

Parish Newsletter
For
19 March 2023



The Fourth Sunday of Lent
From Father Robert – Reflecting On The Gospel

The Gospel of John's dramatic ninth chapter describes the healing of the blind man and the range of responses to it. The stuff of the miracle is spittle, mud, and the fingers of Jesus – the first two the images of messiness and the stuff of folkloric healing, but both transformed by the humanity of Jesus and the power of His outstretched hand that reveals the creative work of God. The blind man, however, must also do his part, must obey Jesus, the Sent One and go to the Pool of Siloam (which means “sent”) to wash his eyes. Then the blind man will see and himself become a *sent* one, a witness to what has happened to him not merely physically, but also because the eyes of his spirit have been opened to the truth of Jesus.

The healed man immediately becomes the center of attention and controversy, yet he remains steadfast in his witness to Jesus as the One Who healed him, and secure in his identity as the one “born blind” but now re-created and seeing. A cast of players appears on stage: neighbors, Pharisees, parents. The man's witness to Jesus is the cause of division among the religious leaders, those supposed to be insightful but

blind to the truth about Jesus. Like the Pharisees with their Sabbath myopia, we can midjudge others because of our ingrained religious prejudices; like the man's parents, we can be too frightened to get involved in any controversy, especially with a powerful yet unjust authority. There is so much finger-pointing in this gospel, so much accusation of sinfulness. The man born blind, his parents, and Jesus Himself are all accused by Jesus' opponents. Abandoned by his neighbors, rejected by his parents, driven away by the Pharisees, the once-born blind man is found again by Jesus in the last few verses. In the absence of Jesus, he has clung to the strange new experience of light. Just as the Samaritan woman in last week's gospel reading progressively named Jesus with greater insight as her faith in Him grew, so with this man. From simply knowing Him as Jesus, he calls Him a prophet and then proclaims that He comes from God. As always, Jesus seeks out the abandoned one and finds him in the temple. When Jesus reveals His identity, the man makes his profession of faith: “I do believe, Lord.” And he worships this Son of Man.

This gospel challenges us, as individuals and communities, to examine how we see with the eyes of faith and whether we are willfully blind to the Sent One, turning away from the Light of the World. What are our contemporary blindnesses? Sin gets clicks. Are we more interested in sin than in grace? Are we brave enough to accept being sometimes ostracized by others when we choose to walk in the light of Christ rather than stumble away from Him along our complacent, selfish, and socially pressurized paths of darkness?



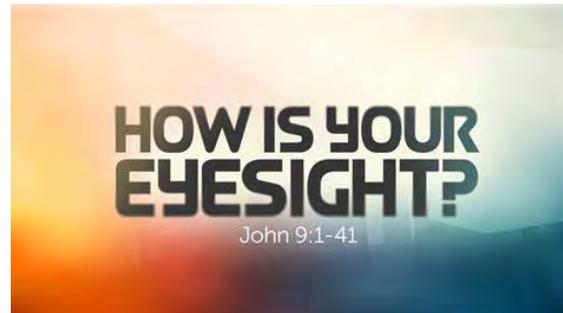
Living Liturgy – The Word of God

Rich imagery and beautiful story fill the gospel readings for the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent. Lengthy Cycle A readings allow us all to immerse ourselves into each scriptural scene more fully, to imagine, as St. Ignatius of Loyola believes, that we are placed within the particular gospel scene. For some communities, this imagining manifests in more than a liturgical or gospel proclamation. It might take the form of an enactment of the gospel story, sometimes with elaborate staging, costumes, and props. The gifts of the community are rightly celebrated during the preparation of such reenactments. As much as these are wonderful ways to engage in community-building experiences and exercise communal contemplation, how much of God's word is retained in the production and telling of the story?

Within such dramatic gospel story reenactments, we sometimes lose sight of our initial, more intimate connection to the story. With all the staging and production, it becomes less the narrative that we first imagine and takes on someone else's interpretation. More importantly with such theatrical productions, we have lost the chance to receive the full meaning of God's word.

A more vibrant way of celebrating these sacred stories would be to prepare the script well and the readers with narrations that come from a place of deeper faith. Stay close to the meaning of the texts and

proclaim them in a sensitive way. Authenticity in prayerful narration comes with thoughtful, spiritual preparation weeks before the actual Sunday. Give time and space for God's word to work in our hearts.



Questions for Further Reflection, Meditation, and Sharing

Where might there be a pocket of blindness in your own life? How could you invite God in to heal it?

What are your real values in life – where do you *really* spend your time, attention, energy, and money? Do any of these conflict with who you profess to be?

Does anything about God's work in these readings make you uncomfortable? How might that be a call to action?



COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

The Celebration of Communal Penance and Reconciliation will take place in our sanctuary on Thursday, March 23, 7:30 p.m. in the context of Sung Evening Prayer. Please see the complete schedule of Reconciliation Services in our Deanery in another place in the newsletter.

Women's Retreat

Our YLI Women are once again sponsoring a Lenten Women's Retreat on Saturday, March 25th, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary, followed by lunch in the Parish Hall. The cost of the retreat is \$10 and includes lunch. The morning reflection focuses on the place of Mary as her Son made His way through Jerusalem from being judged by Pilate to the Cross on Calvary and then burial. It promises to be very powerful, emotional, moving, and deeply spiritual. Reflections will be given by the members of YLI, speaking in the name of Mary. Kathy Augusta will be registering those who wish to attend following our liturgies for the next three weeks. I hope you will plan on attending.



Palm Sunday Preparation

You are invited to participate in one of our parish traditions on Friday, March 31st, beginning at 9:00 a.m., as we cut, wash, dry, and bundle the palm fronds that will be blessed and distributed to all those who join us for our Palm Sunday Liturgies. We will be in the Gathering Plaza and working on tables; please bring gloves, scissors, or cutting shears to help with the cutting.



Our High Holy Days begin on Thursday, April 6 through Sunday, April 9th. The schedule of liturgies is as follows:

Holy Thursday, April 6th

8:00 a.m. Sung Morning Prayer

7:30 p.m. The Evening Liturgy of the Last Supper; Procession, Reception of the Newly-blessed Holy Oils, Liturgy of the Word, Washing of Feet, Holy Eucharist, procession from the sanctuary to the Altar of Repose, adoration until 10:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 7th

8:00 a.m. Sung Morning Prayer

12:00 Noon – The Seven Last Words; reflections on the Seven Last Words of Jesus from the Cross by the women of our parish.

3:00 p.m. The Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion and Death; Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross, Holy Communion

7:30 p.m. Evening Service; Liturgy of the Word and Veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 8th

8:00 a.m. Sung Morning Prayer

7:30 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter Lighting of the New Fire, Lighting of the Paschal Candle; Procession, Exultet, Liturgy of the Word, The Rite of Profession of Faith, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Reception in the Parish Hall for the newly-initiated.

Easter Day, April 9th

The Feast of the Resurrection

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30

a.m. (please note the change of time);

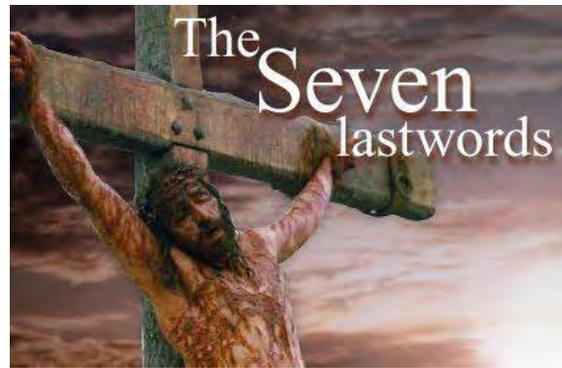
Procession, Liturgy of the Word, Renewal of
Baptismal Vows and Sprinkling Rite, Holy
Eucharist



Be A Part of A Great Tradition

Each year the members of our parish support the Art & Environment Committee as they prepare to create a beautiful, meaningful, and reverent environment for Holy Week, Triduum, Easter and its season of seven weeks. Contributions to the Easter Environment provide for the beautiful panels of cloth that grace the Icons, the Paschal Candle, the blooming plants and trees, the candles, and art work that helps us celebrate the great Easter Season.

Contributions can be made either In Honor Of or In Loving Memory Of family members, loved ones, and friends. Simply use the Easter Flower envelopes on the Credenza or any envelope designated for the Easter Environment. Many thanks for your thoughtfulness and generosity. All contributions will be acknowledged in the Parish Newsletter beginning on Easter Day.



On Good Friday at 12:00 Noon, we will have a service reflecting on the Seven Last Words of Jesus from the Cross. I am inviting the women of the parish to do these reflections that will also offer a time of silence, reflection, and hymns. If you would like to participate, please leave a message for me by calling the parish office or speak to me after the liturgies on these Sundays of Lent leading up to Good Friday.



Last Sunday following each liturgy, Karen invited parishioners to join the choir in preparation for Holy Week, Triduum, and Easter. I hope many of our parishioners will respond. She also invited your participation in being a part of the Chime Choir, similar to a Handbell Choir. Practices take place each Thursday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. It is a six-week commitment as we prepare for our high holy days. I hope you will give it prayerful consideration.



Adult Acolytes

I would also like to extend an invitation to our adults to consider becoming Adult Acolytes, those who carry the Processional Cross and Candles for our feast day liturgies. Training is provided and we would like to have several more teams who would be able to rotate among the various liturgies that upcoming for Holy Week, Triduum, and Easter and its season. If you are interested, please speak to me personally or give the office a call and leave your contact information and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you!



Our parish is incredibly blessed with many volunteers who offer their gifts, time, talent, and ability to help on a daily basis.

On behalf of all of us, I wish to thank:

The Cleaning Team who arrives early each Saturday morning to clean the sanctuary and the bathrooms in preparation for the weekend and the coming week: **Steve Rojek, Carole Miller, Ada Nnaji, Mency Osborne, Angela Bueno, Jean Rogers, Al Cosce, and Phil Hadsell.**

To **Virginia Noack** who cleans and maintains the bathrooms throughout the week, replacing paper products, as well as vacuuming the carpets at the entrance to the narthex.

To **Carole Miller** who cleans the gutters along the front of our parish property, attends to the neatness of the Gathering Plaza, and looks after the floral arrangements and plants that are a part of the environment.

To **Lisa Lombardo** who records and uploads our weekend liturgy to our YouTube channel.

To all our Liturgical Ministers: **Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Greeters, Altar Servers, Adult Acolytes, Sacristans, and Altar Guild, Members of the Art & Environment Committee, Members of the Liturgy Committee, and Music Ministry.**

To those who assist in the office: **Bev Iacona, Lorraine Lohmeier, Alicia Perez, and Mel Costanza.**

To those who assist with finance matters, counting the collection and doing the required financial accounting.

To the members of the Security Team who provide security at all of our liturgies: **Dave Simpson, Brian McCoy, Tony Gumina, Don Benson, Bill Barbanica, John Connelly, and Jose Perez.**

To those who facilitate the twice monthly food distribution in our parking lot when the Food Truck arrives from Contra Costa-Solano Counties Food Bank.

Celebration of Life

Barbara Rose Davis, age 68, died tragically on March 2, 2023. She died in a car crash just north of Goldfield, Nevada. Rosie had been talking about driving to Las Vegas to visit her siblings for quite some time. On the way there, she hit black ice and spun into oncoming traffic. Rosie died instantly.

Rosie was born on May 25, 1954 in Chestertown, Maryland, the fourth of six children born to John & Anna Stoltzfus, originally from Lancaster County Pennsylvania. She attended public school in Baldwin Park, California, and earned a bachelor's degree in organ performance from the University of California Los Angeles, graduating Magna Cum Laude.

She was married to her husband, Richard Davis, for 15 years and lived in Rossmoor since 2009. Rosie retired in 2020 from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, was actively involved with the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, volunteered as an after-school tutor at Hope Solutions in Pleasant Hill, was a platelet donor for the Red Cross, and Co-President of the Penguin Dinner-Dance Club in Rossmoor.

She regularly accompanied musical performances as either a pianist or organist. She devoted herself to helping her kids and grandkids with anything and everything they were interested in.

Whether gliding across a dance floor, schussing down the slopes, or snorkeling in Maui, she shared much with her husband.

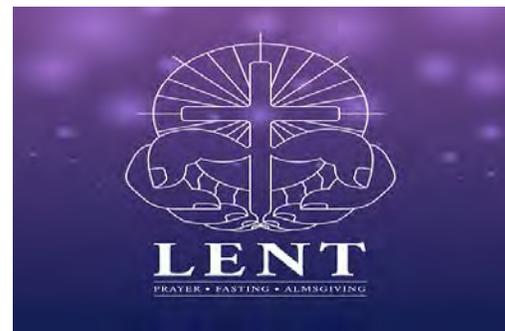
During the Christmas season she worked tirelessly to spread her Love in toffee-form. She would make plans to visit as many people as she possibly could week-to-week. If she could get you on a bike or on the slopes, she would have a blast.

Rosie is survived by her husband, Richard, her two children Matthew and Malinda, Richard's two children, Jennifer, married to Matt, and Jared, married to Leah, her seven grandchildren Lyla, Tabitha, Solomon, Kirklan, Jonah, Kate and Zach, who all called her "Nana," and her siblings Jonas, Fern, Stephen and Sharon. She is preceded in death by her parents John and Anna, and her sister Edna.

Rosie's Celebration of Life service will be held at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. The service will be followed by a reception at the church.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to remember Rosie are encouraged to make a donation in her honor to Hope Solutions via their website at:

<https://www.hopesolutions.org/donate/>



Faith Formation: Almsgiving

The foundational call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of the Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on "almsgiving," which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is "a witness to

fraternal charity" and "a work of justice pleasing to God." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 2462).

Father Robert shared at all the liturgies on Ash Wednesday, that the collections for those liturgies would be designated to help our adopted parochial school, St. Peter Martyr. The families of this school are in need of our support. This year our Faith Formation Students at each class through March 28th will be collecting coins to donate to St. Peter Martyr School.

As we continue to teach and support our Faith Formation Students in prayer and fasting, it is just as important that the children learn the importance of Almsgiving. These are the three pillars of Lenten Practice. Please encourage your children to bring any coins they have to help support those who are in need. Thank you.

Shelli Daviess
Faith Formation Coordinator



**2023 Bishop's Ministries Appeal –
March 11-12**

The Bishop's Ministries Appeal kicked off last weekend. This yearly campaign raises funds for a variety of ministries, services, and programs that benefit the parishes and schools in the Oakland Diocese. Five specific areas receive funds from the Appeal:

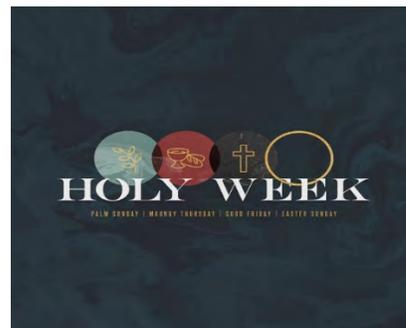
- Religious Education & Formation;
- Clergy Formation & Support;
- Pastoral Ministries & Services;
- Priest Retirement & Care; and

- Support for Catholic Schools & Parishes in need.

Funds raised are never directed to any other use. This year, Bishop Barber has selected the theme for the Appeal – *I Am With You Always*.

Last year, our parish raised \$36,495 for the Appeal. This year, our goal is \$34,900. Everyone who participated in the Appeal in the past will be receiving a letter from the bishop, along with a contribution envelope. Additional envelopes will be made available on the credenza at the back of the church. Please make your checks payable to the Bishop's Ministries Appeal. Be sure and identify St. Ignatius of Antioch as your parish so the gift is credited to our parish.

In order to meet our goal, I am asking for a one-time contribution of \$100 from each registered household. I realize that not everyone is in a position to contribute in that amount, however, all gifts of any amount are welcome. If we all participate, we will meet the goal. If you prefer to make an online gift, go to this page: <https://oakdiocese.org/bishops-appeal-donation-page>.



Dear Faith Formation Parents, Students and Catechists,

I want to let you know that on the Faith Formation Calendar, classes are scheduled to resume on Wednesday, April 5, 2023. This date is incorrect. St. Ignatius of

Antioch Church does not hold meetings, including Faith Formation Classes during Holy Week. Please note: *All* Faith Formation Classes will resume on *Wednesday, April 12, 2023.*



*Justice Corner by Carolyn Krantz,
Pastoral Associate*

I recently encountered an elderly lady at Kaiser who had been stranded and needed a ride home. When I offered to provide it, she was grateful, but her relatives at home were suspicious. In prayer, I began to see that this was a parable for our own spiritual journey. We are all on our way home, but sometimes we get stranded. It is up to a stranger, or a strange experience to help us find our way, despite the grumblings of those around us.

This is also true of our life stages. We move from childhood through teenage years, from teenagers into early adulthood and the world of college and work. Then to the crises of middle age and finally into the wisdom years. In each of these stages, we need a family or community to lovingly hold us for a time, then to invite us to a new direction of life's meaning for us. We find a home then go through a sort of identity crisis to begin to discover who we are in new ways. We transition to a new understanding of ourselves. Hopefully we have a family that holds us lovingly for a time then challenges us to a new awareness of who we are and what we are called to do with our lives. We find a home for a while with our own birth family, or a consistent group of friends, or the family we start in adulthood, or with our church family. If we are lucky

enough to have this “holding,” then we negotiate the transition and move forward. There is a time of being held, and a time of letting go.

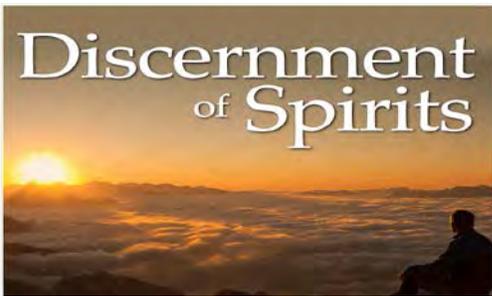
The Gospel story of the man born blind provides a similar history of such growth. The blind man must let go of who he thought he was to transition to a new understanding of his place in Jesus' world. His blindness isn't his parents' fault, as Jesus makes clear. The blind man goes and washes himself in the pool of Siloam. He “is sent” to make the transition from blindness to new sight.

The Pharisees question this new sight. Has anyone ever questioned your choices when you transition to a new phase of life? The blind man is now questioned by the Pharisees. When we move through a transition to a new phase of our lives, those around us always question our decisions. The man born blind comes gradually to an awareness of his new place. They ask him what he thinks about Jesus. He first says, “He is a prophet,” then the blind man grows in understanding of what has happened to him. With more courage than his parents have, he becomes a teacher to those who are questioning him. “It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If He were not of God, He would not be able to do anything.” The man then pays the price for moving to the next stage: he is thrown out of the Temple. Many of us know this response to our transitioning to a new phase.

But the last part of the story gives us hope. Jesus finds him, and shares with him who He is, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” In all humility the one born blind asks for clarification, “Who is He sir that I may believe in Him?” When we go through the hard transitions of life, we need to ask the

Lord what it means and where does He want us to place ourselves next. All of life's events are in the hands of God. He guides us through because He is God's Son and He sends His Spirit to call us home. We must echo with the blind man, "Who is He sir that I may believe in Him." We say yes to the changes before us.

We stand humbly before God and accept the transitions required of the time after COVID. We ask Jesus' to give us sight about the changes we have to make. We do not accept the teachings of those who want to hold onto the past. We recognize the Pharisees who want us to be the church before Vatican II. We say yes to the pain and sacrifice of making "all things new."



Helpful Hints to the Spiritual life by Carolyn Krantz, Pastoral Associate, Article 4

This is the final article on Discernment of Spirits developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola. As we mature in our spiritual life, we discover different feelings and emotions. Mind and heart are busy refining our experiences and finding the hand of God in them. Ignatius names these feelings and awarenesses, "good and evil spirits." These movements of the mind and heart experienced in prayer fluctuate between consolation and desolation. In consolation we find peace and sure knowledge that the Spirit is guiding us. In desolation we experience doubt, agitation and confusion. We are not talking here about decisions which would cause us to commit sin, but

rather of movements of the mind and heart in prayer that affect our daily life decisions.

There are times that our prayer life is taken up by a major crisis or decision, but most of the time, we are just nagged by plodding through the ordinary. The wash needs to be done, I did not check junior's math homework, etc. So much of our experience is kept to ourselves. Some of us know to find a spiritual director who can listen to us and help us discern where God is. In today's church, there are many trained laity who can provide this service. It does not have to be a priest, since they are often consumed by liturgies, funerals and administration of parishes, but rather a prayerful person of faith.

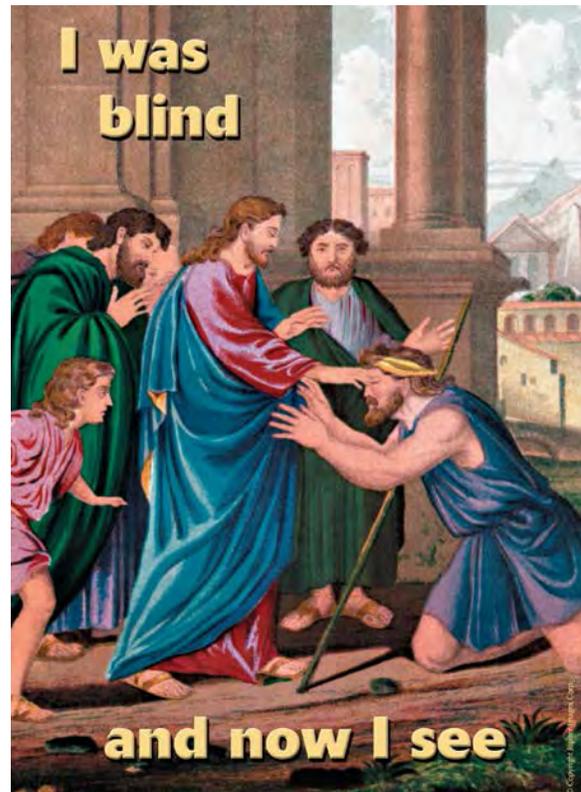
Rule 13 of St. Ignatius' gift to us, encourages us to not keep our spiritual life a secret. After one has assessed what is going on, TELL IT! Find a spiritual person to share one's internal struggles. Once the silence is broken, the guiles of the evil spirit are utterly defeated. So if you are plagued by confusion, doubt or discouragement, share it! Here is an example from the life of Thomas Merton.

Thomas was struggling with his vocation. In his prayer, he went back and forth. Should he enter the Trappist monastery or not? Every time he got close to sharing his struggle, he hesitated. He had a teacher that he trusted, but could not make himself get an appointment to share his dilemma. He was caught between his desire to share and his fear of sharing. Finally, he overcame his hesitation and spoke about his internal battles with this teacher. Guess what? All his struggles disappeared. He became clear that this was his vocation. His doubts disappeared. He progressed from "myself in desolation" to "myself reflecting on myself in desolation."

In his final three rules, Ignatius helps us to see where the enemy is in spiritual desolation and gives us ways to defeat him. He speaks of the enemy's temptations (Rule 12), deceits (Rule 13) and attacks (Rule 14).

Ignatius says that the enemy is weak when faced with strength and strong when faced with weakness. He encourages us to face desolation and temptation with a firm resolve. When faced with disquiet, agitation, we may be tempted to let prayer go. By being strong and saying, "No, I will pray right now," one can clearly defeat the enemy. If the enemy thinks we are weak, he goes on to suggest that we are forgotten by God and therefore brings us to a state of general discouragement. If we are strong, peace returns to us.

There is another example from the life of St. Theresa of Lisieux where she is plagued with doubt, anguish and darkness about her vocation. She gets her novice mistress out of choir (a place of common prayer for the community) to tell her "the state of my soul." She reports, "My doubts left me completely as soon as I finished speaking." So if you are in confusion and darkness, find a spiritual friend or director to share it with. This ministry requires training and prayer. If you would like the experience of spiritual direction, call the office and ask for Carolyn, Pastoral Associate.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Help Us See

Good and gracious God,
you see our inner life,
and bring light to the darkness.
Thank you for shining your loving
kindness
on our desire to know your Son.
Lift our hearts with joy today.
Help us inhale the signs of spring hope
coming to life around us.
Cast your holy light on the shadows
of our lives
and heal our spiritual wounds.
Gift us with the desire to see the world
with the eyes of faith
through Christ the Lord. Amen.

Sunday, March 19, 2023
Spiritual Sight

Today's readings: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6–7, 10–13a; Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 6, 6 (1); Ephesians 5:8–14; John 9:1–41. The Fourth Sunday of Lent is known as Laetare (Rejoice) Sunday, a name inspired by the entrance antiphon, “Rejoice, O Jerusalem” (Isaiah 66:10). Today, we momentarily pause from some of the penitential observances of Lent. With joy, our eyes turn toward Easter. This spirit of rejoicing is reflected in our liturgies, which differ from the other Sundays of Lent. Flowers are permitted in the sanctuary. The priest may wear rose-colored vestments, ordinarily worn only on one other day of the liturgical year, the Third Sunday of Advent, or Gaudete Sunday.

The Scripture readings also highlight reasons to rejoice. Jesus proclaims to his disciples, to a blind man on

the side of the road, and ultimately to all of us, “I am the light of the world” (John 9:5). Perceiving the deepest needs of the man’s heart, Jesus performs a miraculous healing. He restores the man’s physical sight to offer him spiritual sight. Through his subsequent encounters with Jesus, the healed man comes to see, believe, and follow him.

Today we are invited to wake up from our blindness. Jesus looks into our hearts and desires to illuminate our intrinsic goodness. He offers us the gift of spiritual sight to see God’s essence radiating through all human reality. Shall we follow the blind man’s lead and joyfully look at the world and all those we meet with the eyes of faith?



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, March 20

St. Joseph

Today we lift up Jesus' earthly father, St. Joseph, who embodied virtue as a father, dedicated worker, compassionate husband, and faithful listener. In fact, our sacred Scriptures recount his choices but never his words. Four times Joseph listens to the angel sent by God to guide his choices, and each time he courageously answers with quiet, trusting obedience. Make time today to emulate his prayer stance by quieting your heart and listening. *Today's readings: 2 Samuel 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27 and 29; Romans 4:13, 16–18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18–21, 24a or Luke 2:41–51a.*

Tuesday, March 21

Holistic Healing

The healing power of Jesus is on full display in the Gospel story about the man who had been sick for thirty-eight years. As with most healing stories attributed to Jesus, being “made well” is twofold. Jesus restores both physical health and implores those who are healed to seek spiritual health by avoiding sin. Lent offers us the path to wholeness. Healing comes in a variety of forms. Where do you need Jesus' healing touch today? *Today's readings: Ezekiel 47:1–9, 12; Psalm 46:2–3, 5–6, 8–9; John 5:1–16.*

Wednesday, March 22

The Lord is Near

The responsorial psalm today gets right to the hopeful theme of Lent: God desires to be close to us. The descriptions of the Lord as kind, merciful, slow to anger, gracious, kind, compassionate, faithful, attentive, just, and holy lead to the acclamation that “the LORD is near to all who call upon him” (Psalm 145:18). Place Psalm 145 on your bathroom mirror or over your kitchen sink where you will be reminded throughout each day of God's enduring desire to be in relationship

with us. *Today's readings: Isaiah 49:8–15; Psalm 145:8–9, 13cd–14, 17–18; John 5:17–30.*

Thursday, March 23

Sent by God

Jesus makes a bold claim to the Jewish community: “the Father has sent me.” As he says this, Jesus implores them to heed his voice and trace his living presence to the promises made to Moses. They respond with blind resistance. We have the gift of a much longer view on this interchange between Jesus and the community. Do we respond with faith or skepticism? *Today's readings: Exodus 32:7–14; Psalm 106:19–20, 21–22, 23; John 5:31–47.*

Friday, March 24

Close to the Brokenhearted

Our responsorial psalm tenderly proclaims the promise that the Lord is “close to the brokenhearted” (Psalm 34:19). Part of the human condition is the experience of loss, disappointment, rejection, grief, and depression. Our faith offers us confident consolation that the Lord saves “those who are crushed in spirit” (34:19). Remember that we are never alone in our despair; the Lord never forgets us but especially leans in to be close when we are low. *Today's readings: Wisdom 2:1a, 12–22; Psalm 34:17–18, 19–20, 21 and 23; John 7:1–2, 10, 25–30.*

Saturday, March 25

Annunciation of the Lord

The word *annunciation* means “announcement.” In our faith story, the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary changes the course of history. Lent reminds us that God is announcing good news to us in a variety of forms and through the most unexpected messengers. Attend to the angels in our midst, sent by God to inspire, encourage, challenge, and affirm us. The week began with Laetare (Rejoice) Sunday. Today's feast bookends our week of rejoicing. What good news is God offering us today? *Today's readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; 8:10; Psalm 40:7–8a, 8b–9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4–10; Luke 1:26–38.*



The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.



**American
Red Cross**

St. Ignatius of Antioch/ Team Ouimet

St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish Hall

April 27, 2023

9:30 am - 3:00 pm

**For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
Sign up early before it fills up**

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS



Fish Fry

St. Ignatius of Antioch
Knights of Columbus

Fridays

March 10th-Fish Dinner Night

March 24th-Calamari Night

March 31st-Clam Chowder Night
With Fish Dinner

3351 Contra Loma Boulevard
Antioch, CA

Served from 4:30-7:00pm

Eat-in at the Parish Hall
Drive-through service also available

\$18.00 per meal, child's meal \$15.00
One Free Water or Soda w/each dinner

Foster Parent Training

March 24-25, 2023

If you are at least 18 years old, financially stable, can pass a background check, and have adequate space to help kids in need, Call Us.

925.370.1990

Friday, March 24, 2023

Orientation from 9am-12pm

Zoom ID# 958 685 3516

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Advance 1 from 10am-1pm

Zoom ID# 966 6568 6538

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Advance 2 from 1:30pm-4:30pm

Zoom ID# 946 6960 0242



PASSION PLAY

30th Anniversary



Experience the Passion of our Lord with the youth of Good Shepherd parish.

ଓମନରଓମନରଓମ

Since 1993, hundreds of parish youth and young adults have dedicated themselves to making this presentation a meaningful and moving experience for all who come to witness it. In this, our 30th year, we invite your youth groups and church members to join us at any of the following performances to share in this unique way of reliving Christ's passion.

ଓମନରଓମନରଓମ

Sunday, March 26th – 7:00 PM – Opening Performance (with informal reception following)
Saturday, April 1st – 7:00 PM
Palm Sunday, April 2nd – 5:30 PM
Holy Wednesday, April 5th – 6:00 PM
Good Friday, April 7th – 7:30 PM (with veneration of the Cross)

ଓମନରଓମନରଓମ

Good Shepherd Church, 3200 Harbor St., Pittsburg

Mary at the Cross

A MINI RETREAT

Sponsored by YLI #101 for the women of
St. Ignatius of Antioch and Most Holy Rosary Churches
Led by YLI Members with Spiritual Guidance by Father Robert Rien

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023
10:00AM – 1:00PM
ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH CHURCH

Mary, mother of God, held a unique role in the earthly life of Jesus, her son. She carried Him in her womb, shared the joys of his boyhood, and helped him grow into adulthood. She taught him the roots of our faith and the rich Jewish traditions of their time. She helped him step into his public ministry at the wedding feast at Cana. But it wasn't all joy for Mary, who had "a sword pierce through her soul" as she stood by during his final moments. What can we learn from Mary as we navigate the troubles of our own lives as women, mothers, caretakers?

Cost is \$10.00 per woman. Light lunch is included. Deadline to RSVP is March 22, 2023. Your payment is your reservation. Make checks payable to YLI #101 and mail them to Kathy Augusta, 2004 Crestwood Drive, Antioch, CA 94509. Please include your name, phone, and email address with your reservation. For questions, contact Kathy at 925.628.9761.





Easter Food Distribution

ANTIOCH RESIDENTS

ONLY

We will take calls and issue numbers

on: Tuesday March 21, 2023

~~900~~AM to 1200 Noon and 100 PM to 400 PM

FOR ENGLISH CALL 925-757-7450 FOR SPANISH CALL 925-757-0941

WE ARE GIVING AWAY 100 CANNED HAMS AND GIFT CARDS VALUE \$15.00

The Location is Most Holy Rosary Parish Center

21 E.15th Street

Distribution Date and time

***WEDNESDAY APRIL 5 FROM 10:30 AM TO 12:00
Noon***

***PLEASE BRING YOUR ISSUED NUMBER; GOVERNMENT ISSUED PHOTO ID
AND PROOF OF RESIDENCY***

St. Ignatius of Antioch Relay for Life Team
Benefitting Relay for Life of the Delta



Four Person Scramble - \$120 per person

Golf Cart and practice balls included

Pasta Dinner after tournament Hosted by St. Ignatius of Antioch Relay Team

Prizes for first place and second place teams –

prizes for longest drive and closest to the hole

Raffle prizes available

Call Alicia Perez @ 925-783-8325 or e-mail Aliciaperez689@yahoo.com

Venmo available for payments or make check payable to Alicia Perez

St. Ignatius of Antioch Relay for Life Team

AP Challenge Golf Tournament

Saturday, April 15, 2023

Lone Tree Golf and Event Center

1PM Tee Off

\$480 per team = \$120 per player

Prizes for first and second place teams , Longest Drive, closest to the hole, Raffle prizes!

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please provide team members names and phone numbers:

1. _____ Phone: _____

2. _____ Phone: _____

3. _____ Phone: _____

4. _____ Phone: _____

Please Remit payment to: Alicia Perez by check, cash or venmo

Text me at 925-783-8325 for venmo information

3716 Cascade Ct. Antioch, Ca. 934509

Alicia Perez Co-captain of the ST. Ignatius of Antioch Relay for Life Team

An American Cancer Society fundraising event.

Pasta dinner Player's guests \$10



St. Ignatius of Antioch Relay for Life team is holding a Golf tournament at Lone Tree Golf and Event center **on Saturday, April 15, 2023**

We are asking for your help with support by sponsoring a tee box to advertise your business or organization

you can Also have a loved one's name placed on one of our tee boxes, in their memory or in their honor. We will make posters with your loved one's name and if you send us a picture, we will also add it to the poster.

The 11 by 8 1/2 posters are only \$50 each and the entire proceeds will go directly to American Cancer Society.

Your posters will also be displayed at our St. Ignatius of Antioch Mini -Relay for life walk, where we will place the cards along our walking path for all to see and acknowledged by our participants.

Please fill the form below and return with your business card, or picture of your loved one and a check made out to American Cancer Society.

BUSINESS, ORGANIZATION OR INDIVIDUAL'S

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE/CELL NO. _____

Please Return form with check made payable to American Cancer Society

Include your business or organization card with your logo on it

Individual sponsorships, please include a picture of your loved one, friend, coworker.

For more Information contact: Alicia Perez at 925-783-8323

DEANERY 10
RECONCILIATION SERVICE FOR LENT 2023



Church of the Good Shepherd

March 13 @ 7pm

Most Holy Rosary

March 22 @ 7pm

Our Lady Queen of the Word

April 3 @ 7pm

Immaculate Heart of Mary

March 28 @ 7pm

St. Ignatius of Antioch

March 23 @ 7:30pm

St. Anthony

March 30 @ 7pm

St. Peter Martyr

March 21,22,23 @ 5pm