

Dear People of Divine Savior and our Cherished Visitors:

Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 23:1-3a,3b-4, 5, 6; 1Peter 2:20b-25; John 10:1-10

The previous three Sundays provided us the opportunity to reflect on how the first followers of Jesus experienced His Presence. Beginning this Sunday and for the following three Sundays of Easter, we ponder various segments of John's Gospel. Today's Gospel and Responsorial Psalm picture Jesus as a shepherd. Both of these scripture passages reflect the great care Jesus takes of all of us in the name of His and our Heavenly Father. All we need to do is reflect on these words from today's Psalm: God provides repose, refreshment, guidance, courage, accompaniment, nurturance, soothing anointing, goodness and kindness.

Jesus revealed these traits in living out the mission that the Father had given Him, namely, to make known the love of the Father for all the people that God had created. We are called to embody these same traits. As we think of the "new normal" we are called to create as we someday move beyond the effect of Covid-19, what a different world and church we can bring about as we cooperate with the Holy Spirit in the work of transformation. How fulfilling life can be for anyone who embraces this privilege of recreating the community that Jesus established and entrusted to us.

We can't miss how Jesus speaks in extremes, identifying people either as shepherds or as thieves and robbers. We need to keep in mind that this is the way Middle Easterners thought and spoke. At the present time, much of our way of speaking isn't really that different, given the harsh divisions that exist both within our church and in the world. Who will be today's shepherds if not you and me? All of us are called to be leaders, to discover all of our God-given talents and wisdom and put them at the service of building a true Christian environment.

At the time of Jesus, various shepherds would bring their sheep into one holding area for the night. In the morning, each shepherd would call his sheep, and, being familiar with his voice, would follow him out of the holding area. The shepherd would walk ahead of the sheep. This is a great image of how we listen to the voice of Jesus calling us forth to follow Him in seeing to the care of one another in continuing to build a community based on example Jesus set for us.

Another image Jesus used to describe Himself is as a gate. If we want the freedom to be the version of ourselves that God created, we make sure that our lives are focused on Jesus. As the Gospel states, He came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Our privilege is to be the gate for one another, especially those who are seeking to have a more wholesome, holy and fulfilling life, or those who might have gone astray and now are looking to live a more purposeful way. Imagine what a joy it is as we continue to do our best to create a loving environment so comforting and accepting that even a very hardened individual can be embraced in love and provided adequate support to take the steps to let Jesus help them establish a personal relationship with Jesus. In the process, our relationship with Jesus can become even more intimate.

~ Fr. Roman Mueller S.D.S.

Prayer of thanks from Fr. Roman

Loving God, we find it important to offer thanks for a variety of people. At this moment, we thank the leaders of our country who have provided money so that small businesses, including non-profits like our parish, can retain their employees as we deal with the variety of realities Covid-19 have brought about.

Our parish did in fact submit an application, and, in the past week, we were granted the full amount we applied for. This amount, with the limits in place for these loans, provides money to cover the costs for two months for staff salaries and all benefits, utilities, and rectory rent. We are very, very thankful to the very competent and hard-working people in our diocesan finance office. They took care of the major detail work of presenting documentation that would have taken us on the local scene a great deal of effort and time. Our diocesan CFO (chief financial officer) was wise to make early on arrangements with Notre Dame Federal Credit Union to serve all the parishes in our diocese that wanted to apply. The personnel at NDFCU were very helpful, and we thank them for their efforts to transfer the money we had applied for.

We offer thanks for our office staff who also managed a great amount of detail work. Lastly, we thank God for all you, the taxpayers, who make it possible to be granted this money that will be a great resource to our parish. As we all know, one of our important fund raisers, our Crab Feed, was cancelled. The likelihood of being able to conduct our major fundraiser, our annual Treasure Fest, looks very slim at this moment. We thank all the parishioners who continue to offer gifts of financial treasure that help to support the operation of our parish. We pray that all parishioners will continue to offer thanks in this way, remembering that every little or big bit is very much appreciated. For various legitimate reasons, the amount of those offerings has decreased since the time we were no longer able to gather in our beautiful church.

We are grateful, then, that our parish will likely end this fiscal year at the end of June with a small surplus.

~ Fr. Roman Mueller S.D.S.



Since life as we know it has taken a pause, we have a unique opportunity to reflect on our faith journey. If there is a topic or scripture passage that you have questions about or would like explored further, please contact Fr. Roman, Fr. Marcel or the staff. We would love to hear from you.

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 Dziedzi
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
Vic Sevilla	Nena Sevilla
Matilda Sevilla	Maan Sevilla

Please pray for the souls of those who have died:

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

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

Week of May 4th—May 10th

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) <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUPTKQe3Rxis-k1MNsJL&rw>

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

Chaplet of Divine Mercy—Livestreamed on Mondays—Thursdays at 3pm, join Fr. Marcel as he prays the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at the very hour our Divine Savior died. **On Thursdays, Adoration will follow.**

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.

Resources for Senior Citizens:

Agency on Aging Area4, <https://www.agencyonaging4resources.org/>

CA "Great Plates Delivered Program" for seniors <https://covid19.ca.gov/restaurants-deliver-home-meals-for-seniors/>

Senior Care Solutions— Video on Responding to Older Adult Isolation and Depression During COVID-19 <http://www.seniorcs.com/responding-to-older-adult-isolation-and-depression-during-covid-19-concerns/>

Record Yield for Food Drive! Last



Saturday, more than 3.5 tons of food and approximately \$900 was donated by parishioners, St Vincent de Paul food closet, and local residents to benefit

the Orangevale Food Bank. **Our efforts will feed 1150 local individuals!** 29 faithful volunteers - masked like superheros! - helped to make this happen. Keith Wright, director of the food bank, stated that visitors have doubled since the onset of COVID-19, and those numbers are expected to continue to rise as partial or full loss of employment increases, and the accessibility of local residents to food and supplies continues under restrictions.

Divine Savior certainly answered the call of Jesus to feed the hungry! Many thanks to all who offered time, talent, and treasure to make this event so successful.

Do you have students in the San Juan or Folsom Cordova School Districts?

Click here for resources during COVID-19.

San Juan Unified: [www.sanjuan.edu/](http://www.sanjuan.edu/Page/48523)

[Page/48523](http://www.sanjuan.edu/Page/48523)

Folsom/Cordova Unified: www.fcusd.org/coronavirus



Giving While You Shop!

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