

St. John the Baptist Church

11150 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530 • Phone (510) 232-5659 • Fax (510) 236-0960
www.sjtbc.us • e-mail: stjohs@sjtbc.us

Welcome!

*Our warmest welcome to all who worship with us,
whether a long-time parishioner or newly arrived in the parish.
As Catholic Christians, we are committed to knowing,
loving and serving God by obeying His commandments
and serving our brothers and sisters with love and respect.*

Schedule of Masses

Sunday, 10am at the Schoolyard
Limited to 100 persons
Reservations thru our website

Sacraments

Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday

(More information at our website.
Send an e-mail. Or call to leave a
message.)



Priests

Rev. Thuong Hoai Nguyen, Pastor
Rev. Thang Nguyen, CSsR, In-Residence

Deacons

Thom McGowan: (707)-653-4920
Loch Sekona: (510)-837-1052

Parish Office

Temporarily Closed

Bulletin Editor:

Ed Bautista, OCDS

Accountant/Bookkeeper:

Arthur De Leon

Children's Religious Education

Camille Herrera: (510) 220-3839

Confirmation – Youth Ministry

Gina DeLaTorre: (510)-815-0050

Adult Inquiry – RCIA

Christine Hickey: (510)-815-6022

Pastoral Council

Thomas Fleming: (510) 502-0080

St. Vincent de Paul Society

(510)-232-5659 for messages

St. John's Elementary School

Principal: Dina Trombetta
(510)-234-2244 • www.stjohnec.org

St. John's Community Center

6500 Gladys Ave.

St. John's Divine Mercy

Adoration Chapel

11152 San Pablo Ave.

It's Not Fair

The story in the Gospel doesn't sound fair. Some people worked from early morning until evening; others joined them at the end of the workday. But they all got the same pay. How can that be fair? Perhaps fairness isn't the point of the story. But then, what is?

The landowner, symbolizing God, hired the workers "after agreeing with them for the usual daily wage" (Matthew 20:2). If the earliest workers presumed that the agreed-upon wage would be changed, does that make God unfair? Those workers expected God to conform to what they considered just—and justice certainly is a very important value. However, God acted out of divine generosity—a quality we hope to benefit from but which might engender resentment when it is bestowed upon others.

As difficult as this story might seem to us, it raises some important questions about ourselves. Perhaps the story is not so much about God as it is about our

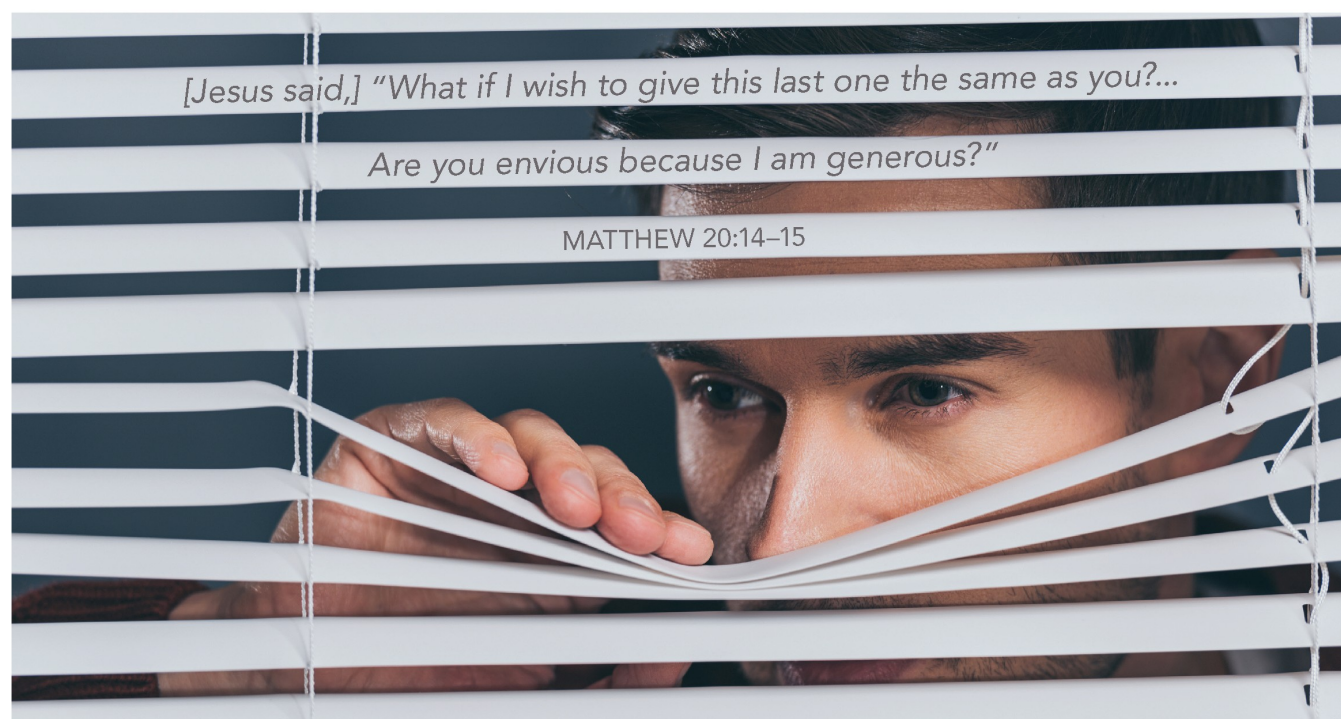
own attitudes. If we are faithful to what we believe is God's will for us, do we then presume that God owes us some kind of compensation? Do we expect that God will act according to our standards of retributive justice (this-for-that) rather than restorative justice (bring-it-back-to-life)? Do we resent God's graciousness toward others?

It is better that we all look to God for generosity than for justice. If we do, we will find, as the psalm response tells us: "The LORD is gracious and merciful" (Psalm 145:8).

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ✧ Do you resent others who seem to have an easier life? Does this lead you to question God's justice?
- ✧ Pray for the insight to realize that we earn nothing; everything is a gift from God.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Intention			Requested by
Saturday, September 19	5 p.m.	St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Sunday, September 20	8 a.m.	Paula Jean Setnicky †	Joe Lewis
	10 a.m.	Henry Moran †	GRIP Soup Kitchen
	6 p.m.	Thanksgiving	Bautista Family
Monday, September 21	8 a.m.	Bernardo Bautista, Jr. †	Tiarah Bautista
Tuesday, September 22	8 a.m.	69th Wedding Anniversary of Alfred and Helen Carlson	Carlson Family
Wednesday, September 23	8 a.m.	Thanksgiving	Bautista Family
Thursday, September 24	8 a.m.	Thanksgiving	Bautista Family
Friday, September 25	8 a.m.	Thanksgiving	Bautista Family
Saturday, September 26	8 a.m.	Thanksgiving	Bautista Family

Stewardship

For online giving: www.sjtbc/give

Thank you for your generosity.

Bishop's Annual Appeal

Rebuild My Church. As of July 31, our parish has pledged and contributed \$15,815.00. This represents 82.14% of our annual goal of \$23,400.00. Thank you for your generosity. (Annual appeal ends Dec. 31, 2020.)



Welcome to the Faith

Kaylee Fan

Prayers for Healing

Virginia Alday, Niani Barber Pearl & Patrick Batiste
 Irene Blair, Robert Britto, Gustavo Caceres and
 Friends, Evelyn Canepa, Al Carlson, Brenna Clark
 Jennette Cleadenger, Linda
 Crittendon, Cora Dongon, Mary
 Dong, Tami Duncan, Juanita
 Estrellas, Frank Gardner, Filomena
 Giese, Mike Giovannini, Joseph
 Golinveaux, Victoria Gregorio,
 Andy Gutierrez, James Gutierrez,
 Ruben Gutierrez Maydelle Halligan, Joanne, Marvin
 & Maurice Haynes, Sherry Highlander, Tamaya Hunt
 Ann Jones, Avelina Juat, Tom Kennedy, Marija
 Limon, Bernice Luckett Marian & Michael Luoma,
 Mary Agnes, Nancy McVey, Cecilia Mendiola,
 Francis Mondragon, Judith Padilla, Theresa Parella
 Angelina Patacsil, Pam Paun, Victoria Payless,
 Marlen Pineda and Friends, Wayne Price, Rose
 Anne, Fely Sabares, Jovita Santos, Linda Schneider
 Dimitri Smith, Salvador Tejero, Rose Texara, Pat
 Tilley, Isaac Tiongson, Joseph Vidal, Sarah Vidal
 Evodio Walle, Winston Williams, Jan Williamson



Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

In today's Gospel, the vineyard owner says, "I am free to do as I please with my money, am I not?" We are likewise free. Is a generous return to the Lord in thanksgiving for His many blessings among the choices we have made?

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

An unforgettable "break" for your marriage! Want something more lasting than a weekend vacation in Bahamas, Bermuda or the Mountains? Give your marriage the "best vacation break" by making Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Marriage Encounter Weekends include: Nov 20-22, 2020 in DANVILLE, CA and Feb 19-21, 2021 in DANVILLE, CA. For more information and/or to apply for a Weekend, visit our website at: oaklandwwme.org or at applications@oaklandwwme.org or 925-849-5466. Chuch and Annie
Sincerely, Michael & Rhoda Pereira, Local Worldwide Marriage Encounter Leaders, Oakland Encounter

communications@oaklandwwme.org

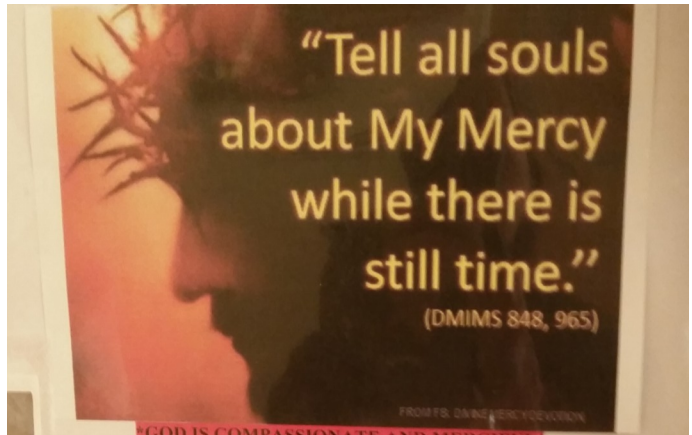
A CALL TO ACTION FROM THE CATHOLIC LEGISLATIVE NETWORK RE SB 1237

Currently, in California, a certified nurse-midwife is authorized to attend cases of normal childbirth and to provide prenatal, intrapartum, and postpartum care, including family-planning care, for the mother, and immediate care for the newborn as long as they are under the supervision of a licensed physician and surgeon. SB 1237 (Dodd, D-Vacaville) would remove the required supervision. While we support the expansion of the midwives' scope of practice, as Catholics, we are concerned with the expansion of abortion access this bill brings with it.

California is among the few states that allows certified midwives to include abortion care under their scope of practice. California is one of only 12 states in the country where abortions are allowed by someone other than a licensed physician. Now AB 1237 allow abortions without even the supervision of a licensed physician.

SB 1237 will endanger women by removing the supervision requirement. Not only will this hurt women, but it will also increase the number of innocent children killed every day. Finally, the bill also does not indicate clearly whether the nurse-midwives will be required to carry malpractice insurance. Ask your representative to protect women and the unborn by rejecting this increase to abortion access.

Urge your representative to vote NO on SB 1237. For more information, visit www.cacatholic.org/action-alerts



This Week's Service Schedule

Sunday Readings: Is 55:6-9. Phil 1:20c-24, 27a.

Mt 20:1-16a.

Monday Readings: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13. Mt 9:9-13.

Tuesday Readings: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13. Lk 8:19-21.

Wednesday Readings: Prv 30:5-9. Lk 9:1-6.

Thursday Readings: Eccl 1:2-11. Lk 9:7-9.

Friday Readings: Eccl 3:1-11. Lk 9:18-22.

Saturday Readings: Eccl 11:9-12:8. Lk 9:43b-45.

24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration. Daily at the Chapel.

Confessions. Sat., 4pm.

Sacrament of Baptism

Request by e-mail or leave a message at 510-232-5659. Deacon Loch Sekona, 510-837-1052.

Safe Environment

Every three years, volunteers and workers are required to complete the training at virtusonline.org.

Calls for Help & Hope

The Contra Costa Crisis Center has provided a lifeline of help and hope for 56 years.
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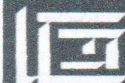
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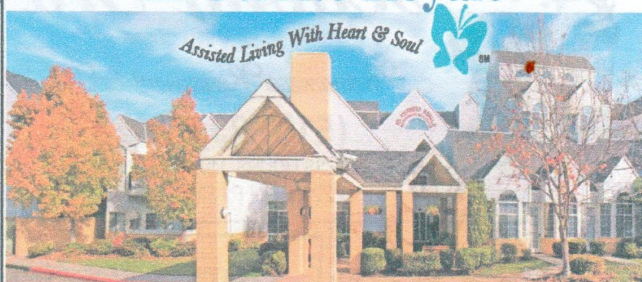
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