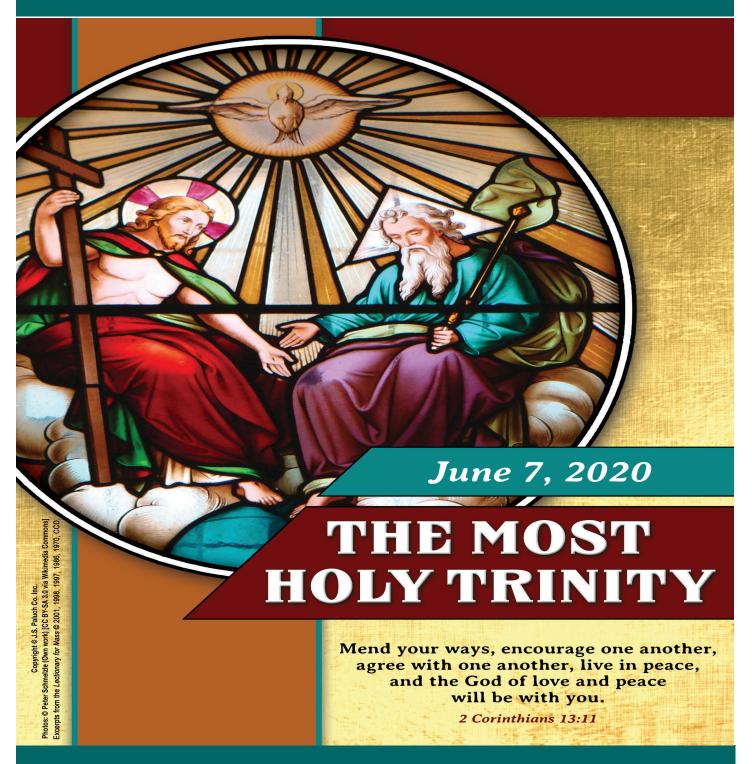
St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church Martinez, California



ON SITE LITURGY SCHEDULE - Suspended until further notice

SUNDAY: 8:30 AM (Upper parking lot) Pre-Online registration required - www.stcmtz.org

HOLY MASS (Church) Livestream - 11:00 AM

DAILY MASS: 8:00 AM RECONCILIATION: By Appointment only

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:

606 Mellus Street, Martinez, CA

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**

Sylvia Lloren

Ext. 2 Office Administrator/Sacramental Coordinator/Bulletin sylvial@stcmtz.org

Troy Killorn Ext. 3

Director of Music Ministry / Maintenance Manager troyk@stcmtz.org

Karen Glen

Bookkeeper / Safe Environment Coordinator / RCIA kareng@stcmtz.org

Ext. 5 Andrea Watkins

Director Religious Education (K-8) Family Sunday Faith Formation Ministry andreaw@stcmtz.org

Deacon Albert Dizon Ext. 7

dcnalbertd@stcmtz.org

Deacon David Holland Ext. 7

dcndaveh@stcmtz.org

Paul & Jennifer Holland Ext. 8

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



Confessions are currently being conducted by appointment only. Please call the office and leave your message on Ext 6 if you wish to schedule an appointment.

We will remain connected via our social media platforms: Website, Bulletin, Facebook and Myparishapp

Please download:

myparishapp to your phones.



Step 1. Text App to number 88202.

Step 2. Download the app via the link.

Step 3. Search for St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Martinez.

Step 4. Now stay connected!

Step 5. Share with others, you know. Go to the menu, click share, and choose

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



Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

2 Corinthians 13:11

SPEAKING OF THE TRINITY

The Holy Trinity is one of those mysteries that we will never understand, yet we still believe. A homiletics teacher once warned never to speak of the Trinity for more than ten minutes, or for sure you would get into heresy. Good advice. It is easy to talk in circles around this great mystery and never get close to understanding three Persons in One God. We are only one person each, and never one in being with another person. So how can we possibly understand this? We can't. But we can contemplate the varied faces of Father, Spirit, and Son as they are presented to us in today's scriptures, and give glory to God and believe.

GLORY AND PRAISE FOREVER

When Moses went up Mount Sinai, God revealed the divine Self to him by name. "The LORD, the LORD, a merciful and gracious God" (Exodus 34:6). In the Old Testament, we are accustomed to assuming that the "Lord God" indicates the Father only. But in the retrospect with which we look at these readings, we can see that the title is inclusive of the three persons of the Trinity. Never has there been any separation of the three persons in one God, and although there may be mention of only one person, it is understood that all three persons are present. Jesus taught many times that he and the Father are one, and that the Holy Spirit would come upon us and remind us of all things. We believe in God, creator of all that is, the Son, redeemer of our human lives and giver of eternal life, and the Holy Spirit, inspiration of the prophets and lover of all humanity; holy Wisdom, inspiring in us the understanding of all things holy.

GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

When we hear in the oft-quoted text in John 3:16 that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life," we begin to see how language that expresses the sending of the Son fails to express the unity of the Holy Trinity. This failure of human language in the presence of the mystery of the Trinity is what makes it so hard to explain and comprehend.

So how can we respond when we see a reference to "God"? We can strive to remember that God is three persons, not just one as we are, but one in being. Our best response is praise to the Holy Trinity. "Glory to the Father, the Son,

and the Holy Spirit, to God who is, who was, and who is to come." And we can bless each other when we pray with Saint Paul, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you" (2 Corinthians 13:13).

TODAY'S READINGS

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9 Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 John 3:16-18

MOST HOLY TRINITY JUNE 7, 2020



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: www.facebook.com/OfficialStCatherineofSienaChurch



WORSHIP

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



Check out these ways you can grow in your devotion to the Sacred Heart while society still adjusts to living during a pandemic. Each of the 12 months of the year has a Catholic devotional theme. It's a great way to bring special traditions, symbols, colors and even foods to enrich our faith life at home. During this time that so many of us are self-quarantined and face restrictions in public places, including our churches, the rich traditions and treasures of our faith provide special and reassuring blessings.

June is the beautiful month of the Sacred Heart. Here are 8 ways you can make your home come alive with love for the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

START YOUR MORNING WITH THE SON

For the entire month, do the morning offering to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Leave it near your bedside, pasted on your bathroom mirror, or at the breakfast table so you remember to say it first thing in the morning: O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all our associates, and in particular for the intentions of our Holy Father for this month.

DECORATE YOUR TABLE

Set the table or a prominent place in your home with an image of the Sacred Heart and a candle or bouquet of flowers as a constant visual reminder of devotion.

PUT YOUR HEART INTO IT

Do a Sacred Heart craft with your kids. Here's an easy one: get a grapevine wreath resembling the crown of thorns and place in the center of your kitchen or dining table. Make a large heart out of construction paper to place in the middle of the wreath. Upon the heart, each member of the family writes a prayer intention and/or a work of mercy they will offer to the Sacred Heart all month. Keeping it simple? Just write your prayer intentions or offerings on a paper heart and place before your image of the Sacred Heart.

When it comes to sharing our faith, it's not just what to say but how to say it

COOK FOR THE KING

Make food in honor of the Sacred Heart. Here's an easy one: prepare or purchase cupcakes and then top with strawberries cut in the shape of a heart. To make the recipe even more devoted to the Sacred Heart, try making them red velvet cupcakes.

OFFER SPECIAL PRAYERS TO THE SACRED HEART

Pray one of the many beautiful Sacred Heart prayers. As part of grace before meals you might try adding a brief but beautiful prayer such as <u>Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus</u> and <u>here's a beautiful novena to the Sacred Heart</u> that would be very meaningful to pray before sleep (it was St. Padre Pio's go-to novena, as he recited it every day for those who requested his prayers).

PARTICIPATE IN EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ONLINE

Participate in a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration online or on television as a way to honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus as present in the Eucharist. This is a great way to increase not only faith, hope and love ... but also peace, freedom from anxiety, and comfort in your own heart.

SET YOUR ALARM FOR 3 P.M.

That's the hour of Divine Mercy, a devotion inexorably linked to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, as it reminds us of the outpourings of Jesus' heart, with these words, "O blood and water which gushed forth from the heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in you." Purpose to pray the Divine Mercy chaplet every day this month at 3 p.m., the hour that Jesus died for us. It is such a beautiful devotion that it will likely remain a favorite of yours long after June is over. Here's how to pray it.

MAKE A SACRED HEART GARDENThis is a wonderful activity for the whole family. In front of an outdoor statue of the Sacred Heart, a garden sculpture of a heart, or even a homemade stepping stone with a heart traced in the concrete, plant flowers that honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Flowers for a Sacred Heart garden could include a display of any blooms in red and orange tones. Dicentra, commonly known as "Bleeding Heart," has a string of heart-shaped blooms that are a symbolic image of sacrificial love. Roses symbolize love and the crown of thorns, so they would be a great choice. Other beautiful choices to honor Jesus include the "Star of Bethlehem" flower and Caladium, also known as "heart of Jesus."

For the month of June we have added a prayer to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus from June 10 - June 18 we will do the Novena prayers to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Please see the website for more details. www.stcmtz.org



STEWARDSHIP

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



May 31, 2020

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

ON-LINE

 Weekly Offering:
 \$4135.00
 \$2,171.00

 Ascension:
 \$180.00
 \$40.00

 St. Vincent de Paul:
 \$165.00
 \$696.00

 Parish Maintenance:
 \$30.00

 Seminary/Charities:
 \$480.00

School Support: \$ 140.00

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

If you are looking for a ways to help our 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

Caring for the Caregiver

Virtually every one of us will care for a loved one at some point in our life. Though rewarding, it's not always easy. **NOURISH FOR CAREGIVERS** is for anyone juggling the challenges of everyday life, health, career while caring for an aging parent, spouse, grandparent, in town or at a distance. **NOURISH** provides caregivers a faithful perspective, as well as practical and emotional support, useful tools, and shared experience. Discover the blessings that come from caring for another.

JUNE 17th at 7pm, via Zoom. Meetings will be the 3rd Wed. of every month. Please Call Monica (925) 872-9051 to RSVP.



DISCIPLESHIP

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



INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SAT	6/6	8:00	Mario & Jennie Balestrieri †
		4:30	Florita Juan - Birthday blessings
SUN	6/7	7:00	Int. People of the Parish
		8:30	McLoughlin & Curtin Families†
		11:00	Daniel Castro†
		1:00	Souls in Purgatory†
MON	6/8	8:00	Int. Fr. Anthony Le - Happy Birthday
TUE	6/9	8:00	Jennie Balestrieri†
WED	6/10	8:00	Linda Ruggeri†
THU	6/11	8:00	Special Intention
FRI	6/12	8:00	Estella Nano-Rosete†
SAT	6/13	8:00	Int. Peter & Linda Gabriel Anniversary
		4:30	Walter & Michael Narodzonek†
SUN	6/14	7:00	Int. Matthew Pelizzari - Birthday
		8:30	Int. The Smithwick Family
		11:00Int. People of the Parish	
		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 , Lore Barton



who entered into eternal life.

Reverend William Marshall Ordination: March 30, 1963, Fribourg, Switzerland

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the death of Father William Marshall, past priest secretary to Bishop Floyd Begin, judge in the Canon Law Department, former pastor of Saint Albert the Great in Alameda, Saint John the Baptist Parish in San Lorenzo, and Saint Catherine of Siena in Martinez and chaplain of the Little Sisters of the Poor at St. Anne's in San Francisco. Father Marshall passed away



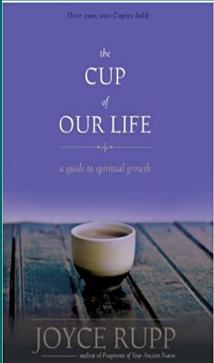
peacefully on the morning of May 20th at Saint Anne's Home in San Francisco surrounded by the Sisters and close friends.



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.



Ignite is leading an eight-week virtual gathering following

The Cup of Our Life – A Guide for Spiritual Growth

Join us - Monday Evenings from 7:30-8:30 p.m. via zoom

"Explore how the cup is a rich symbol of life, with its emptiness and fullness, its brokenness and flaws, and its many blessings. With daily devotions for six weeks."

Mon. May 25th

Week 1- Welcome and Introduction

Mon. June 1st

Week 2- The Cup of Life

Mon. June 8th

Week 3-The Open Cup

Mon. June 15th Mon. June 22nd

Week 4- The Chipped Cup

Mon. June 29th

Week 5- The Broken Cup Week 6- The Cup of Compassion

Mon. July 6th

Week 7- The Blessing Cup

Mon. July 12th

Week 8- Wrap up and Review

A note from Joyce – "As You Begin the Journey"

"The Spiritual life is a journey about change. As you pray with the Cup you will undoubtedly experience opportunities for growth. These stirrings may be almost imperceptible, or they may be very noticeable. There is no goal that you have to meet as you pray through the weeks simply be open and allow yourself to be held in the shelter of God. Also allow yourself to be stretched a bit. You may find, at times, that your security is being challenged, that your rootedness in God is being drawn to depths you've not experienced before, or that your approach to life is being taken to the edge of your comfort zone. If this happens please don't run away from the edge.

Each of the six weeks of prayer focuses on one aspect of the Cup as a metaphor of spiritual growth. It is my hope that this guide will both revitalize and enrich your relationship with the Divine. Take your time with each week. You may need a month to pray a week. It makes no difference. The most significant dimension of your journey with the Cup is your intention of drawing nearer to God."

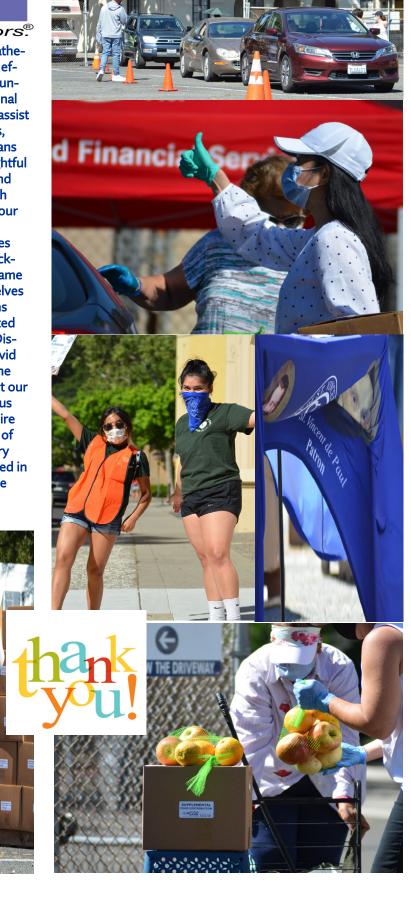
Sister Joyce Rupp, O.S.M. is an award-winning Catholic author who is also a retreat and conference speaker. She is the co-director of The Institute of Compassionate Presence, a member of the Servite Order, and a volunteer for Hospice.

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.

† St. Vincent de Paul

Neighbors helping neighbors®

On Saturday, May 30, St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Catherine of Siena Conference, participated in a coordinated effort with the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano counties in a mass distribution of food donated by the National Guard. Thirty-four volunteers responded to the call to assist in the parish yard adjacent to the office. Youth, parents, school children, men, women, and friends--all Vincentians for a day and longer--shared a morning filled with delightful weather, willing souls, eager hands, pop-up awnings, and God's abundant blessings. Stations were populated with helpers registering, conversing, laughing, and enjoying our visitors while in the process of loading cars, trucks, and trunks with both bags of perishable fruits and vegetables and cartons of non-perishables canned goods, each package valued at \$30, to nearly 275 of our neighbors who came from far and near. Thank you to all who gave of themselves and their time with this endeavor. Thanks to Vincentians Sheila Banducci and Vivian Rittenhouse who orchestrated this event with Stephen Krank of St. Vincent de Paul's District Council Vincentian Support Services, as well as David Gabellini and the Knights of Columbus who managed the traffic stations for a smooth flow of vehicles throughout our local streets and lot. We'd also like to thank our generous parishioners who continue to support the Society's desire to aid our neighbors in need especially during this time of crisis. You have all been wonderful in keeping our pantry shelves filled. God bless you all daily. If you are interested in joining the ranks of the St. Catherine Vincentians, please contact Karen Glen, Conference President, at kmag61@yahoo.com. You'll be glad you did.



Join us together in praying the ANGELUS

What is the Angelus?

The Angelus, a prayer with roots back to the 13th century, is a Marian devotion that is traditionally recited three times a day, usually at 9, noon, and **6PM**. Each recitation includes three Hail Marys with antiphons and responses in between each. The genius of this devotion, especially in a place of catechesis like a Catholic school, is that it focuses on the Incarnation (an essential mystery of our faith) and that its practice mirrors its content.

A prayer that mirrors its content

Praying the Angelus interrupts whatever task you are in, just as the arrival of Christ in the Incarnation interrupts the world. At our school, the example set by teachers shows the students how to make space for God and prayer amidst daily life. Far from being a distraction, the welcome interruption of the Angelus teaches a life-long lesson: no activity is more important than prayer—not work, not study, not conversation, not even recess. The injunction to pray also reminds us of the meaning of our work, that we have been invited to a service of love by the God who first loved us.

Finally, every invitation to pray the Angelus is an opportunity to speak our own "yes" to God because every invitation to pray the Angelus is a moment of choice. Will I allow God to interrupt and enter this moment of my life? Or, will I favor the task at hand? For adults and children alike, the practice of saying "yes" in the Angelus is a two-fold practice of saying "yes" to God. First, by accepting the invitation to pray and, second, by repeating the words of Mary, "Be it done unto me according to thy word." The hope and wisdom of the prayer is that day after day the "yes" to God becomes easier and the "yes" of Mary becomes our own.

St. Catherine of Siena 8:30 am Parking Lot Mass

Before Mass

Arrive between 7:50 am to 8:10 am Enter the upper parking lot on Henrietta Avenue.

Follow the directions of traffic/security personnel (orange vests)
Park in designated spot
Turn car off

During Mass

Everyone must remain in the vehicle. If windows are down, face mask must be on.

At communion time, remain in vehicle Roll down the windows to receive Reverently, extend arms out as far as possible

After Mass

No one may exit prior to the end of Mass

Exit the lot at the direction of the traffic/security personnel (orange vests) Everyone will turn right on Ferry Street when departing

If you have an emergency, roll down your window and raise your hand up high for assistance. Or text (925) 788-7716

Please see website www.stcmtz.org for more information and to print out the prayers. Or for questions: Yoli Dizon at accez@aol.com

GUIDELINES FOR DRIVE-THRU COMMUNION AT THE CHURCH

Holy Communion distribution will begin after the 11 AM Sunday Mass from 12:15PM to 1PM Please 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.

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

NEW GUIDELINES AND PARKING LOT MASS AS OF 5-27-2020

St. Catherine of Siena Information and Guidelines

The dispensation from the Sunday obligation and the Easter Duty remains in force for our diocese.

- -If you do not feel well it is good to stay home
- -If you are not comfortable coming for other reasons it is okay to stay home
- -We will continue to Livestream Mass for those who are at home

Here is what we can do now:

Distribute Holy Communion outside of Mass at the church doors, or outside.

At the Door: The priest or deacon, wearing alb and stole, and mask, may distribute Holy Communion outside the door of the church. There should be a table with lavabo and hand sanitizer. Parishioners line up outside, with social distancing, wearing masks. Masked ushers to manage the line. As above, people remove masks when they arrive at the Communion Station. They receive Communion on the hand or tongue, put their mask back on, and depart. If the priest accidentally touches the hand or tongue, he purifies and sanitizes his hands as above. No gloves are to be worn in the distribution or reception of Holy Communion.

Drive Up: People may drive up to the Communion Station. The priest or deacon, vested in alb and stole, and wearing **a** mask, holds up the host to the group, and says the prayer: "Behold the Lamb of God..." The people respond "Lord I am not worthy..." Communicant removes mask before receiving. Then the priest administers Communion in the normal way. Priest may give a blessing.

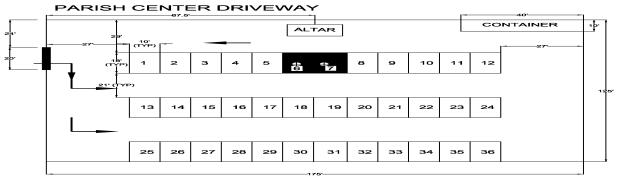
In the event the priest accidentally touches the communicant's hand or tongue, he is to place the ciborium down on the table, perform the ablution, and sanitize his hands as above.

Conduct a Mass or other Worship Service in the parking lot, with people remaining in their vehicles.

- -Mass will be held early morning (8:30 am) to avoid heat.
- -Parking will be marked.
- -Attendants (wearing bright vests) will be on duty to direct cars.
- -The Altar will be on a platform so people can see the altar & pulpit.
- -A tent or awning may be placed over the altar area to shield from sun.
- -Health officials require wearing a mask if you lower your car windows.
- -The Priest and liturgical ministers will not wear masks during the Mass.
- -Priests and liturgical ministers will wear a mask when distributing Holy Communion.
- -Those administering Communion will make certain the host is consumed.
- -No one may take a host home to a family member.
- -Cars will not be allowed to leave the lot until the Mass or service is over- and only at the direction of the parking attendants.

Handling of cars and access to Communion will be directed by ushers or volunteer security team.

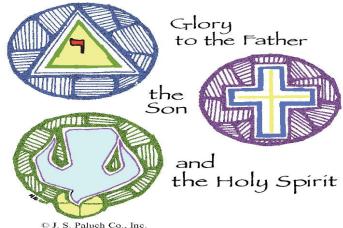
Pre-registration is required to attend the 8:30 parking lot mass. Please view our website and/or Facebook to sign-up.





Dear Families in Christ,

In the Gospel Reading, The Most Holy Trinity, (John 3: 16-18) the more we discover about God, the greater becoming the mystery of His Presence and Love. John is telling us that God so loved the world



that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life. The Holy Trinity calls us to reflect on the mysterious life of God. His divinity is a community of Three Persons whose perfect life overflows with Love that reaches out by creation to communicate itself to our souls capable of reaching it. The everlasting Love of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit is the great engine at the heart of mysterious reality. We exist because the Holy Trinity wishes us to know Love and serve this Love and be happy in union with it forever. Through our fervent prayer, bearing suffering well and forgiving those who have wronged us, the Lord expands our hearts, until they become capable of receiving the Love of the Holy Trinity.

The Holy Trinity trains us through the prayer of agony so we can bear the prayer of ecstasy—overwhelming happiness! We will know the real truth NOT because He told us but because we experience it as the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit have desired for all eternity. At St. Catherine, our entrance door is not only through our Beloved Fr. Anthony Le. It is into the Mystery of God in Jesus. The Second Reading, (2 Corinth 13: 11-13) teaches us how to live and follow Jesus—greet one another with a Holy Kiss. This laborious journey towards God and to each other is made along the same road map of love and respect. The right route to travel assures us to reach our destination. **Jesus is God's adventure among us. To have a successful journey, we must start with our Priest Fr. Anthony Le together with Jesus.** Why? The good news is—He promised us—like the Gospel reading, (John 3: 16-18) to accompany us until the journey to the Father is completed.

"In the person of Jesus, the mystery of God has a face, a voice, a language, a love, a life." He walked with us during three years of Ministry on earth. In the Holy Gospels, we meet Jesus' friends and enemies, His enthusiasm and dislikes. We are caught up in His struggle for what is right; we are challenged to keep alive the moral values He cherished. In His public ministry the light shone among us. In Jesus Eucharists we are able to taste, and see the goodness of God. In our faith, God's particulars are revealed in Him. "He who has seen me has seen the Father. To look on the Son of God is to visualize and understand the mystery of God and the Holy Spirit.

The Feast of Pentecost reminds us that we cannot understand the mysteries of God we are gifted with the power of the Holy Spirit. Why? Even the love of Apostles could not recognize the full truth about Jesus they knew for three years without the gift of the Holy Spirit. At St. Catherine, to understand Jesus—the Son of God—we need the gift of the Holy Spirit. But to reach the Father we need to go via the Son. Fr. Anthony Le our Disciple and Priest has been painstakingly helping us to stay on the right track to reach the Son. This Pentecost, we extend our heartfelt Congratulations and prayerful best wishes on the occasion of his "Fifth Anniversary" of Ordination as our Quintessential Administrator. We are lucky to be granted the privilege of inheriting the glory of eternal God. God is a mystery – and if we are all created in the image and likeness of God, it takes a lifetime to understand each other. Our love of neighbors must deepen. Our understanding of God and Beloved Priest must be realized.

This mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is at the heart of our Christian life of faith. That is why we begin and end everything with: "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Amen. May God bless you all.

READINGS & REFLECTIONS

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

Sunday, Jun 07, 2020 SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

The power in three

Faith, hope, love; body, mind, spirit; life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness; executive, judicial, legislative: There's something satisfying and complete about a list of three. Good things come in threes, too: from "bacon, lettuce, and tomato" to "Peter, Paul, and Mary." Alert to the power of three, scripture uses it as the sum of completion. The prophet Jonah spends three days inside the fish to fully absorb a lesson in obedience. Jesus exits the tomb on the third day. We encounter God three ways: as Creator, Restorer, Sanctifier. O God of many faces—recreate, restore, bless our community! TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; John 3:16-18 (164). "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you."

Monday, Jun 08, 2020

The cure for what ails us

Pope Francis said that living the Beatitudes means "going against the flow" of the world. What the world tells us—that wealth brings security, that power gives us strength, that pleasure makes us satisfied—is the opposite of what Jesus says. Francis asks us to let the Beatitudes "unsettle us . . . challenge us, and . . . demand a real change in the way we live." We've clearly been upended in this sense by the current pandemic, and we have learned firsthand that nothing exempts us from vulnerability. Jesus was, is, and always will be our only hope. Live accordingly. TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Kings 17:1-6; Matthew 5:1-12 (359). "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

Tuesday, Jun 09, 2020

MEMORIAL OF EPHREM OF SYRIA, DEACON, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Rise and shine!

Leave it to Saint Ephrem to derive beauty from pain. As we feel the ripple effects of coronavirus, let's learn from a man who died in 373 during a plague—from contracting the disease of the people he was ministering to. Ephrem, named a doctor of the church for the poetic nature of his theology, wrote: "We give glory to you, Lord, who raised up your cross to span the jaws of death like a bridge by which souls might pass from the region of the dead to the land of the living." Seek and share beauty today. TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Kings 17:7-16; Matthew 5:13-16 (360). "Just so, your light must shine before others."

Wednesday, Jun 10, 2020

Most fulfilling of all

As children, many of us were required to memorize the Ten Commandments. It's likely we can still recite them and have a sense of their importance. However, the catechism teaches that it is the *Beatitudes* that "fulfill, refine, and surpass the old law to its perfection." And how many of us can recite *them* from memory or even know where to find them in the Bible? (Hint: For all eight, try Matthew 5:3-12.) In these difficult and, for some, tragic days, as we seek God's presence in our midst,

we ask for the grace to comfort those who mourn. TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Kings 18:20-39; Matthew 5:17-19 (361). "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill."

Thursday, Jun 11, 2020 MEMORIAL OF BARNABAS, APOSTLE Make history

What was it like during the times of the apostle Barnabas, whose memorial is today? Thousands of people at a time were becoming Christians with no real formality or infrastructure yet in the church. There was the "grace of God" and "firmness of heart" at work, today's first reading tells us, but persecution and internal conflict too. Every era has its challenges and opportunities. How are you building the Body of Christ during your moment in history? TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3 (580); Matthew 5:20-26 (362). "They sent Barnabas to go to Antioch. When he arrived and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced and encouraged them all."

Friday, Jun 12, 2020

This most amazing day

Tucked within Muir Woods, a national memorial park in California, is a beautiful space called Cathedral Grove. Hikers are asked to maintain quiet as they behold the old-growth coastal redwood trees. Though not a "cathedral" in the ecclesial sense, the grove reminds us that nature is one of the surest places to experience the power and tenderness of God. Pope Francis writes in *Laudato Si'*: "The entire material universe speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God." How do you experience this "caress of God," even in the potted plant in your own home? TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-16; Matthew 5:27-32 (363). "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD; the LORD will pass by."

Saturday, Jun 13, 2020

MEMORIAL OF ANTHONY OF PADUA, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Treasure the baby and the Bible

The traditional depiction of Saint Anthony (1195-1231) holding the infant Jesus began with a 1580 painting by El Greco showing the Franciscan priest with a large open Bible in which one can see the very tiny baby emerging from the text. Over time in Christian art the image of the baby grew to become a life-size child in the arms of the saint, sometimes standing on a much smaller book and sometimes with the Bible missing all together. In times of quarantine and isolation, when we may not be able to enjoy the consolation of Jesus in Holy Communion, we can experience the Lord's presence in the Bible, which may have gone missing in our lives. If that is the case, you can invoke Saint Anthony for a return of your lost Bible! TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Kings 19:19-21; Matthew 5:33-37 (364). "Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.'"

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