



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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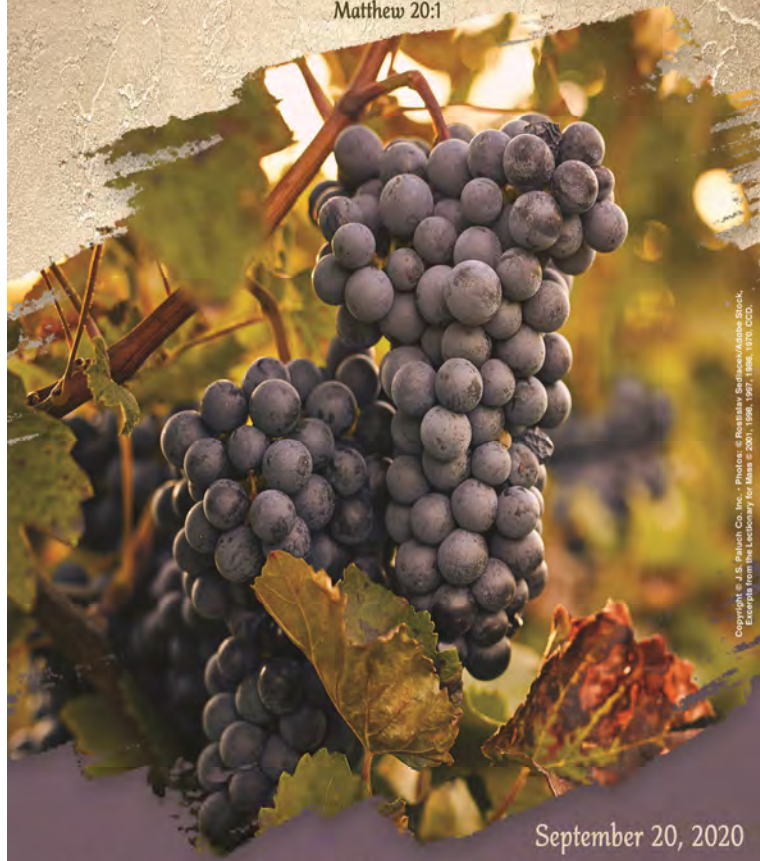
www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org

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The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard.

Matthew 20:1



September 20, 2020

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Parish Office is operating virtually during the pandemic. We will answer your phone calls and emails as soon as possible. Our telephone system is now up and running! Thank you for your patience.

NEW MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday

7:30am in the Garden - No livestream

Saturday

8:00am in the Garden – No livestream

5:30pm Vigil – Livestream Only

Sunday

8:00am (in the garden) - livestream

10:00am (in the garden) - livestream

12pm (Spanish) - Livestream Only

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



Are you envious because I am generous?

When a person looks extremely sad, there are two possibilities, either a bad thing has happened to them, or some good fortune has happened to their enemy. For instance, if you are a true loyal Vikings' fan, you are not happy when the Packers are successful and vice versa. When you are sad because something good had happened to another, you are jealous of them. Jealousy is the disease of the soul.

We see this in the gospel on this 25th Sunday in ordinary time. A landowner goes out in the street and hires people to work for him. Some are hired in the morning, some at noon, others at three and still others at the end of the work day, and then, in the end, he pays them all the same wage. Those who work since the morning accuse the landowner for being unfair. Yes, from a human perspective, this story unfolds a sense of injustice. There is no reason for those who work an hour to receive the same amount as those who worked all day long. It does not make any sense. Yes, sometimes we can't fully understand God's mysteries, for He said in the first reading from the book of Isaiah: *"My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways."*

We also often ask why wicked people seem to prosper? Why good people suffer? Why sinners properly live longer, meanwhile righteous people die young? We feel this injustice in our bones. Why don't hardworking people get what they deserve? Why do lazy and incompetent people seem to receive more reward than intelligent ones? Or why some are more beautiful or handsome than others? Things seem to be unfair. Why does the landowner pay them all the same wage? Is it unfair for those who work more hours? Are they right to ask for justice?

But the question is: Do these workers truly ask for justice or are they jealous of what others have? If they ask for justice, then they have it, for the landowner pays them the wage they have agreed upon. So God is just. Period! You know sometimes, we thank God for he is unfair. If he is fair, we are all in trouble.

So the truth here is not of a God who is unfair, but that we are jealous human beings. Why are we jealous? Because we compare ourselves to others.

A sparrow complained to Mother Nature, "You gave beautiful colors to the peacock and a lovely song to the nightingale, but I am plain and unnoticed. Why was I made to suffer?" "You were not made to suffer," stated Mother Nature, "You suffer because you make the same foolish mistake as human beings. You compare yourself with others. Be yourself, for in that there is no comparison and no pain."

If you want to be miserable, then compare what you have with what other people have. There will always be somebody with more than you, and they will be always, in your opinion, less deserving. If we live a life with this attitude of comparison, we will never be happy, for it keeps us from praising God for what we do have. If we compare ourselves to those who have less, we may become proud. If we compare ourselves to those who have more, we become resentful.

Do I rejoice when others are blessed or do I envy them for their success? If we envy them more than we rejoice in them, then it is like C.S. Lewis who said, "The love of God lights up the fire of hell." Think of it this way, you have a party going on. It is a joyful, fun moment. Everybody is involved in the party and having fun, except one envious person who in that same party turns to himself, sitting alone in the corner. For that person, the joy of others is suffering; torture. That is jealousy - the disease of the soul.

Let's move into the space of God to see the world from his perspective. Then we come to understand what true justice is, and then we live an attitude of gratitude, not of jealousy and resentment.

Blessings,
Fr. Thi

FAITH FORMATION NEWS!

On October 4th we will administer all of the Sacraments of Initiation to our RCIA, CIC and Adult Confirmation candidates at 10am Mass.

If you or any member of your family should be a part of this celebration and you have not yet been contacted, please call the parish office at 925-432-6404, ext. 20 or email Dina Russell (dina@goodshepherdpittsburg.org) or Aylin Gonzalez (aylin@goodshepherdpittsburg.org) for further details.

NEW CATECHISM YEAR REGISTRATION NEWS!**First Communion**

Class registration begins the 14th of September for any students 6 years old or older wanting First Holy Communion.

More information on our website.

Confirmation

Exciting news. Confirmation is now a two year program!

Class registration starts the 14th of September for any teen, grades 9-12. All lifeteen students who attended our class here last year will be in their second year of confirmation.

More information on our website.

RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation for Children)

Class registration for any child at the age 7 or older that wants Baptism begins Sept 14. More information on our website.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adult)/ Adult Confirmation

Class registration for any adults 18 or over that wants Baptism or Confirmation begins Sept 14th. More information on our website.



¿Tienes envidia porque soy generoso?

Cuando una persona parece extremadamente triste, hay dos posibilidades: o le ha pasado algo malo o le ha pasado algo de buena suerte a su enemigo. Por ejemplo, si eres un verdadero fanático de los Vikings, no estás feliz cuando los Packers tienen éxito y viceversa. Cuando estás triste porque algo bueno le pasó a al otro, estás celoso de ellos. Los celos son la enfermedad del alma.

Vemos esto en el Evangelio de este Domingo vigésimo quinto del tiempo ordinario. El terrateniente sale a la calle y contrata gente para que trabaje para él. Algunos son contratados por la mañana, otros al mediodía, otros a las tres y otros al final de la jornada laboral, y luego al final les paga a todos el mismo salario. Los que trabajan desde la mañana acusan al terrateniente de injusto. Sí, desde una perspectiva humana, esta historia despliega el sentido de injusticia. No hay razón para que quienes trabajan una hora reciban la misma cantidad que quienes trabajan todo el día. No tiene ningún sentido. Sí, a veces no podemos entender completamente los misterios de Dios, porque Él dijo en la primera lectura del libro de Isías: *"Mis pensamientos no son tus pensamientos, ni tus caminos son mis caminos"*.

También preguntamos a menudo: ¿Por qué parece prosperar la gente malvada? ¿Por qué la gente buena sufre? ¿Por qué los pecadores viven más tiempo mientras los justos mueren jóvenes? Sentimos esta injusticia en nuestros huesos. ¿Por qué las personas trabajadoras no obtienen lo que se merecen? ¿Por qué las personas perezosas e incompetentes parecen recibir más recompensas que las inteligentes? O por qué algunos son más hermosos o guapos que otros. Las cosas parecen injustas. ¿Por qué el terrateniente les paga a todos el mismo salario? ¿Es injusto para quienes trabajan más horas? ¿Tienen razón al pedir justicia?

Pero la pregunta es: ¿estos trabajadores realmente piden justicia o están celosos de lo que otros tienen? Si piden justicia, lo tienen, para que el terrateniente les pague según lo acordado. Entonces Dios es justo. ¡Punto! A veces, le damos gracias a Dios porque es injusto. Si es justo, todos estamos en problemas.

Entonces, la verdad aquí no es de Dios, quien es injusto, sino que somos seres humanos celosos. ¿Por qué estás celoso? Porque nos comparamos con los demás.

Un gorrión se quejó a la Madre Naturaleza: "Le diste hermosos colores al pavo real y un hermoso canto al ruiseñor, pero yo soy sencillo e inadvertido. ¿Por qué me hicieron para sufrir?" "No fuiste hecho para sufrir", dijo la Madre Naturaleza. "Sufres porque cometes el mismo error tonto que los seres humanos. Te comparas con los demás. Sé tú mismo, porque en eso no hay comparación ni dolor".

Si quieres sentirte desdichado, compara lo que tienes con lo que tienen otras personas. Siempre habrá alguien con más cosas que tú, y siempre, en tu opinión, menos merecedor. Si vivimos una vida con esta actitud de comparación, nunca seremos felices, ya que nos impide alabar a Dios por lo que tenemos. Si nos comparamos con los que tienen menos, podemos volvernos orgullosos; si nos comparamos con los que tienen más, nos volvemos resentidos.

Así que me regocijo cuando otros son bendecidos o les envidio su éxito. Si los envidiamos más de lo que nos regocijamos en ellos, entonces es como C.S. Lewis quien dijo: el amor de Dios enciende el fuego del infierno. Piense de esta manera: tiene una fiesta. Es un momento divertido y alegre. Todos están involucrados en la fiesta y divirtiéndose, excepto una persona envidiosa que en esa misma fiesta se vuelve hacia sí mismo, sentado solo en la esquina. Para esa persona, la alegría de los demás es el sufrimiento, la tortura. Eso son los celos, la enfermedad del alma.

Entremos en el espacio de Dios para ver el mundo desde su perspectiva. Entonces llegamos a comprender qué es la verdadera justicia, y luego vivimos una actitud de gratitud, no de celos y resentimiento.

Bendiciones.

Padre Thi

NOTICIAS DE EDUCACION RELIGIOSA!

El día 4 de Octubre a las 10am se llevaron a cabo los sacramentos de iniciación para aquellas personas que estaban en nuestras clases de RICA, RCIC y Confirmación de adultos.

Si usted o algún miembro de su familia debe ser parte de esta celebración y aun no ha sido contactado, por favor comuníquese con alguna de las encargadas de los sacramentos con:

Dina Russell (dina@goodshepherdpittsburg.org)

Aylin González (aylin@goodshepherdpittsburg.org) o llamen a la oficina parroquial al 925-432-6404 ext.20.

¡INSCRIPCIONES PARA NUEVO AÑO DE CATECISMO!**Primera Comunión:**

Inscripciones empiezan el día 14 de Septiembre para cualquier niño de 6 años en adelante que necesite su Primera Comunión.

Para más información vaya a nuestro sitio web. (GoodShepherdPittsburg.org)

Confirmación:

Buenas noticias para nuestra parroquia... ¡Nuestro programa de confirmación ahora es de 2 años! Las inscripciones empezaran el día 14 de septiembre para cualquier adolescente de grados 9-12. Todos los estudiantes que asistieron su primer año con nosotros el año escolar pasado estarán en su segundo año de confirmación.

Para más información visite nuestro sitio web. (GoodShepherdPittsburg.org)

RCIC (*Ritual de Iniciación Cristiana para Niños*):

Clase para niños de 7 años en adelante que necesiten ser bautizados.

Inscripciones empiezan el día 14 de septiembre.

Para más información visiten nuestro sitio web. (GoodShepherdPittsburg.org)

RICA (*Ritual de Iniciación cristiana para Adultos*) y Confirmación de Adultos:

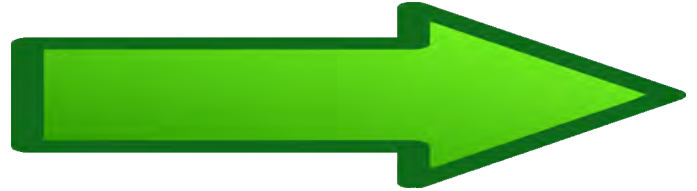
Clases para adultos mayores de 18 años que necesiten bautismo o confirmación.

Inscripciones empiezan el día 14 de septiembre.

Para más información visiten nuestro sitio web. (GoodShepherdPittsburg.org)

Thank You

**GARDEN BRICKS
AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE!
USE THIS FORM**



It is with a grateful heart that I
thank EVERYONE who helped
make last weekend's

Permanent Deaconate
Ordination

a great success!

To the Parish Council, the
Finance Council,

The Volunteers, The Liturgical
Ministers and everyone who
participated in some way big
or small, I say

"May God Bless You!"

Bishop Barber and the Priests
of our Diocese were very
happy with this very special
event and its celebration in
our beautiful garden.



JOIN US AND CELEBRATE SAINT PADRE
PIO FEAST DAY!!!!

PLEASE JOIN US:

Saint Padre Pio Prayer Group invites everyone
to celebrate the Feast Day of Saint Padre Pio.
For those who are in pain and need healing,
now is the time to ask for his intercession.
There will be a nine-day novena from Septem-
ber 14-22, 2020 at 5:00 PM via ZOOM. A
Holy Mass will be held in honor of Saint Padre
Pio on September 26, 2020, Saturday, at 8:00
o'clock in the morning in the Spiritual Garden.
If you wish to join the novena and/or wish to
be a mass sponsor please text or call Cecille
Perez at 925-300-6234.

"Bring Relief of Suffering to those in need"

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
SPIRITUAL GARDEN



The *Good Shepherd Spiritual Garden* was the brain-child of our Pastor, Fr. Helmut Richter, so that the people of our community would have a place to pray, celebrate, socialize and play. We are truly blessed that we have it as a place to worship during this time of pandemic. Many of you have asked about placing a memorial brick in the garden now that you have seen its beauty and have spent time there.

If you wish to commission a brick for the garden in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend, you may do so for just \$55 for one or \$100 for two bricks..

Please fill out the portion below and return it along with your payment to the parish office or email it to yvette@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

Name of person ordering tile _____	Date _____
Address: _____	
Phone: _____	Payment Amount: _____
Send Acknowledgement to: _____	
Address: _____	

Please fill in only one (1) character per space.

There are three (3) lines of fourteen (14) characters each. Punctuation counts as a space.

Mass Intentions

Sept 21-27

Mass Intentions For The Week

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Mon	7:30 am	Lance Borromeo #
Tue	7:30 am	Death Anniversary of Timi Tumbaga † *
Wed	7:30 am	Mercedes Manjares † *
Thu	7:30 am	Dick Mc Donald † #
Fri	7:30 am	Joe Garcia † #
Sat	8:00 am	Elisa Calma & Vinnie Di Maggio † #
Sat	5:30 pm	Salvatore Calone † *
Sun	8:00 am	Robert Carpino † *
	10 am	Death Anniversary of Robert De Pasquale † Genevieve Cappucini † #
	12 Noon	For the People of the Parish #

*=Fr. Thi, #=Fr. Christopher

Parish Staff

Fr. Thi Van Hoang, Parochial Administrator
925-432-6404 Ext. 11
frthihoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

Fr. Christopher Villa, Priest in Residence
925-752-6357- sem.doctope@gmail.com

Deacon Gustavo Escruceria
925-432-6404 Ext. 23
Deacon.gustavo@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

Grace Yvette Ripoli, Business Manager
925-432-6404 Ext. 12
yvette@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

Carmen Esquivel, Parish Secretary
925-432-6404 Ext. 19
carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

Dina Russell, Religious Education Coordinator
432-6404 Ext. 21
dina@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

Aylin Gonzalez, Faith Formation (Spanish Speaking)
925-432-6404 Ext. 20
aylin@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

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

**EZEKIEL 18:25-28, PHILLIPANS 2:1-11
MATTHEW 21:28-32**

NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

FLOCK PARTY



This week in the Garden we hosted Bishop Barber and the Permanent Deacons of our Diocese as they were ordained, We baptized children, We buried the dead, We honored our Mother Mary, We fed the needy, We worked hard and we prayed for all of you!

