

PASTOR'S CORNER

August 16, 2020

Dear Parishioners of Divine Savior and our cherished visitors:

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7; Psalm 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Romans 11:13-15, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28

This weekend's Gospel provides a unique view into the personality of Jesus. During His interaction with a Gentile woman, He states that He "was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." That statement seems odd, given that several chapters earlier we read that Jesus interacted with an official of the Roman Empire, and did so in what was clearly a very cordial way.

So, what is going on in today's Gospel passage that prompted Jesus to act in the way that He did? Did Jesus have an issue with women, given that He interacted with a Gentile man in a very accommodating way? Is this woman an example of how Jesus could be prompted to change His mind? Was Jesus confused about whether He really was supposed to limit His concerns to the Jewish people? Was Jesus having a bad day? Perhaps He was exhausted and did not want to be bothered. If He was to be concerned only with Jewish people, why did He go into Gentile territory to begin with?

A couple of Sundays ago, when Jesus was caring for a very large crowd, His disciples had suggested to Him that, given that evening was setting in, He should dismiss the crowd. Here again they deal with their annoyance at the woman by suggesting that Jesus send her away; but, Jesus, in this case, says nothing about their request. Was this episode Jesus' way of teaching His disciples, and us, how to deal with people whom we might not consider our responsibility? Or was this a case of two Middle Eastern people interacting on the front running concerns of their day, namely, honor and shame?

The woman begins by honoring Jesus in calling Him Lord, Son of David. Jesus did not dishonor her by His being silent. For all we know, He wanted to see how serious she was about both her belief in Jesus and in her desire to have her daughter cared for. Jesus did not dishonor her when He stated what for Him was a conviction, namely, that He was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. She in turn retained her honor by repeating her request to have Jesus help her. In the culture of Jesus' day, it was acceptable to express what we would consider an insult in order to see whether doing so would finally shame the woman or be a catalyst for her to retain her honor and not take the insult seriously. We need to keep in mind that Jesus did not identify whom He viewed as children or dogs. For Him, it was a clever quip to see how serious this woman was. The answer came when she did not take personally the opened-ended statement about children and dogs. She was as clever as was Jesus.

What does this episode have to teach us? How can we maintain our honor when people make statements that would otherwise cause us to get defensive or take the statements personally? Or we might ask what the other person meant by a given statement. How can we be as clever as both Jesus and this woman were as we talk about controversial issues of our day? How can we interact in ways that we draw from one another the best we have to give?

~Fr. Roman

PARISH DRIVE-THROUGH

SOCIAL: #DivineSaviorStrong!

Join us on **Saturday, August 29, from 5:30-7:00pm**
for a drive-through social event focusing on staying
prayerful and positive during stressful times.

Following the Saturday 4:30pm livestream Mass, we will offer drive-up distribution of holy communion in the front parking area, utilizing our typical Sunday pattern. Our Drive-Through Social will occur **in the back parking area** and include live music and frozen treats for all!

"POSITIVITY" POSTERS

WANTED - great project to do at home!

[Click here](#) for a whole webpage of details!



Honoring the Dignity of God's People

Abortion is a life issue. "...this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every human right. It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development." **Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel: *Evangelii Gaudium***

Do I respect the life and dignity of every human person from conception through natural death?

Am I committed to both protecting

human life and to ensuring that every human being is able to live in dignity? For more on the social justice principles of our Catholic faith, go to the [Social Justice](#) webpage on the parish website. For more on Respect Life go to the parish webpage on [Respect Life Ministry](#).



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

Sheldon Anderson Jr.	Talon Bonanno
Julie Bouse	Eduardo Bravo
Bob Collier	Pat Collier
Lauri Comly	Noreen Davis
Michael W. Donner	Rosemary Dubé
Carol Dziedzic	JoAnn Elder
Reggie Faulk	Dorothy Feldman
Linda Goulet	Bud Green
Sandra Harris	Bridgette Hubbard
Martin Jennings	Carl Larson
Vicente Meno	Mauri Murillo
Allen D. Nelson	Glen Newton
Shirley Newton	Patty Nicholson
Jacque Olson	John Padden
Karen Paddock	Linda Parker
Gladys Reilly	Christopher Revak
Roxanne Rosales	Madeline Rose
Gerry Ryden	Donna Schulte
Tom Sekel	Shari Sigl
Israel Lopez Silva	Daya Vati Singh
Dorothy Wong	Stella Zipp

*Please pray for the souls of those
who have died:*

Carol Wilhelms

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

Seminars for Senior Citizens

Check out the parish website for these virtual seminars: [Senior Resources](#)



Going Deeper with Fr. Roman

Be sure to watch this weeks edition of “Going Deeper” with Fr. Roman: The Canaanite Woman and Knowing our Worth [Click here:](#)

LITURGY

We will celebrate **outside Mass** this Sunday, August 16th at 7:30am. All current guidelines will remain, **including to RSVP** for attendance, to wear a mask, to maintain physical distancing before, during and after Mass, and to bring a chair.

[Click here](#) to RSVP.

**Outdoor Communion will be shared after
Sunday, 9am Mass.**

This Saturday, August 15th at 9am, we will celebrate a livestreamed Mass for the Assumption of Mary. It is not a Holy Day of Obligation but we want to afford everyone an opportunity to celebrate this important Solemnity.

THANK YOU!

Our parish is blessed by the many parishioners who continue dedicating time to our parish during this pandemic. Here are a few recent examples... many thanks to Mic Coughlin and his son, Steven as well as their helpers, Patrick Day, Shery Maier, Gordie Hamilton, Sr. Sheila, Sr. Jean, Mike Stokes, Steve Roberts, and Jim Bennett for the wonderful job of leveling off the empty portion of the plot that includes our parish Giving Garden. Many thanks for the use of the various pieces of equipment used to do the work. Not only did they smooth out the ground surface, but in the process hauled away a considerable amount of debris from the area as well as from the fence bordering with our neighbors to the north. Their great work now makes it possible to mow whatever growth comes to be. Many blessings for the many hours of very dusty work.

Thanks to George Coward for getting the fountain working again and the rest of the campus development team who continue to work on repairs/maintenance of our parish grounds even while the campus is closed. And additional thanks to all those who helped with our wonderful outdoor Mass this past weekend and have been helping during our daily and weekend Masses.

FAITH FORMATION

ENROLLMENT FOR CHILDREN/YOUTH

The Faith formation team continues to explore all of the ways that the Holy Spirit can creatively guide our ministries. Whether virtually or in person, know that continuing to form your children/teens in the faith is our utmost priority. To enroll [click here](#).

For more information about children's ministry, including sacrament preparation, please contact Jen Shaver at jennifer@divinesavior.com,

For information about middle school ministry contact Brian Collier at brian@divinesavior.com

For information about Confirmation for 8th - 10th grade, please contact Debbie Sultan at lifeteen@divinesavior.com

For children ages 7 - 17 who have not been baptized or teens who have not made their First Communion contact Jen Shaver at jennifer@divinesavior.com

growing in faith together

Deepening Our Christian Faith - a small faith group study with Fr. Marcel

Sundays at 2pm, all are welcome to virtually attend Fr. Marcel's small faith group discussion. Together, let's deepen our Christian faith.

Please email Fr. Marcel for zoom meeting info or further information at frmarcel@divinesavior.com