

Dear People of Divine Savior and our Cherished Visitors:

Acts of the Apostles: 10:34a, 37-43; Psalm 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-24; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

Abundant Easter blessings of great joy and everlasting peace to all! We can easily feel in sync with the mood of our Gospel for this Easter Sunday. There is a lot of running back and forth. Presumptions are made which are not only not true but are also not helpful. The tomb is observed by two apostles with one supposedly believing, although we are not sure what that apostle actually believes. Finally, we are reminded that they did not yet understand the Scriptures. As we do our best to cope with the ongoing saga of Covid-19, we are in good company.

Like many of us when we started a career or significant relationship, the apostles could not have imagined what it would be like to continue as faithfully as possible the mission of Jesus, revealing the love of God for all people. We pray that we will deepen our awareness of what it means for us to continue that same mission. And a major part of Jesus' mission is to build a community into which all are welcomed and loved.

We see in our first reading the grace-filled transformation that Peter had experienced. Peter preached this sermon in the household of Cornelius, an officer in the Roman Empire. Prior to Peter's going to Cornelius' home, both had visions. Cornelius, who had been unusually kind to the Jewish people, was directed to send messengers to bring Peter to his house. Peter had a vision through which he realized, quite contrary to Jewish customs, that all food, because it is created by God, is clean. To say that God works in unique ways is certainly an understatement. Clearly, Peter, for one, needed to understand more fully the truth of God that is revealed in the scriptures. Cornelius served food that Peter would have refused in any previous day. Peter baptizes Cornelius' family.

How are we being called to similar transformation? What does God want us to understand more fully or what thinking or convictions is God calling us to let go of so that we can be more effective instruments of God's love for all people. A major one is presented in the last line of our first reading, namely, "that everyone who believes in Him will receive forgiveness of sins through His name." Jesus' name stands for the love of God that He revealed. Jesus did not have to suffer and die so cruelly for us to experience forgiveness of sins. It is the love He revealed by which we are forgiven. Jesus suffered and died in the fashion He did to validate the mission the Father had given Him. Rooted in God's love, Jesus remained nonviolently faithful to the mission to the end, regardless of the consequences. We are called to imitate Jesus as faithfully as possible, to be instruments of NEW LIFE.

Fr. Roman Mueller, S.D.S.



Our parish staff has been busy during the quarantine time focusing energy on connecting with parishioners, identifying their needs and the needs of our wider community and finding resources to meet them. Every day we are finding new ways to keep the spirit of our Divine Savior community alive and to spread the Gospel of Jesus from our living rooms.

Connection - We've learned new technology to maintain ministry support for the duration of the quarantine. We are livestreaming and recording daily and Sunday Masses to make them accessible to all those at home. Our ministry groups are utilizing Zoom meetings to connect in real time and as close to face-to-face interaction as possible.

Outreach - We've taken this opportunity to make pastoral phone calls to everyone listed in our parish family database. Staff members and parishioners have both been blessed by the pastoral calls. See the parish website for examples of some of these "Holy Spirit" moments. <https://www.divinesavior.com/> Our parish St. Vincent De Paul Society is able to keep moving forward with their cell phone support services, offering assistance for rent, utilities, and referrals to other critical resources. We now have a Shopping Assistance Ministry to help parishioners who are more strictly quarantined with access to groceries and medications. We've partnered with Orangevale Food Bank to support their increased clientele and are planning a Food Drive later this month.

Values - The parish staff is aware that many people's lives have changed dramatically; some of these changes have improved family time together and some changes are truly stressful, such as the loss of a job or a financial crisis directly due to the quarantine. Times like these call us to examine our core values, and to connect with others who share those values, to support one another and grow in faith and unity.

Discipleship - Parish ministry leaders are all creating new ways to continue spreading the Gospel message through faith-sharing, prayer, online learning, and social action. We are aiming to have the most current information for all these areas on the parish website.

Finally, if you or someone you know is in need (lonely, needs a phone call, or a facetime chat) please call the parish office and we can arrange that. Our priority is to keep connected in any way possible.

Blessings to all - from the parish staff

Prayers

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

Bill Amantea	Sheldon Anderson Jr
Jenny Azbill	Sharon Backus
Marlena Beyer	Talon Bonanno
Julie Bouse	Eduardo Bravo
Pat Collier	Lauri Comly
Madeleine Crepin	Noreen Davis
Nenita dela Cruz	Marilyn Domingo
Michael W. Donner	Carol Dziedzic
JoAnn Elder	Reggie Faulk
Dorothy Feldman	Gladys Gonsalves
Bud Green	Gary Green
Sandra Harris	Bridgette Hubbard Martin
Jennings	Diane Jones
Michele Kinaan	Mike Mahoney
Cookie McCormack	Vicente Meno
Allen D. Nelson	Glen Newton
Patty Nicholson	John Padden
Karen Paddock	Gerrie Parker
Linda Parker	Eleanor Peterson
Gladys Reilly	Christopher Revak
Roxanne Rosales	Madeline Rose
Gerry Ryden	Donna Schulte
Tom Sekel	Lee "Lucky" Shaver
Shari Sigl	Patricia Speere
John Wick	Louise Healy
Barbara Rhode	

Please pray for the souls of those who have died:

Jim Anderson	Stan Ferreira
Robert (Bob) Matranga	Sandra Sanchez
Bud Huss	

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

Week of April 13th—April 19th

PARISH RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS

Sunday Mass - Mass will be livestreamed on Facebook at 4:30pm Saturdays and 9:00am Sundays. Recordings are available 2 hours after on our parish Facebook, website, and YouTube (Divine Savior Orangevale).

Daily Mass will be livestreamed on Facebook at 9:00am.

Our Church and Parish Office will be closed until further notice, however staff will answer the phone Monday through Friday from 8:00am until 4:00pm. **(On Good Friday the phones will not be answered due to the holiday)**

Crab Feed Tickets

Due to COVID- 19, we will not have a Crab Feed this year. All donated items will be saved for use at a future event. We ask everyone who is presently holding tickets for the Crab Feed to do one of two things:

1) If you would like to donate the money toward parish fundraising, please email Katie and she will apply it towards your yearly donations. (please dispose of your tickets)

2) If you want a refund, please mail the tickets to the parish office or drop them into the mailbox outside the entrance of the office with a note indicating where you would like the refund mailed. If you have any questions, please email katie@divinesavior.com Thank you for your generous support of our parish,



Financial Support of the Parish

I want to acknowledge and express profound gratitude for the steady stream of contributions by many parishioners to our parish, including donations of regular Sunday offerings, Easter offerings as well as donations to the Building Fund. We have also been blessed with special gifts, some of varying amounts including one for \$500, three for \$1,000 each and one for \$10,000. What a great way to say "thanks" to God at this most unusual time. Much appreciation and abundant blessing to everyone helping in any small or big way. For those who want to switch to electronic giving, please go to our parish website <http://divinesavior.com>. Scroll down to the section titled "Quick Resources" and choose "Support our Parish". Please notice that we have added a new option, "text giving." **Fr. Roman Mueller, S.D.S.**

Food resources during Quarantine

OV Food Bank: 6483 Main Ave. Orangevale
Open Monday 11am-4pm, Wednesday 4:30-6:30pm, and Thursday 10am-12:30pm.

Volunteers needed—If you are under 65 and able to volunteers, please sign up at their website at <https://ovfoodbank.ivolunteer.com/>.

Seventh Day Adventist Food Closet: 5810 Pecan Ave, Orangevale

Tuesdays 9-12
916-967-0405

Meal Distribution for Students in Need During School Closures

San Juan Unified will provide an opportunity for families to pick up two meals daily (lunch and breakfast for the following day) in a mobile walk-up or drive-thru meal service for children 18 and under. For school sites go to the district website.

Link to **Folsom/Cordova (FCUSD)** offering meals: <https://www.fcusd.org/Page/38976>