

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: stjohns@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

For information: www.sjtbc.us

Private Masses are held on weekday mornings and Saturday morning without the congregation.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: 4 p.m. Saturday

For inquiries, please call,
e-mail: stjohns@sjtbc.us or
thru website: www.sjtbc.us



Priests

Rev. Thuong Hoai Nguyen, Pastor
Rev. Thang Nguyen, 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.

February 7, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7

1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23

Mk 1:29-39



After sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door.

MARK 1:32-33

Grin and Bear It

This harsh bit of advice is more military than religious. However, it does carry some truth. There are times when there is no way to avoid hardship, so all we can do is find some way of dealing with it. This is the situation in today's reading from Job. He experiences life as burdensome. To make matters worse, life is too short to be able to get beyond the difficulty. So what does he do? What might most of us do in similar situations? Complain.

There is really nothing wrong with complaining. The problem is to whom and for how long. A large number of the psalms are complaints or, to use the theological term, *laments*. To complain to God can be a profound prayer, for it admits our human inability to fix everything. And, it presumes that God can and just might fix the problem. The psalm response continues this train of thought with a prayer of confidence that God will fix it. The Gospel reading then provides examples of how Jesus did just that.

These are not merely stories of past events. Rather, they trace a profound yet difficult-to-accept religious belief: when we are overwhelmed by hardship, we should turn to God and place our need in God's care, believing that God wants what is best for us. Perhaps the rest is out of our hands, but we must believe that we are in God's hands and, therefore, safe.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ✧ *Hardship can test our trust in God. Might this be the case with you?*
- ✧ *As a disciple of Jesus, pray for the gift of trust.*

February 7 2021

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We celebrate this season in the Church known as the Ordinary Time. Depicted in our scriptures and readings of Ordinary Time are accounts on the public life and ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you for the gospel accounts of the four evangelists, as well as, St. Peter and James, that we are able to get a glimpse of our Lord's life here on earth. Specifically, at this weekend's reading, St. Mark recalls: "Rising very early before dawn, Jesus left and went off to a deserted place where He prayed." The first thing Jesus did to start the day was to pray. I believe Jesus found prayer as a form of thanksgiving to the Father and to seek spiritual energy from God the Father. We, also, know that Jesus went to the synagogue to teach and proclaim the Good News. St. Mark writes, "On leaving the synagogue, Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with fever. They, immediately, told Him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then, the fever left her and she waited on them."

We see Jesus' "helping hands" administering the sick. His heart was open to the sick and readily offering a charitable act towards her. Then, in the afternoon and into the sunset, Jesus welcomes many who were sick and healed them. The evangelist recounts, "They brought to Him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases and drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew Him.

As disciples of Jesus we call upon our Lord Jesus and have that same gift and power to demand demons to flee. We, too, are able to cure the sick with Jesus and in Jesus.

Is Jesus' daily life and ministry similar or dissimilar from our own daily living. Do we spend a time in prayer each day and extend a ministering spirit to our brothers and sisters through our words and actions. Do we instill in us that we are sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father. Jesus is our perfect model to emulate. Lord, be always with us.

Respectfully with love,

Fr. Thuong Hoai Nguyen

Mass for the Intentions Week

| | Intention (s) | Requested by |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Saturday, February 6 | Raul Abesamis and Family-Healing | Geraldine Hampton |
| Sunday, February 7 Live Stream | St. John Parishioners | St. John Parish |
| Monday, February 8 | St. John Parishioners | St. John Parish |
| Tuesday, February 9 | St. John Parishioners | St. John Parish |
| Wednesday, February 10 | St. John Parishioners | St. John Parish |
| Thursday, February 11 | St. John Parishioners | St. John Parish |
| Friday, February 12 | St. John Parishioners | St. John Parish |
| Saturday, February 13 | Rosa Boitano-Death Anniversary | Kathy Klatt |

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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 Tionson, Joseph Vidal
Sarah Vidal, Evodio Walle, Winston Williams
Jan Williamson



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Like St. Paul in the Second Reading, the good steward can say, “I do all that I do for the sake of the Gospel in the hope of sharing in its blessings.” 1 Corinthians 9:23

This Week's Service Schedule

Sunday Readings: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7. 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23. Mk 1:29-39.

Monday Readings: Gn 1:1-1-19. Mk 6:53-56.

Tuesday Readings: Gn 1:20-2:4a. Mk 7:1-13.

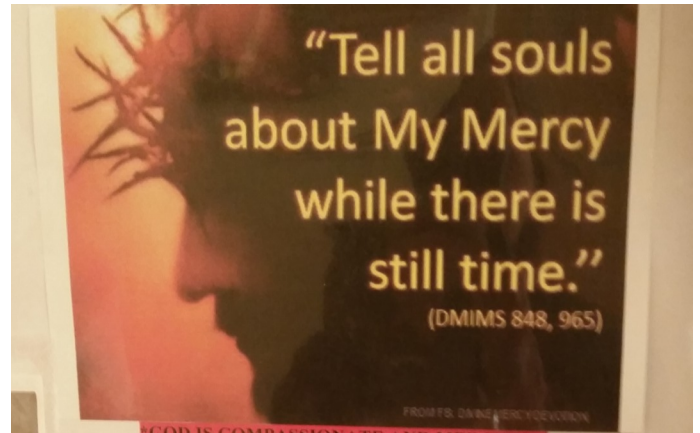
Wednesday Readings: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17.

Mk 7:14-23.

Thursday Readings: Gn 2:18-25. Mk 7:24-30.

Friday Readings: Gn 3:1-8. Mk 7:31-37.

Saturday Readings: Gn 3:9-24. Mk 8:1-10.



Daily. 24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration. Chapel.
Confessions. Sat., 4pm.

Safe Environment

Every volunteer and worker is required to complete the training at virtusonline.org every three years.

Baptism Classes

For information, E-mail: stjohns@sjtbc.us Or
check website: www.sjtbc.us or call the church at
510-232-5659.

Calls for Help & Hope

The Contra Costa Crisis Center has provided
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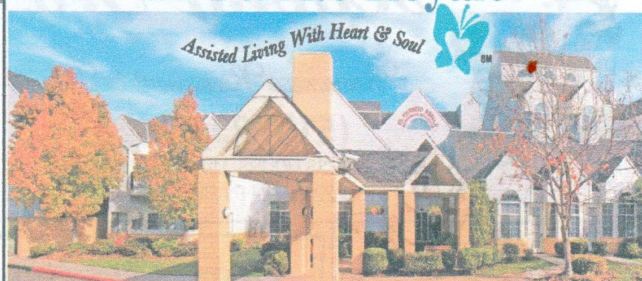
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WHEN IT'S TIME TO REMEMBER

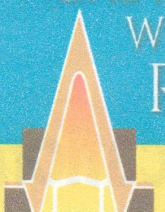
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