



CHURCH OF THE

Good Shepherd

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

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*The kingdom
of heaven*

is like a treasure buried in a field,
which a person finds and hides again,
and out of joy goes and sells
all he has and buys that field.

Matthew 13:44



July 26, 2020 • Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Parish Office is physically closed due to the pandemic. Our staff is working virtually from home. Email works best this week while our phone system is being upgraded.

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 (Spanish) - livestream

Communion

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

Adoration

Fridays 8am– 9am in the garden

Confession

Fridays 8am-9am in the garden

Saturdays 4:00pm – 5:00pm

or by appointment

XVII Sunday Ordinary Time

Jesus Christ, through the Apostle Matthew, continues to enlighten us with His parables. Today He shares the Parable of the Treasure and of the Pearl with us.

Let's first look at **the Parable of the Treasure**: In ancient times, the field, or the terrain, was used as the safest place to keep their precious possessions (today we use the banks); that's why we still hear that someone found buried treasure.

Jesus uses this example to understand what it means when we find the Kingdom of God; we give up everything else to get that great Treasure. True happiness and satisfaction are living the Reign of God in our daily lives.

Now, let us look at **the Parable of Pearl**: in ancient times, pearls were something special and valuable; their value was not only because of the cost, but because of their beauty, people enjoyed watching and talking about them. Jesus, again, uses this example knowing that people would understand His message.

The two parables show us the same teaching, but with one difference: the person who was cultivating the field, was not looking for any treasure, he found it casually. The person who was looking for good pearls; that was his business.

For Jesus, in this case, what is important is the result of the search; the reaction is the same: you must sacrifice everything to get what is invaluable, which is the Reign of God.

Once again, we find the same truth: whether I discover God's Love in a single moment, in a single situation, or after a prolonged and conscientious search. The result is the same, we find the Reign of God, and then we begin to live intensely the love of God in our daily lives with intense fullness and dedication to the service of others.

I invite everyone to look at the bottom of our hearts and ask ourselves whether we have found the Reign of God in our lives and whether we live it to the fullest. If we have not found it, let us give ourselves a chance to look for Him as the laborer and the pearl seeker did so that, by finding Him, we can live a new life full of God's Love.

Deacon Gustavo

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. This donation should not take the place of your regular donation, but be an addition to it. Thank you!

Announcements updated July 20

Monday to Friday Masses are held in the Garden at 7:30am. **No livestream.**

Saturday

8am in the garden
5:30pm Vigil - livestream

Sunday

8am in garden and livestream
10am in the garden and livestream
12pm Spanish – livestream. No 3pm Mass.

You still need to sign up to go to 8am and 10am Masses in the garden on our website at www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org.

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/Quinceaneras/Funerals are still ON schedule. They will be held in the garden with 100 person limit.

The parish office is closed until further notice. Our staff are working from home via emails.

The parish phone system is down. We are upgrading to a new system. It takes us about one week to complete the work. We thank you for your patience. In the meantime, we are operating the office via website and email. We hope the phones will be up and running by July 28.

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.

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

Anuncios

Las misas en inglés de lunes a viernes serán en el Jardín a las 7:30am. No habrá transmisión virtual en vivo.

Las misas de fin de semana serán así:

Sábados en inglés: 8am en el jardín y 5:30pm la Vigila, Transmisión virtual en vivo

Domingos en inglés: 8 y 10 am en el jardín con transmisión virtual en vivo

Usted todavía necesita registrarse para ir a las misas de las 8am y 10am en el jardín en nuestro sitio web.

En español: La Misa de las 3pm se mueve temporalmente a las 12m con transmisión virtual en vivo. Comenzando con el próximo domingo 26 de julio hasta nueva orden.

Compartiremos la Sagrada Comunión después de la Misa en el frente del templo en sus carros.

Todas las misas de la Primera Comunión y confesiones previstas para julio se posponen hasta nuevo aviso.

Los bautismos, matrimonios y quinceañeras se seguirán haciendo en el jardín en los horarios programados.

La oficina parroquial está cerrada hasta nuevo aviso. Nuestro personal está trabajando desde casa a través de correos electrónicos.

Los teléfonos de la parroquia tienen problemas. Estamos actualizando un nuevo sistema. Le agradecemos su paciencia. Mientras tanto, estamos operando la oficina a través de sitio web y correo electrónico. Esperamos que estén funcionando para el 27 de julio por la tarde.

*El Reino de los cielos
se parece a un comerciante
de perlas finas*



XVII Domingo Tiempo Ordinario

Jesucristo, a través del apóstol Mateo, nos continúa iluminando con sus parábolas, hoy nos comparte la Parábola del Tesoro y la Perla.

Veamos primero **la Parábola del Tesoro**: En la época antigua, se usaba el campo, o el terreno, como el lugar más seguro para guardar sus preciadas posesiones (hoy utilizamos los bancos); por eso, todavía solemos escuchar que alguien encontró un tesoro enterrado.

Jesús utiliza este ejemplo para que entendamos lo qué significa cuando encontramos el Reino de Dios; renunciamos a todo lo demás para obtener ese gran Tesoro. La verdadera felicidad y satisfacción, es el vivir el Reinado de Dios en nuestra vida diaria.

Ahora, miremos **la Parábola de la Perla**: en la época antigua, las perlas eran algo muy especial y valioso; su valor no era solo por el costo, sino por su belleza, la gente disfrutaba observándolas y hablando de ellas. Jesús, otra vez, utiliza este ejemplo sabiendo que la gente entendería su mensaje.

Las dos parábolas nos muestran la misma enseñanza, pero con una diferencia: la persona que estaba labrando el campo, no estaba buscando ningún tesoro, se lo encontró casualmente. La persona que estaba buscando buenas perlas; ese era su negocio.

Para Jesús, en este caso, lo importante es el resultado de la búsqueda; la reacción es la misma: hay que sacrificarlo todo para obtener lo que tiene un valor incalculable, que es el Reinado de Dios.

Una vez más nos encontramos con la misma verdad: ya sea que yo descubra el Amor de Dios en un solo momento, en una sola situación o después de una búsqueda prolongada y concienzuda.

El resultado es el mismo, encontramos el Reinado de Dios, y después, empezamos a vivir intensamente el amor de Dios en nuestra vida diaria con intensa plenitud y entrega al servicio de los demás.

Invito a todos, a que miremos el fondo de nuestro corazón y preguntémonos si hemos encontrado el Reinado de Dios en nuestras vidas y si lo vivimos a plenitud. Si no lo hemos encontrado, démonos la oportunidad de buscarlo como lo hizo el labrador y el buscador de perlas para que, al encontrarlo, podamos vivir una nueva vida llena del Amor de Dios.

Diácono Gustavo

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](http://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, breathtaking 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](http://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.



We are so honored and privileged to host the Diaconate Ordination Mass here at our church on August 8 at 8:30am.

Due to the Covid– 19 shutdown, Bishop Barber has asked if he could use our Garden for this special event. We are blessed to have such a beautiful garden and we are happy to share it with our Diocese in times of need.

There will be two Seminarians receiving the diaconate ordination on that day.

Mr. Huong Dinh (Vietnamese) and Mr. Candelario Jimenez (Hispanic). We congratulate them and we pray for their faithfulness to the vocation and to be good and holy priests.



Candelario Jimenez

Huong Dinh

Mass Intentions

Jul 27-Aug 2

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	Timi Tumbaga † Birthday of Devany Roberts#
Thu	7:30 am	Guadalupe Absordo † #
Fri	7:30 am	Birthday of Presley Quiambao *
Sat	8:00 am	Wedding Anniversary of Robert & Sharon Calone Death Anniversary of Felina & Felomino Masalinto †
Sat	5:30 pm	Capupus Family
Sun	8:00 am	Capupus Family
	10 am	Birthday of Ana Beatriz Bonifacio Mr. Philip Harper Cotton †
	12 Noon	For the people of the Parish

* = 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.

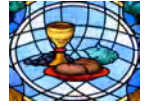
NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

BISHOP APPEAL

Congratulations to Enzo Echavarria on his reception of First Holy Communion last Sunday at 8am Mass.



We are deeply grateful to Fr. Helmut Richter, our former Pastor, for his generous heart to help us financially cut down six dead trees in the spiritual garden. He is also helping us re-stain the Stations of the Cross. Thank you so much Father. May God bless you and keep you safe.



Farewell to Br. Binh.

We thank Br. Binh for spending the summer with us. Though he has stayed here just for a short time, his loving presence has brought joy to our community. As he prepares to go back to school to continue his priestly formation, we wish him well and we pray that God will make him good and holy priest.