



CHURCH OF THE

*Good Shepherd*

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

3200 Harbor Street ~ Pittsburg, CA 94565

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[www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org](http://www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org)

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**Office Hours:**

**Monday-Thursday: 9am-12 pm & 1-4 pm**

## **NEW MASS SCHEDULE**

**Monday- Friday**

7:30am in the Garden- No livestream

**Saturday**

8:00am in the Garden

5:30pm Vigil – livestream

**Sunday**

8:00am (in the garden)- livestream

10:00am (in the garden)- livestream

12pm (re-livestream)

3pm- livestream

**Communion**

Drive through communion after each Mass in  
front of the church.

**Confession**

Saturdays 4:00pm – 5:00pm

or by appointment

## Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If you pull up the weeds  
you might uproot the  
wheat along with them.  
Let the weeds and the  
wheat grow together  
until harvest."

Matthew 13:29-30

July  
**19**  
2020

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



*Does the devil exist? Ordinary people say, "Yes!" Politicians say, "No." Scientists say, "We are still Googling it."*

*Does Satan truly exist? "Yes," said Jesus, "the kingdom of God is like a man who sowed good seed." While everyone was asleep, his enemy (Satan) came and sowed weeds in it. Instead of pulling the weeds up, the householder said, "Let them grow together until the harvest, I will separate them." (Matt 13:24-30).*

Is the parable puzzling to you? You may be wondering why would our all powerful and loving God let evil exist in the world. Why wouldn't God get rid of it so that we don't have to suffer?

The fact that God let the weeds grow with the wheat or let the evil live in our midst, gives us a great message to ponder. We have a tendency to go after evil. When we see things opposed to us, we want to get rid of them, wipe them out right away, like John and James who once asked Jesus to call down fire to burn a sinful city (Luke 9:54) or like Peter who pulled out his sword to kill those who came to arrest Jesus (Matt 26:52), or like the people who promote war, saying let's bring out troops to kill them all.

But we should think twice, can we truly get rid of evils, or would we create more troubles upon ourselves and cause pains and sufferings to others? We lost many lives because of wars, and the war losers seek revenge. Therefore, we put our lives in a constant battle until we die. We can't live in peace if we mind ourselves of eliminating evils. That's why God says, "Do not bother them, just let them live until the harvest time." He will finish it. He does it for some of the following reasons:

First of all, he is afraid that the good might be affected by our getting rid of the bad because everything seems to be a mix of good and evil. It is like a lung tumor that wraps around the heart. We can't remove the tumor without compromising the heart. Those who hate criminals may say that capital punishment is justified. But what about those who are not guilty but unjustly convicted? Is the death penalty too harsh for them?

Second, God lets them grow together, for God's purpose is not to destroy the enemies but to love them, to change them, not to eliminate but to convert them. The enemy is best defeated by infiltration rather than by direct confrontation. So the Church is not so much to line up a direct battlefield to destroy the enemy. The church's role is to quietly and gradually love and penetrate so as to undermine and transform from within. Unlike the weeds, people are capable of change. Bad people can change and become good people. In God's eyes, criminal people still have a chance to change and start over again. Sinners still have chance to become saints.

Third, God lets us live together with the bad, so that we can be stronger. Gold must be tested by fire to know its quality. Our faith must be challenged same way to see if we still love God when the bad is getting in our way. Life without pain or suffering would produce spoiled brats, not joyful saints. We are called to be saints.

In short, Jesus does not allow the disciples to pull up the weeds, or to get rid of the bad because first of all he doesn't want us to be victims of such violence. He wants us to live in peace and harmony, not engage in war and hatred. Second, he wants to give the bad a chance to change and to be saved. Third, he wants us to become stronger and tougher, relying on him while living with the bad. He wants us to be saints. May the Lord give us generous hearts so we may love our enemies and forgive those who hate us. Amen!

Blessings,  
Fr. Thi

## Shepherd's Closet Procedure During Covid-19

Due to the Covid-19 virus, Shepherd's Closet will continue to be closed until further notice. We will only be available in emergency situations. If you need help, you can call Ann and Bill Abitz at (925) 432-3995.

Leave your name, phone number and a short message, and we will get back to you as soon as we can.



## Shepherd's Closet Supporters

We, at Shepherd's Closet, sincerely appreciate your many donations of food, clothes, diapers, etc. Because we will remain closed until the pandemic is over, we ask you not to bring any donations to the church. Our trailers are full, and there is no place for any more items (big or small). If you want to continue helping us during this crisis, we will still accept monetary donations. If you can, please mark your donation, "Shepherd's Closet," on the memo line of your check, that would be helpful. This donation should not take the place of your regular donation, but be an addition to it. Thank you!

## COVID 19 PANDEMIC

UPDATE\*\*\*\*\*UPDATE\*\*\*\*\*UPDATE\*\*\*\*\*UPDATE

To comply with the new mandate of Contra Costa County issued on July 11 which says indoor worship services are temporarily prohibited effective Sunday, July 12 until further notice, we have decided to get back to livestream Masses and outdoor Masses as follows:

**Weekday Masses** will be in the Garden at 7:30am, starting July 13. No livestream.

### Weekend Masses:

**Saturday:** 8am in the garden

5:30pm Vigil - livestream

**Sunday:** 8am (garden) livestream

10am (garden)- livestream

12pm (**re-livestreamed**)

3pm- livestream

You still need to sign up to go to 8am and 10am Masses in the garden on our website at [www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org](http://www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org). Simply click on the underlined link next to the big orange ticket and follow the prompts.

Drive through Communion is available after each Mass in front of the church.

All First Holy Communion Masses and First Reconciliations scheduled for July are postponed until further notice.

Baptisms/ weddings/quinceneras/funerals are still ON schedule. They will be held in the garden.

**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](http://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.

**FROM THE CHAPEL**

*The Chapel has been temporarily closed due to coronavirus restrictions.*

*We will keep you updated in the bulletin of a re-opening date.*

**For Questions: Call Bill Abitz at 925-872-5852**

Dearest First Communicants,

We hope you are all well. Due to the spiking of the Covid-19 virus in our area, Contra Costa County has issued the new mandate on July 11 which says: Indoor worship services are temporarily prohibited, effective on Sunday, July 12 at 11:59 p.m. To comply with the county's order, we have decided to postpone all First Communion masses and Confessions scheduled for July until further notice. We are sorry if this change may cause you any inconvenience.



If any of you feel that you need to receive this Sacrament right away, that you can't wait any longer, please let us know. We are happy to work with you. We will schedule you to go to our regular confession on Saturdays (4-5pm) and receive first Communion on Sunday Masses (8am or 10am) in the Garden.

Know of our prayers for you all,

Queridas Familias,

Espero que todos estén bien. Debido al incremento de casos de COVID-19 en nuestra área, el Condado de Contra Costa emitió un mandato el 11 de Julio que dice: Los servicios de adoración adentro están temporalmente prohibidos , empezando el 12 de Julio a las 11:59pm.

Para cumplir con la orden del condado, hemos decidido posponer todas las misas y confesiones de Primera Comunion en Julio -hasta nuevo aviso. Lamentamos si estos cambios le causan algún inconveniente.

Si alguno de ustedes sienten que necesitan recibir el Sacramento de inmediato,déjenos saber. Estaremos felices de trabajar con ustedes.

Irían nuestras confesiones regulares ( Sábados de 4pm-5pm) y la misa sería los Domingos durante nuestras misas regulares en el jardín (8am o 10am).

Espero que todos esten bien y seguros.

## "STEUBENVILLE LIVE" EVENT LIVE-STREAMING IN JULY

Steubenville Youth Conferences will be held online on July 17 and 18, 2020. Gather online with thousands of young Catholics around the country for two special and blessed days.

The cost is \$40. Anyone needing a scholarship, or any guidance should contact Chris Mariano at MarianoC@sfarch.org or 415.614.5594. For complete information and to register, visit <https://steubenvilleconferences.com/>





¿Existe el diablo? La gente com?n dice: ¿S?! Los pol?ticos dicen: No. Los Cient?ficos dicen: todav?a lo estamos buscando en Google.

¿Existe realmente Satan?s? S?, dijo Jes?s, "el reino de Dios es como un hombre que sembr? buena semilla. Mientras todos dorm?an, su enemigo (Satan?s) vino y sembr? malas hierbas en ?l. En lugar de arrancar las malas hierbas, el due?o de casa dijo: d?jalos crecer juntos hasta la cosecha, y despues los separar? (Mateo 13: 24-30). ¿Te desconcierta la par?bola? Quiz?s te est?s preguntando por qu? nuestro todopoderoso y amoroso Dios dejar?a que existiera el mal en el mundo. ¿Por qu? Dios no se librar?a de ellos para que no tuviésemos que sufrir?

El hecho de que Dios permiti? que las malas hierbas crecieran con el trigo; y que el mal viva en nuestro ambiente nos da un gran mensaje para reflexionar. Tenemos tendencia a perseguir el mal. Vemos cosas opuestas a nosotros, queremos deshacernos de ellas, eliminarlas de inmediato, como Juan y Santiago, que una vez le pidieron a Jes?s que invocara fuego para quemar una ciudad pecaminosa (Lucas 9:54); como Pedro, que sac? su espada para matar a los que vinieron a arrestar a Jes?s (Mateo 26:52), como las personas que promueven la guerra, diciendo que salgan las tropas para matarlos a todos.

Pero deber?amos pensarlo dos veces, ¿podemos realmente deshacernos de los males o crear m?s problemas sobre nosotros mismos y causar dolores y sufrimientos a los dem?s? Perdimos muchas vidas debido a las guerras, y los perdedores de la guerra buscan venganza. Por eso ponemos nuestras vidas en una batalla constante hasta que morimos. No podemos vivir en paz si nos preocupamos por eliminar los males. Por eso Dios dice: no los molestes, solo d?jalos vivir hasta la cosecha. El los terminar?. Lo hace por alguna de las siguientes razones: En primer lugar, teme que lo bueno pueda verse afectado por la eliminaci?n de lo malo porque todo parece estar mezclado con el bien y el mal. Es como un tumor pulmonar que las uvas rodean el coraz?n. No podemos eliminar el tumor sin comprometer el coraz?n. Quienes odian a los delincuentes pueden decir que la pena capital est? justificada. Pero, ¿qu? pasa con aquellos que no son culpables sino injustamente condenados? ¿Es la pena de muerte demasiado dura para ellos?

Segundo, Dios los dej? crecer juntos, porque el prop?sito de Dios no es destruir a los enemigos sino amarlos, cambiarlos, no eliminarlos sino convertirlos. El enemigo es mejor derrotado por infiltraci?n que por confrontaci?n directa. Entonces, la Iglesia no es tanto para alinear un campo de batalla directo para destruir al enemigo. El papel de la Iglesia es en silencio y gradualmente en el amor penetrar para socavar y transformar desde adentro. A diferencia de las malas hierbas, las personas son capaces de cambiar. Las malas personas pueden cambiar y convertirse en buenas personas. A los ojos de Dios, las personas criminales todav?a tienen la oportunidad de cambiar y comenzar de nuevo. Los pecadores todav?a tienen la oportunidad de convertirse en santos. Tercero, Dios nos permiti? vivir juntos con los malos, para que podamos ser m?s fuertes. El oro debe ser probado por fuego para conocer su calidad. Nuestra fe debe ser desafiada de la misma manera para ver si todav?a amamos a Dios cuando lo malo se est? saliendo con la suya. La vida sin dolor ni sufrimiento producir? a mocosos mimados, no santos alegres. Estamos llamados a ser santos.

En resumen, Jes?s no permite a los disc?pulos arrancar la maleza o deshacerse de lo malo porque, en primer lugar, no quiere que seamos v?ctimas de tal violencia. ?l quiere que vivamos en paz y armon?a, sin participar en la guerra y el odio. Segundo, quiere darle a los malos la oportunidad de cambiar y ser salvados. Tercero, ?l quiere que seamos m?s fuertes y m?s duros, confiando en ?l mientras vivimos con los malos. ?l quiere que seamos santos. Que el Se?or nos d? corazones generosos para que podamos amar a nuestros enemigos y perdonar a quienes nos odian. ¿Am?n!

Bendiciones.

Padre Thi Hoang  
Parochial Administrator



“No sea que al arrancar la cizaña,  
arranquen también el trigo.  
Dejen que crezcan juntos hasta  
el tiempo de la cosecha”.

Mateo 13:29-30

julio  
19  
2020

Decimosexto Domingo  
del Tiempo Ordinario

## LECCIONES FRESCAS

Hoy nos enfrentamos al Dios poderoso y todopoderoso, que trata con nosotros, no por ira y castigo, sino por bondad y perdón. Dios perdona y ama a los que piden y perseveran en la oración. Aunque no sepamos orar, el Espíritu del Señor nos ayuda, porque Dios sabe lo que significa el Espíritu, “porque [el Espíritu] interceda por los santos según la voluntad de Dios” (Romanos 8:27). Con la ayuda de Dios, podemos ser la buena semilla y no las hierbas. Si contemplamos las parábolas y oramos por la guía del Espíritu, podemos ver lecciones cada vez más frescas en estas historias.

## PARÁBOLAS

Estas son las semanas de las parábolas, y aunque ya las hemos escuchado muchas veces, nunca pierden su frescura, por siempre, si ponemos atención, podemos percibir un ángulo diferente.

La parábola del trigo y la cizaña, muy sencilla en apariencia, es muy desconcertante para los discípulos que tienen que preguntar a Jesús que se las explique. En nuestros jardines, procuramos quitar la cizaña o yerba durante todo el tiempo que crezca. Pero en la parábola, la cizaña y el trigo crecen juntos hasta el tiempo de la cosecha. Si las personas buenas y las malas permanecen mezcladas durante la vida, también nos desconcierta algunas veces: ¿por qué las personas hacen cosas malas y no son castigadas? ¿Cómo es que Dios permite que cosas malas pasen a las buenas personas?

## ESAS PEQUEÑAS COSAS

Nuestro Dios es en efecto un Dios poderoso; sin embargo, no es vengativo, sino misericordioso. A cada uno se le ofrece la oportunidad, muchas oportunidades, para ser perdonado. Aún una pequeña buena acción puede florecer en algo maravilloso. La semilla de mostaza del Medio Oriente es tan pequeña que una persona difícilmente puede agarrarla con los dedos. (Aquellas personas que conocen el programa de formación catequética del Buen Pastor conocen esta parábola maravillosa, y el pequeño plato que contiene algunas de estas semillas y que se guarda en el atrio para que los niños las puedan contemplar). La levadura hace que la masa fermente y crezca para hornear deliciosos panes. Todas estas maravillas tienen un origen muy pequeño, si es que estamos listos para escuchar y entender estos misterios.

También nuestra oración Dios la escucha, aun cuando nosotros no entendamos por lo que estamos rezando: “pero nosotros no sabemos pedir lo que nos conviene; pero el Espíritu mismo intercede por nosotros con gemidos que no pueden expresarse con palabras. Y Dios, que conoce profundamente los corazones sabe lo que el Espíritu quiere decir” (Romanos 8:26-27).

Así que, si nuestras pequeñas oraciones son ofrecidas con un sincero corazón, son escuchadas por Dios, aun si no siempre sabemos lo que estamos haciendo cuando oramos. ¿Estamos alabando, glorificando a Dios, pidiendo algo? El Espíritu lo sabe e intercede por nosotros.

## LECTURAS DE HOY

Sabiduría 12:13, 16-19  
Salmo 86 (85): 5-6, 9-10, 15-16  
Romanos 8:26-27  
Mateo 13:24-43 [24-30]

## Mass Intentions

Jul 20-26

# Mass Intentions For The Week

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Mon	7:30 am	Nestor Fernando † *
Tue	7:30 am	Nestor Fernando † #
Wed	7:30 am	Nestor Fernando † *
Thu	7:30 am	Nestor Fernando † #
Fri	7:30 am	Nestor Fernando † #
Sat	8:00 am	Birthday of Anthony Calceta & Nestor Fernando † *
Sat	5:30 pm	Nestor Fernando † #
Sun	8:00 am	For the People of the Parish*
	10 am	Gene Herschelman † Godie F. Mortola † #
	3:00 pm	Alejandro Martinez † #

\*=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

**1 KINGS 3:5, 7-12, ROMANS 8:28-30,  
MATTHEW 13:44-52**

#### NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

**BISHOP'S APPEAL**

# CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST WEEKEND'S FIRST HOLY COMMUNICANTS!

- Frederick Aujero
- Robert A. Belleci
- Joshua Jay Benitez
- Jacqueline Briones
- Jovanni Briones
- Julio G. Briones
- Juan Carrera-Jose
- Alexia Carrillo
- Isabel Carrillo
- Sophia Carrillo
- Antoine Ceralde
- Leonardo C. Ceralde
- Socorro Cervantes
- Emmanuel Cisneros
- Nadia Contreras
- Christopher Cooper Jr.
- Victor G. Crespo
- Kristayden Cruz
- Cheyenne Figueroa Cuison
- Sheena Davenport
- Lauren Dayag
- Julian Elias
- Ricardo Elias
- Brianna Flint
- Ricardo Franco
- Yanilen Garcia-Castro
- Maia Guzman
- Carlson Jimenez
- Tatyana Jimenez
- Laura Manzano
- Adrian Medina
- Jacqueline Ortiz
- Jose Ortiz
- Francesca Pabon
- Krishna Paguio
- Hailey Marie Perez
- Rhosstom N. Prado
- Alejandro Rangel
- Anna Reyes
- Edil Roman Bretado
- Luis Rubio-Rivera
- Zac D. Seeno
- Alvin Serrano
- Marivette B. Trevino
- Abigail Vaohea
- Gloria Vaohea
- Jonatan Vargas-Contreras
- Nestor Velasco
- Joselyn Villalvazo
- Louis Yalun

