

Pastor's Corner

Dear People of Divine Savior and our cherished visitors:

Acts of the Apostles: 2:42-47; Psalm 118: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1Peter: 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

In Sunday's Gospel, some of the disciples report to Thomas that they had *seen* the Lord. Thomas responds by saying what conditions must exist before he believes, namely, to *see* the marks of the nails in Jesus' hands. A week later, the disciples again experience Jesus' Presence among them and Thomas ends up believing. Jesus asks whether Thomas believes because he has *seen* Jesus. Jesus goes on to say, "Blessed are those who have not *seen* and have believed."

What did Jesus mean by "believing" and "seeing"? Many of us remember the maxim that "seeing is believing." What if we reversed that to say that "believing is seeing?" To what extent can we presume that even as early as the evening of the day on which Jesus was resurrected, the disciples who were locked in for fear of the Jews had already begun some of the activities mentioned in today's first reading? Being together as they were, what would have been the likely result if they had been sharing about the events going back to when Jesus first called them? We keep in mind what Jesus said, that where two or three are gathered in my name, I am in their midst. Furthermore, what would have happened to them spiritually and emotionally if they had reflected on Jesus' promise that He would not abandon them?

Stepping into the present, and considering how we might want our faith life to be on an individual basis as well as a communitarian one, we keep in mind words from our second reading where Peter reminds us that our faith is more precious than gold. Faith is one of God's gifts instilled in us at the moment of conception. We know this because children at a rather early age display a level of faith that can blow us away. Given their age, they might not even understand fully what their faith makes them aware of, but that is where skilled parental and formator guidance can help them begin to unravel what their faith has revealed to them. This is taking place in Children's Faith Formation at our parish.

What if all adults would choose to recover this talent to be attentive to what our faith is grappling within the depths of our beings, and we, with support from one another, unwrap what it all means? If we start with the conviction that we believe we are capable of doing this and capable of accessing what we become aware of at a deep level, we will likely find how exciting life can be and how our faith leads us to such richness that is embedded within our being? In this light, when we look at Sunday's scripture readings, might it be that the first disciples came to believe in Jesus and, because they shared that common belief and all it meant, they truly experienced Jesus present to them? In fact, they might have experienced an awakening of the Holy Spirit within and among them, present from birth. Given their realization of how they abandoned Jesus, it would have taken little to come to an awareness that the first thing they needed to do was to let the Holy Spirit assure them that the love of God they were sharing brought them forgiveness of their failures.

Fr. Roman Mueller, S.D.S.

Week of April 20th—April 26th

PARISH RESPONSE TO COVID-19

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

Daily Mass will be livestreamed on Facebook & YouTube at 9:00am. **No morning Mass on Saturday.**

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. For **funerals, confession, or anointing of the sick**, please call the parish office.

Parishioner resources COVID-19



IRS COVID-19 stimulus

checks: If you are unclear if you will receive a check or how to ensure you do, here is a link to the IRS website for answers to questions. <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payments>



How to retain healthcare if you lose a job amid coronavirus?

Extend coverage through COBRA (same coverage but employer may not pay premium) or go to Covered California website to buy coverage through the health care marketplace <https://www.coveredca.com>. Anyone uninsured and eligible to enroll can sign up through June 30th.

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	Stella Zipp
Reggie Faulk	Dorothy Feldman
Gladys Gonsalves	Bud Green
Gary Green	Sandra Harris
Louise Healy	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
Barbara Rhode	Roxanne Rosales
Madeline Rose	Gerry Ryden
Donna Schulte	Tom Sekel
Lee "Lucky" Shaver	Shari Sigl
Patricia Speere	John Wick

Please pray for the souls of those who have died:

Jim Anderson	Sarah Rose Burk
Nicki Boyko	Stan Ferreira
Bud Huss	Robert (Bob) Matranga
Sandra Sanchez	Ann Maresca
Maurice McKowen	

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

Parish News



**Saturday, April 25, 9am-1pm—
Divine Savior
front parking lot**

To help Orangevale Food Bank serve all residents of Orangevale and Fair Oaks who are in need of food. Visitors to the Food Bank have doubled since the onset of the COVID-19 crisis. For more information on donating to the Parish Food Drive or to volunteer to help, **click the link: <https://www.divinesavior.com/food-drive>**

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,

Fr. Roman

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. Much appreciation and abundant blessing to everyone helping in any small or big way. You can mail in donations, **drop in parish mail box** or those who want to switch to electronic giving, please go to our parish website **<https://www.divinesavior.com/giving>**. Please note that we have added a new option, "text giving."

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2020 Knights Charity through Golf Tournament - rescheduled to

September 28th! Click on the link for details. **<https://www.divinesavior.com/news/2020-knights-charity-through-golf-tournament>**

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 volunteer, please sign up at their website at <https://ovfoodbank.ivolunteer.com/>

Seventh Day Adventist Food Closet:
5810 Pecan Ave, Orangevale, 916-967-0405
Tuesdays 9-12

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.