



CHURCH OF THE

Good Shepherd

One Flock, One Family, Living and
Sharing the Love of Christ

3200 Harbor Street ~ Pittsburg, CA 94565
Phone: 925-432-6404 Fax: 925-432-6748
Email: office@goodshepherdpittsburg.org
www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org
www.facebook.com/goodshepherdpittsburg



MAY
17
2020



SIXTH
SUNDAY OF
Easter



Jesus said,
"I will ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you always,
the Spirit of truth."

JOHN 14:16-17

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Paschal Candle illustration: Jerry Ward © U.S. Bishops' Council, 2020. Photo: iStock/Adrian Stock

Online Live Stream Mass
Schedule. Links are available on our
website and our facebook

Monday– Friday

3:00pm

(With the chaplet of Divine Mercy at 2:50pm)

Saturday

8:am and 5:30pm (Vigil)

Sunday

**10am; 12:00pm;
3:00pm (Spanish)**

**Drive through Confession in front of
the Church**

**Saturdays 4pm– 5pm
or by appointment**



ANOINTING OF THE SICK HOTLINE 510-259-8706 ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ASSISTANCE LINE 925-432-6404—Ext. 25



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments” (John 14:15). Jesus made this statement in his farewell discourses at the Last Supper as if he were saying: I am going now. You might forget all the other things I did and said. Just don’t forget this one. This is the summary of everything I have told you. It is not about doctrines, nor about catechism, nor about the Bible, but about one thing: LOVE.

To Jesus, there is only one test of love and that is sacrifice. It was by his sacrifice that Jesus showed his love of God; and it is by our sacrifice that we show our love of Jesus. We all know there are people who profess their love in words but who, at the same time, bring pain and heartbreak to those whom they claim to love. There are children and young people who say that they love their parents, and who yet cause them grief and anxiety. There are husbands who say they love their wives and wives who say they love their husbands, and who yet, by their selfishness, their thoughtless unkindness, bring pain to one another. To Jesus, real love is not an easy thing. It is shown only in true sacrifice.

How did God show his love to the world? He didn’t just stay in heaven and tell us that he loves us. He came down to save us even though his saving act cost his life. So sacrifice is another word for love. Truly, there is no love without sacrifice. Sacrifice is love in action. When we say we love God, we sacrifice our times, our works to be with him. When we say we love our neighbors, we give up our ego, our pride to forgive them. Sacrifice! *There is no better love than the one who lays down his life for his friends.*

Laying down your life clearly shows that love requires a sort of death to self. It requires we look to the other first, putting their needs before ours. When we turn our eyes and hearts toward others, we begin to discover countless ways to lay our lives down for them: little acts of kindness, words of affirmation, a listening ear, help with a chore, etc. Greater acts may include a heroic forgiveness, a love when we do not feel like loving, a giving of mercy when it appears undeserved, or a decision of going out of our way to be there for a person when we do not have time in our busy schedule.

By giving ourselves completely away, we find ourselves and discover the presence of our loving Lord. And by doing this, we follow what Jesus says: *“If you love me, you will keep my commandments” (John 14:15).* Lord, help us to put others first. Help us to love until it hurts. Amen!

Fr. Thi Hoang

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1- The Contra Costa Health Services have extended the mandate of shelter in place through the end of May. The parish office will be continued to physically close until May 31st. We are operating the office virtually through the telephone (925-432-6404), our website www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org, or email at office@goodshepherdpittsburg.org.

All masses are live streamed, but the chapel is available 24 hours a day to provide a place of prayer and solace. Contact us for the code to enter the chapel. We appreciate your understanding in this matter and praying for your health and safety and a swift end to this crisis.

2- Anointing of the Sick Hotline: 510-259-8706. St. Vincent de Paul Assistance Line 925-432-6404 ext. 25

3- Our Youth Confirmation Mass originally scheduled for May 22th is postponed until further notice. The Diocese will let us know the date and we will keep you updated.

4- First Holy Communions originally scheduled for the weekend of April 25-26 are now moved to weekend of June 13th-14th– Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

5- All First Holy Communions scheduled for the month of May are moved to the month of July.

6- Sacraments for RCIA and RCIC Candidates will be tentatively celebrated on the Feast of the Trinity, June 7th at 10am if the circumstance allows us to do so. We will keep you updated if there are any changes.

If you have any question, feel free to contact me at frthihoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org or 925-432-6404. Ext. 11

WHAT ARE YOU DOING DURING THIS TIME OF QUARANTINE TO INCREASE YOUR FAITH?

Father Thi has made available to us one of the most revolutionary multi-media resources for our faith available today. Formed.org is a wide and deep resource with readings – books, articles, blogs, videos – full-length feature films of the Saints, Christ, documentaries, TV shows and talks, educational videos, teaching and catechetical videos, lessons, multi-part devotionals, Bible and topical studies, video, and audio podcasts, breath-taking art from around the world, You can watch, listen to audiobooks and audio dramas, fiction and nonfiction on your computer, tablet, or smartphone. Formed.org offers a wealth of resources for youth as well. As a member of our parish family, we have paid for your subscription. Simply go to <http://goodshepherdpittsburg.formed.org> and register or go to our parish website at goodshepherdpittsburg.org, click on the tab – FORMED - and get started. FREE.



Go ahead, satisfy your hunger to know and love your “real” Father. Learn your roots and all your other brothers and sisters – the Saints. Moses pleads for us to know the “House Rules” and someday Jesus, the “head of the church,” may give you a pop-quiz. Now you have a terrific resource to learn and know about your family – God’s Family. Take advantage of it today by registering and start what will be your greatest adventure.

SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER

With mass attendance down due to the Coronavirus, we ask that you consider signing up for Electronic Fund Transfer so that we can keep the parish up and running during this difficult time. EFT is a safe, convenient way to give to the parish even when you are unable to attend mass or you are away on vacation. Simply fill out the bottom portion of this page and return it to the parish office at 3200 Harbor St., Pittsburg, CA 94565 or a form can be mailed or emailed to you. You can also visit our web site at www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org and conveniently donate through the **DONATION NOW BUTTON**. If neither of these manners of giving suit you, you can mail in your contributions any time you will not be present at mass or place them through the mail slot in the parish office door. Thank you for helping keep our parish afloat during this very difficult time.

**Electronic Funds Transfer
The Easy Way to Tithe!**

Church of the Good Shepherd offers a **FREE** tithing option more convenient for many of our members
—Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Program.
The program has been a great success since we started it several years ago.

- ☐ You Tithe No More Than You Normally Do.
- ☐ You Control How You Tithe.
- ☐ You Choose A Tithe Frequency: Weekly, Semi-Monthly, Or Monthly.
- ☐ You Choose When You Want Your Account Debited.

ENROLLMENT IN ELECTRONIC DONATION TRANSFER FOR SUNDAY GIVING

Please enter the amount you wish to give and how often:

\$_____ Weekly (Transferred every Monday)

\$_____ Semimonthly (Transferred on 1st & 15th)

\$_____ Monthly (Transferred on 1st or 15th—indicate preference)

\$_____ I wish to give this amount electronically weekly for 2nd collections using the same account information.

CREDIT CARD OPTION

Name _____ Credit Card Type _____
Address _____ Credit Card # _____
Phone _____ Expiration Date _____

CHECKING ACCOUNT OPTION

Simply attach voided check

I authorize Good Shepherd Church to process entries from my credit card or checking account as noted above. This authority shall remain in effect until I give reasonable notification to terminate this authorization.

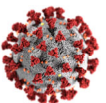
COVID-19

In accordance with Contra Costa Health Services the parish will be
physically closed until further notice.

We are operating the office virtually through the telephone (925-432-6404), our web site
www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org,
or email at
office@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

All masses are suspended, but the chapel is available 24 hours a day to provide a place of prayer and
solace. We will be providing more information on the celebration of sacraments soon.

We appreciate your understanding in this matter and praying for your health and safety and a swift
end to this crisis.





Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo,

"Si me amas, guardarás mis mandamientos" (Juan 14:15). Jesús hizo esta declaración en sus discursos de despedida en la Última Cena como si estuviera diciendo: Me voy ahora. Podrías olvidar todas las otras cosas que hice y dije. No te olvides de éste mandamiento. Es el resumen de todo lo que te he dicho. No se trata de doctrinas, ni de catecismo, ni de la Biblia, sino de una cosa: AMOR.

Para Jesús, sólo hay una prueba de amor y eso es sacrificio. Fue por su sacrificio que Jesús mostró su amor por Dios; y es por nuestro sacrificio que mostramos nuestro amor por Jesús. Todos sabemos que hay personas que protestan por su amor con palabras, pero que, al mismo tiempo, traen dolor y angustia a aquellos a quienes dicen amar. Hay niños y jóvenes que dicen que aman a sus padres, y que aún les causan dolor y ansiedad. Hay esposos que dicen que aman a sus esposas y esposas que dicen que aman a sus maridos, y que sin embargo, por su egoísmo, su crueldad desconsiderada traen dolor uno al otro. Para Jesús, el amor verdadero no es algo fácil. Sólo se muestra en el verdadero sacrificio.

¿Cómo demostró Dios su amor al mundo? No se quedó en el cielo y nos dijo que nos amaba. Vino a salvarnos a pesar de que su acto de salvación le costó la vida. Así que el sacrificio es otra palabra para el amor. Verdaderamente, no hay amor sin sacrificio. El sacrificio es un amor en acción. Cuando decimos que amamos a Dios, sacrificamos nuestros tiempos, nuestras obras para estar con él. Cuando decimos que amamos a nuestros vecinos, renunciamos a nuestro ego, nuestro orgullo de perdonarlos. ¡Sacrificio! No hay mejor amor que el que da su vida por sus amigos.

Dando tu vida muestra claramente que el amor requiere una especie de muerte para uno mismo. Requiere mirar al otro primero, anteponiendo sus necesidades antes que las nuestras. Cuando volvemos nuestros ojos y corazones hacia los demás, comenzamos a descubrir innumerables maneras de dar la vida por ellos: pequeños actos de bondad, palabras de afirmación, un oído que escucha, ayuda con una tarea, etc. Los actos mayores pueden incluir un perdón heroico, un amor cuando no tenemos ganas de amar, una donación de misericordia cuando parece innecesario, o la decisión de salir de nuestro camino para estar allí para una persona cuando no tenemos tiempo en nuestra apretada agenda.

Al entregarnos por completo, nos encontramos y descubrimos la presencia de nuestro amoroso Señor. Y al hacer esto, seguimos lo que Jesús dice: "Si me amas, guardarás mis mandamientos" (Juan 14:15). Señor, ayúdanos a poner a los demás en primer lugar. Ayúdanos a amar hasta que duela. ¡Amén!

Padre Thi Hoang

Guarda la fecha! ANUNCIO

Debido al Covid-19, hemos decidido trasladar la celebración de los sacramentos para los Candidatos de RCIC y RCIA a la Trinidad Domingo, el 7 de Junio a las 10:00 pm.

GRUPO DE ORACIÓN UNCIÓN DE LO ALTO- Viernes 7-9pm en las oficinas parroquiales y Sábados de 10:30 am-11:30 am en la Capilla con el Santísimo. Para mas información por favor contactar a **Laura y Alvin Alvarez 925-765-0231**. Si tienes talentos musicales y tocas la guitarra ven acompañalos.

GRUPO ESCUELA DE LA CRUZ Cristo te espera, ven a descubrir su amor divino y su misericordia! te esperamos los **Miercoles 7:30pm-8:30pm (Oficina Parroquial)**. Para más información, por favor comunícate con **Romeo Gonzalez 925-565-9320**.

EL GRUPO DE LA DIVINA MISERICORDIA -

Miercoles 6pm-7pm en la Capilla y

Jueves 6:30pm-8:30pm, en el salón de la oficina. Para más Información, por favor comuníquese con **Lidia Castañeda 925-705-3045**.

LA VIRGEN PEREGRINA - Las Familias que desean inscribirse después de la Misa para llevarse a la Virgen

ATENCIÓN MONAGUILLOS

Si les gustaria participar en la sagrada Misa y aprender aún más de su FE, comuniquense con

Rebeca & Bulmaro al 925-286-2276, ellos los guiarán y enseñarán el bello ministerio de ser monaguillos.

ATENCIÓN COMUNIDAD HISPANA

Si algún miembro de la comunidad Hispana **esta interesado en recibir visitas a domicilio o comunión a los enfermos**, por favor comuniquense a la oficina parroquial para hablar con Carmen y establecer este servicio para nuestros miembros enfermos y confinados a casa.

Reflexión de Cuaresma: “Encontrándome con Cristo”

Encontrándome con Cristo, es un proceso de formación espiritual intenso para la Cuaresma buscando una relación personal con Jesús. Esta formación está basada en:

“Si el Ministerio no fluye desde un encuentro personal y de una relación continua con el Señor, entonces, no importa cómo lo ha logrado, ese Ministerio carece de alma vital y fuente necesaria para dar frutos duraderos”

Inscríbase con Carmen en las oficinas o al final de cada Misa con alguno de los facilitadores.

- ♦ **Las cartas del 2019 de donación de impuestos están disponibles llamando a la oficina parroquial al 925-432-6404. por favor, indique si desea recogerla o que se la enviemos por correo.**

- ♦ **¡NUEVO PARA EL 2020!**

Misas trimestrales para la "Unción de los Enfermos" tendrán lugar los Sábados a las 10am, comenzando Agosto 10 y Noviembre 7

CHANCERY OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL RESPONSE TO COVID-19**Excerpt From Parish Message Received from Our Bishop**

Dear lay employees of the Diocese of Oakland,

I pray this finds you well and confident in our faith. These are certainly times which try us! I know all of you are dealing with very painful situations. Collectively, in these last days of April, we have lost approximately 300 positions in our parishes and another 300 positions in our Catholic schools. These individuals, whose positions were lost as a result of COVID-19, were integral to the ministry which happens in our parishes and schools. I am grateful for their dedication of their time and talent, and for many, their treasure. We honor their commitment to the Church, and they leave us with heavy hearts. I have also taken difficult actions here at the Chancery to cut costs and services consistent with the parishes' and schools' experience. While the Diocese is in no position to assist parishes financially because of our own lack of reserves, I am in solidarity with our parishes' and school's financial difficulties and response to them.

In addition, I and members of my Chancery leadership team: **Reduced staff by a total 28.** Most of these individuals were laid off while a few were furloughed. All job actions take effect this Friday, May 1. **Asked all remaining exempt employees to take a 10% pay cut for the remainder of the year.** Pay cuts are effective May 1. Members of my leadership voluntarily took cuts beyond my 10% request. **Implemented a hiring freeze.** Until further notice, all hiring regardless of level must have my approval. It was difficult to let go of so many of our colleagues. However, this action was necessary to reduce our 2020 personnel budget by 35% overall for fiscal year 2020. The total personnel changes represent a 50% reduction in such costs for the remainder of 2020. These reductions have impacted every department in the Chancery. We know reducing our staff will reduce our capacity to serve our parishes. It may result in some services being eliminated altogether. All these moves taken together provide some financial relief immediately and position all of us to adjust to circumstances as we monitor developments in the coming months.

I have a weekly conference call with the bishops of California. As our public officials begin to lift the restrictions for public gatherings, I hope to offer some guidance on how to reassure people it is safe for them to return to our churches. In other parts of the country, bishops are suspending the obligation of Sunday Mass attendance; asking people who exhibit symptoms or who know they have been exposed to the coronavirus to stay home; and requiring parishes to follow all public health guidelines for sanitizing, practicing physical distancing and wearing masks and gloves. While we know the faithful long for a return to regular reception of the Holy Eucharist and to fellowship, we also bear a responsibility to address their concerns for their personal safety and the safety of their loved ones. I am establishing a small group of experienced pastors to advise me on strategies and plans for the gradual reopening of our churches for public Mass.

We know our communion with God and with one another is bigger and stronger than anything, including COVID-19. May all of us hold on to our faith in our merciful God and look forward to the time when we will be able to be with one another again, in person, to worship and praise Him for his goodness. With the assurance of my blessing and continued prayers for you and your loved ones, I remain Yours sincerely in Christ, The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, SJ Bishop of Oakland

Mass Intentions

May 18-24

3pm Daily Livestream on the Good Shepherd
Facebook Page & YouTube

- Mon Leonard D'Augustino † #
 Tue Paz & Alex Verano Death Anniversary †*
 Wed Rosita & Richard Arao
 Death Anniversary†#
 Thu Mario Alfaro † #
 Fri Birthday of Anna Esposito Sorci *
 Sat 5:30 pm Transfiguracion Loyola, &
 Ron Chambers †
 Hunter Garcia (Living) *
 Sun 10am Gene "Burrito" Romero † &
 Carol Flint (Living) *
 12 pm FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH #
 3:00pm Amalia Barrera † #

*=Fr. Thi, #=Fr. Christopher

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Please help contribute to the smooth operation and services of our parish, especially during this most difficult time. You can give your donations to any staff member or place in the mail slot in the ministry building door.

We appreciate your generosity and for making Good Shepherd a part of your family.

Fr. Thi

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

**ACTS 1:12-14, 1 PETER 4:3-16,
 JOHN 17:1-11A**

NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

COMMUNICATIONS & SOCIAL CONCERNS



Jesus is our hope, and to
believe in Him is to
believe all will be well.

Dr. Greg Bottaro, *The Mindful Catholic*
Photo credit to Chelo Gonzalez, *Parishioner*