what can you give them for all they gave you? (Sirach 7:27-28).

On this auspicious, special commemoration of Mother's Day, we also pay tribute to our beloved Spiritual Mothers, Sisters, Nuns who are Angels of God in their vocations. We admire, love and respect them tremendously despite the fact that they are very strict in teaching the Catechism Class! Spiritual Mothers are midwives of souls. We thank God for those Mothers whose love for their children reflects the love the Blessed Mother has for her Son Jesus our Savior. Ironically, Mother's Day can be painful to someone who lost a child. This astringent pain carries a feeling of shame, guilt, regret or sadness. Steps toward their healing are available by calling the number for confidential referrals to our compassionate Clergy, professional counselors, retreats or by reading the written materials available in our generous vestibule literature racks. **Pope Francis said: "It is impossible for us to grow unless we have strong roots to support us and keep us firmly grounded."** Our strong roots are watered by our Mothers' tears, prayers, reconciliation, precious help from our Parish Staff and beloved Clergy.

On this Mother's Day—we pay tribute, honor Women: angels of God at St. Catherine who are special mentors to our young people in our community: the School Teachers, Religious Education, Faith Formation, Confirmation, RCIA Mentors and Counselors. They reach out and share a life journey with young people. They warm hearts and inspire kids with the light of the Gospel. Their Rosary and Divine Mercy Novena will remain as the most powerful vaccine and safest armor against temptations, sins and pandemics.

May God bless all Mothers on this very special day and reward them generously for their part in showing us in tangible ways of Gods love.

Happy Mother's Day! Amen.

May God Bless you all.

C.C. Salonga

STAY CONNECTED WITH OUR PARISH

We promise to do our best to stay connected and journey with you throughout this crisis. Therefore, we are thrilled to continue offering the following:

8 AM Daily Mass, Adoration, and the Rosary:

Shelter-in-place does not mean to stay out of touch!

You are invited to get in touch with God via the Live stream-daily on **Facebook**
https://www.facebook.com/OfficialStCatherineofSienaChurch

You are not alone if you are experiencing difficulty finding the Daily Mass. All this technology takes time getting used to. Don't be afraid to reach out if this guide doesn't do the trick. Someone is there to walk you through and not make you feel silly!!! And guess what… You DON'T have to have a Facebook account to participate!
There are two ways to **celebrate** Mass: Live or watch a recording later.
There are two ways to **watch** Mass: On your computer or your smart phone .

There are many ways to log onto Facebook:

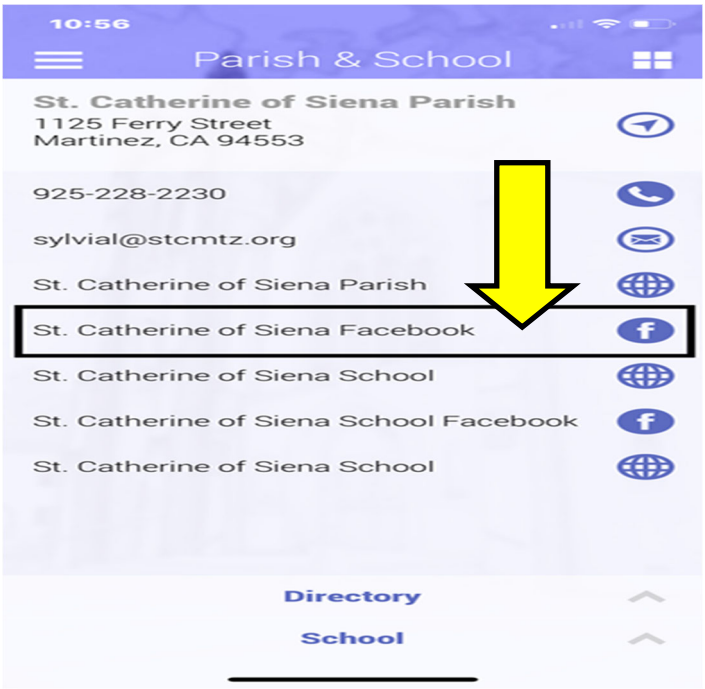
⇨ Go to **Facebook.com** on your computer

⇨ Go to St. Catherine of Siena's Website on your computer and find the link to FB

⇨ Go to your Facebook app on your smart phone (if you have it) Go to myParish App on your smart phone

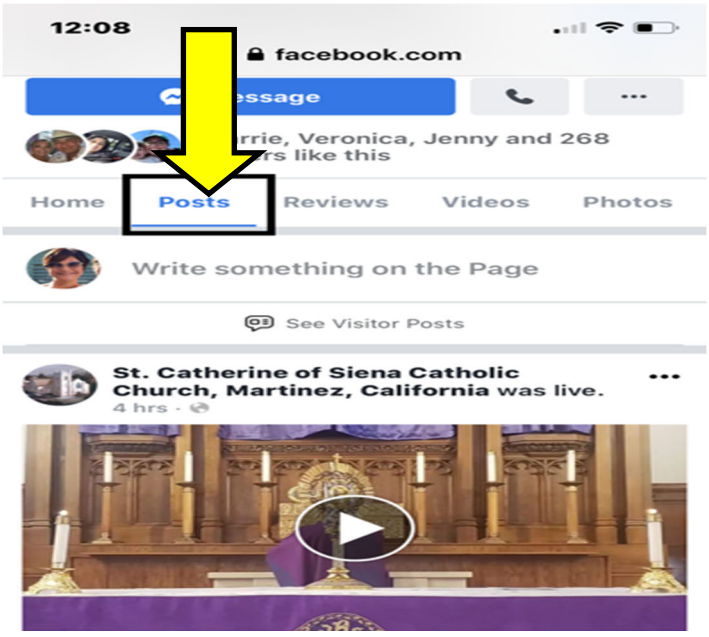
3 Easy steps

1. Click on the Parish & School Button, **2.** Click on St. Catherine Facebook and **3.** WHOOLA you're there!



Once you are on the Facebook page you can find the Mass by clicking on Posts or Videos

If you want to join the live stream, click on Posts and scroll down to find the video box, press on the arrow and begin watching as early as 7:50am. Receive the gift of Troy's music to prepare for Mass.



What if you are late to Mass? It doesn't disturb anyone. When you are running behind, remember that it's better late than never. In fact, it's great to watch people joining in late because you can watch the numbers increase on the top left hand side of the video. It means more and more people are logging in.

We are finding new ways to be prayerful and praiseworthy. **For 1on1 technical help feel free to call Cindy Buscaglia @ 925 787-8396**

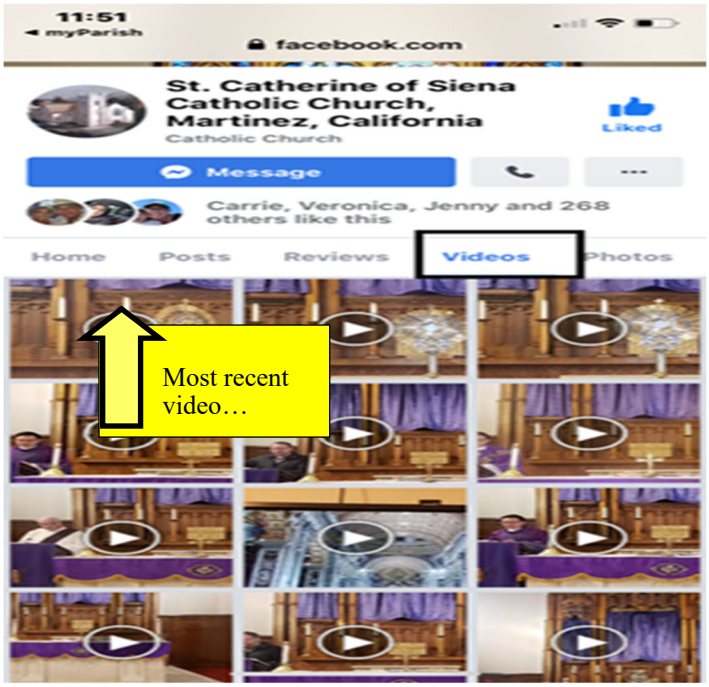
Join us in praying
The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy
everyday at 3 PM.

We would like to invite all of us to pray together at this hour
to emerge the world in the ocean of the Lord's Divine Mercy.

May the mercy of God
bring us consolation and peace.

Weekly paper bulletins are now available outside of the church for your reading pleasure. Look for the clear boxes hanging by the choir side and between the school and front door of the church.

If you want to watch later , click on the Videos and scroll down to see all the videos. Click on the video on the top left for the most recent.
Or
You could binge watch Mass and watch all the recordings.



SAINT DAMIEN JOSEPH DE VEUSTER OF MOLOKA'I (1840-1889)
May 10

In the mid-1990s, a heavily bearded, bespectacled Robin Williams appeared on *Late Night with David Letterman*, whose host was clearly taken aback. Letterman inquired as to why the wild look. Uncharacteristically subdued, the usually manic comic responded that he was producing and starring in a movie about a most extraordinarily compassionate man, Damien, the Leper Priest of Moloka'i.

Some saints transcend religious and ethnic boundaries to touch the heart that beats in each human being: Francis of Assisi; Mother Teresa; and, though Williams' film was never completed, his admiration speaks, as does Damien's statue outside the capitol in Honolulu, of this newest saint's universal appeal. Far from his native Flanders' idyllic beauty and rich culture, Damien volunteered to bear Christ's light into Moloka'i's bleak leper colony, building decent homes, opening schools, establishing clinics, planting farms, sharing the sufferings—and the social stigma—of those with whom he delighted to identify: "We lepers," he would proudly say when finally he contracted leprosy. Saint Damien challenges us to identify the lepers of our own day, to examine our compassion for and our identification with them.

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

St. Catherine of Siena School

Mission Statement

Saint Catherine of Siena School answers the call to nurture each child – spirit, mind and body – in a safe, caring environment by providing Christ-centered, challenging curriculum preparing each child for a future as people of faith, service, respect, and responsibility.

St. Catherine of Siena School celebrates and thanks the faculty and staff for Teacher Appreciation Week!

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the Lord's work, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58 CSB

During this month of May, we will be crowning Mary with flowers in our holy place, our homes. Mother Mary, pray for us.

MARY OUR MOTHER

What a joy to remember that Mary is our Mother! Since she loves us and knows our weakness, what have we to fear?
—Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

Join us live on Facebook for the Block Rosary at 6PM. Everyday during the month of May.
The prayers can be found on our website .

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County

The St Vincent de Paul food pantry remains open and is remarkably busy due to the Corona 19 virus. Neighbors can call and make an appointment to come and pick up food individually. Bags of shelf stable items are provided along with some fresh produce, eggs and meat if available each week. Neighbors appointments are spaced fifteen minutes apart on Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm at the Parish Office. If you know of anyone needing assistance with food, (no questions asked) please have them call 925-788-7409. Please remember St. Vincent de Paul with your financial donations. The food pantry is really in need of your contributions. You can make them online.

READINGS & REFLECTIONS

Join in the Weekly Scripture Reflection with the Clergy ~Tuesdays (via ZOOM) 7:00 –8:15 PM

Sunday, May 10, 2020 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Equal actions of the spiritually mature

There's some disagreement between those who consider prayer the number-one obligation for believers and those convinced that actions speak louder than words. Monastic leader Benedict of Clairvaux wrote his *Rule* to ensure his monks understood that *ora et labora*—prayer and labor—are partner activities in reaching spiritual maturity. Some people are clearly called to devote themselves primarily to spiritual matters in full-time religious vocations. Others can better serve elbow-deep in more worldly arenas. Try to balance the mix between spiritual rejuvenation and gritty action in your life.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12 (52). *"It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table."*

Monday, May 11, 2020 EASTER WEEKDAY

Be an advocate

Jesus promised to send his followers an advocate—the Holy Spirit —to come to our aid, to strengthen and plead our Christian cause and defend us from evil. (We can use all the help we can get in these trying times!) As part of our church's social teaching, Catholics are to be advocates for the poor. Add your voice to those urging policymakers to take action on critical issues from malnutrition to forced migration. Confrontglobalpoverty.org is a good place to start.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26 (285). *"The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name."*

Tuesday, May 12, 2020 MEMORIAL OF PANCRAS, MARTYR

A child shall lead us

Not much is known about Saint Pancras—other than he was martyred, like many Christians, by the Roman Emperor Diocletian around the year 303. Historic churches and a famous train station in London bear his name because Augustine of Canterbury brought devotion to Pancras with him to northern Europe. A truly defining characteristic of Pancras, though, is that he was only 14 when he was tortured and beheaded, putting him in the same "child saint" category as martyrs Maria Goretti, Agnes of Rome, and José Luis Sánchez del Río. How can your own faith benefit from a childlike trust?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a (286). *"Do not let your hearts be troubled."*

Wednesday, May 13, 2020 MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Pray as if your (eternal) life depends on it

Beginning May 13, 1917 and continuing through that fall, three children (Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta) of Fatima, Portugal reported several Marian apparitions. Much has been written about the message of Our Lady of Fatima, whose feast was added to the church calendar in 2002. The defining document on Fatima comes from the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. In sum: The apparitions did *not* predict the future or announce the end of the world. They *did* "exhort" us to pray, because "prayer is the salvation for souls." Good advice in any guise!

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8 (287). *"No more than a branch can bear fruit of itself apart from the vine, can you bear fruit apart from me."*

Thursday, May 14, 2020 FEAST OF MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

Ready and willing

Not much is known about Matthias except that he replaced Judas as one of the 12 apostles. Tradition has it that he preached in the areas around Judea and possibly farther afield and was persecuted and martyred, but details are few and unreliable. Today's first reading tells us he stepped in when needed and agreed to join the apostles following Jesus' death and Resurrection. Like most Christians, he lived a life of quiet faithfulness without much glory. Be ready to step in to serve others. Never mind the glory.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; John 15:9-17 (564). *"Then they gave lots to them, and the lot fell upon Matthias, and he was counted with the eleven apostles."*

Friday, May 15, 2020 EASTER WEEKDAY

That they might be one

The call to unity is woven throughout our Catholic faith. In *Laudato Si',* Pope Francis writes that we share with our ancestors in faith the conviction "that everything is interconnected, and that genuine care for our own lives and our relationships with nature is inseparable from fraternity, justice, and faithfulness to others." Recent events bring this truth home in forceful ways. Today let's commemorate International Day of Families and Endangered Species Day, both of which are ways to help nurture our essential connectedness with each other and the world.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17 (289). *"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you."*

Saturday, May 16, 2020 EASTER WEEKDAY

Being Christian has a cost

Religious persecution was commonplace in the story of the Early Church. Two thousand years later, persecution of Christians continues. In a 2019 trip to the Catacombs of Priscilla in Rome, Pope Francis remarked, "Still today Christians are persecuted— even more than in the first centuries." Play your part in stopping all religious persecution by expressing zero tolerance for it in your own backyard.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21 (290). *"If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you."*

Join in the Weekly Scripture Reflection with the Clergy
Tuesdays (via ZOOM)
7:00 – 8:15 PM
Please call the office
(925) 228-2230 ext 4 to be connected to the link.

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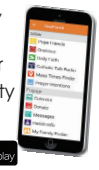

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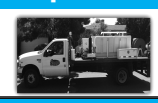

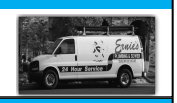

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