



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The readings of this 2nd Sunday Year B in ordinary time set a tone for vocations. In the first reading, God calls a young boy Samuel in a dream to be his prophet for the people of Israel. The Gospel tells us Jesus chooses Peter and others to be his first disciples. But I think what strikes us the most in this weekend liturgy is the question Jesus asked Andrew and his friend when he first saw them: ***“What are you looking for?”*** What a question!

Friends, let this question sink into your hearts and to be the point of meditation for this week. Aristotle once said that those who wish to succeed must ask the right questions. And I believe this is one of the important questions we need to ask ourselves when following Jesus.

Many people see Jesus as a great healer. So they follow him in order to be healed from their various diseases. Others acknowledge him as the one who teaches with authority. They follow him because they like to listen to his teachings. And some, like the Pharisees, consider him as an enemy and a threat to their authority and status. So, they follow him to catch him and to accuse him. What is your motivation to follow Jesus? What are we looking for? ***A police officer sees a drunken man intently searching the ground near a lamppost and asks him the goal of his quest. The drunkard replies that he is looking for his car keys, and the officer helps for a few minutes without success then he asks where did you lose the keys? It is near the lamppost. “No,” is the reply, “I lost the keys somewhere across the street.” “Then why on earth are you looking for them here?” asks the surprised and irritated officer. “The drunken man answered: because the light is much better here.”*** Are we at times looking for him in the wrong place too?

“What are you really looking for?” If not eternal life, if not heaven, what else is there? Many people are looking for wealth, power, fame, beauty and social status. But the question is how long do these things last? Can we bring them with us when we leave this world? No. What goes with us when we say goodbye to this world is our soul, the qualities of soul. It is not what we have, but who we are that will go with us. So what are you looking for? The best way to answer this question is with a question: “Rabbi, where are you staying? When we ask this question, we open ourselves to finding Jesus. We open ourselves to hearing his voice whispering his presence in our souls: “Come and see.” Jesus invites us to come and see where he stays; where he is present in our lives. He invites us to dwell with him, and in him we are looking for the meaning and purpose of life.

Jesus asks us: “What you are looking for?” He wants to know why we are following him. This is a question that has to be answered honestly in order to purify our motivations and intensify our commitment to follow him. ***“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.***

Blessings,
Fr. Thi Hoang



Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo:

Las lecturas de este Segundo Domingo del Año B en el tiempo ordinario marcan la pauta vocacional. En la primera lectura, Dios llama a un joven Samuel en un sueño para que sea su profeta para el pueblo de Israel. El Evangelio nos dice que Jesús elige a Pedro y a otros para que sean sus primeros discípulos. Pero creo que lo que más nos llama la atención en esta liturgia de fin de semana es la pregunta que Jesús le hizo a Andrés y a su amigo cuando los vio por primera vez: "*¿Qué estás buscando?*" ¡Que pregunta! Amigos, permitan que esta pregunta toque sus corazones y sea el punto de meditación de esta semana. Aristóteles dijo una vez que aquellos que desean tener éxito deben hacer las preguntas correctas. Y creo que esta es una de las preguntas importantes que debemos hacernos al seguir a Jesús.

Mucha gente ve a Jesús como un gran sanador. Entonces lo siguen para ser sanados de sus diversas enfermedades. Otros lo reconocen como el que enseña con autoridad. Lo siguen porque les gusta escuchar sus enseñanzas. Y algunos, como los Fariseos, lo consideran un enemigo y una amenaza para su autoridad y estatus. Entonces, lo siguen para atraparlo y acusarlo. ¿Cuál es tu motivación para seguir a Jesús? ¿Qué estamos buscando? *Un oficial de policía ve a un hombre borracho que busca intensamente en el suelo cerca de una farola y le pregunta cuál es el objetivo de su búsqueda. El borracho responde que está buscando las llaves de su auto, y el oficial lo ayuda durante unos minutos sin éxito y luego pregunta ¿dónde perdiste las llaves? Está cerca de la farola? "No", es la respuesta, "Perdí las llaves en algún lugar al otro lado de la calle". "Entonces, ¿por qué diablos los estás buscando aquí?" pregunta el oficial sorprendido e irritado. "El borracho respondió: porque aquí hay mucha mejor luz". ¿A veces también buscamos en el lugar equivocado?*

"¿Qué estás buscando en realidad?" Si no es la vida eterna, si no el cielo, ¿qué más hay? mucha gente busca riqueza, poder, fama, belleza y estatus social. Pero la pregunta es ¿cuánto duran estas cosas? ¿Podemos traerlos con nosotros cuando dejemos este mundo? No. Lo que nos acompaña cuando decimos adiós a este mundo es nuestra alma, las cualidades del alma. No es lo que tenemos, pero lo que somos irá con nosotros. ¿Y qué es lo que buscas? La mejor manera de responder a esta pregunta es con una pregunta: "Rabino, ¿dónde se hospeda? Cuando hacemos esta pregunta, nos abrimos a encontrar a Jesús. Nos abrimos a escuchar su voz susurrando su presencia en nuestras almas: "Ven y mira". Jesús nos invita a venir y ver dónde se queda; donde está presente en nuestras vidas. Nos invita a vivir con él, y en él buscamos el sentido y el propósito de la vida.

Jesús nos pregunta: "¿Qué buscas?" Quiere saber por qué lo seguimos. Es una pregunta que hay que responder con honestidad para purificar nuestras motivaciones e intensificar nuestro compromiso de seguirlo. *"Señor, ¿a quién iremos? Tú tienes palabras de vida eterna.*

Bendiciones,

Padre Thi Hoang

The Parish Office is operating virtually during the pandemic. We will answer your phone calls and emails as soon as possible.

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE DIACONATE?

Classes will be starting in the Diocese of Oakland. For more information, interested men and their wives are invited to attend one of the following information meetings on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8745798692>

or by phone at 1-408-638-0968, Meeting ID: 874 579 8692#

Tuesdays from 7-8 pm on January 19 or 26, 2021

or

Saturdays from 11 am-Noon on January 16, 23 or 30, 2021

2020 TAX DONATION LETTERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST BY CALLING YVETTE OR CARMEN IN THE PARISH OFFICE (432-6404) OR BY EMAILING yvette@goodshepherdpittsburg.org OR carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCE FOR RECEIVING THEM BY REGULAR MAIL OR EMAIL.

**FEBRUARY 2021
2ND COLLECTION UPDATE**

Please be informed that the Diocese is managing the 2021 Bishop Appeal Collection this year through the Chancery. Therefore, all of our parish's 2nd collections in February for the Appeal will be changed to Fence Fund Raising. Unfortunately it is too late to make a printing change to the envelopes you will be receiving for the month of February. So please make sure you understand that any collection monies we receive in the Appeal envelopes will be re-directed to the very important project of paying for our new security fence. This will help the parish stay safe and save money in the long run in not having to make damage repairs to the property.

**ADDITIONAL CHRISTMAS FLOWER
FUND DONATIONS**

Agapito & Erlinda Bonifacio
Rubelita Cayanan

Leoncito Cipriano
Rhodora Tiglao

The C. S. Reyes Family





BEAUTIFUL CLOTH MASKS FOR SALE!

Donated by the Padre Pio Ministry
Wouldn't you love a colorful mask that expresses your faith or celebrates the season?

Masks are on sale for just \$5 each outside of mass today. Buy one for yourself or give one as a gift!

FEAST OF SANTO NINO TODAY!

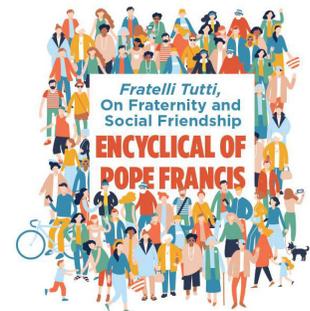
EVERYONE is invited to join us at the 12 Noon Mass in the Garden, either in person or on livestream.

Bring your Santo Nino statue with you to the Mass for the blessings.



ZOOM MEETING DISCUSSION ON FRATELLI TUTTI

As you know, on Oct 4, Feast Day of St. Francis, our Holy Father issued the new encyclical called Fratelli Tutti– All Brothers. The encyclical calls us to love and care for one another as human family. There are 8 chapters in the encyclical. We, Church of the Good Shepherd are going to open an online forum to read and discuss this papal letter via ZOOM Meeting format. We will meet once a week on Thursdays at 7pm. Here is the Zoom Link:



<https://zoom.us/j/97050699697?pwd=NDVJSWplZ0s1NU55UVRuMDJWYWpBdz09>

There is no need to register for the forum.



**IN HONOR OF THE
MARTIN LUTHER
KING
HOLIDAY
THE PARISH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY,
JANUARY 18**



**Our Lady of
Manaoag
Mass and
Dedication
January 10,
2021**

2021- HOLY YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY

December 8, 2020, on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, our Pope Francis officially announced this year is the Year of St. Joseph as we celebrate the 150th Anniversary of St Joseph as Patron Saint of the Universal church declared by Pope Pius IX in 1870. The holy year of St. Joseph starts December 8, 2020 and ends December 8, 2021.

Pope Francis said the coronavirus pandemic has heightened his desire to reflect on St. Joseph, as so many people during the pandemic have made hidden sacrifices to protect others, just as St. Joseph quietly protected and cared for Mary and Jesus. "Each of us can discover in Joseph -- the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence - an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble," the pope wrote. He also said he wanted to highlight St. Joseph's role as a father who served his family with charity and humility, adding, "Our world today needs fathers."



What's also interesting to me is that no where in the Gospels do we hear Joseph speak. He never says anything. But he's a man of action: he does what the angel tells him; he takes Mary as his wife; he goes to Bethlehem; he finds a place to stay for the night; he takes his family to Egypt... and brings them back safely. He's a man of action – not a man of words. Truly actions speak louder than words. He acts because he trusts. Joseph is a man of trust. He trusts God; he trusts Mary and he trusts himself. No way he can accomplish his mission without putting his trust in God. He just does what the Angel commanded him to do. No question asked! And he did it.

My friends, trust! After all, we find ourselves having to trust people everyday. We trust whoever built our church that it's not going to fall in on our heads. We trust the bank with our money. We exercise trust all the time. We trust ourselves that our friends can be trusted. And we trust our God with our whole hearts and put our whole lives in his hands. That's how we trust him. Yes, St. Joseph is a man of action and trust for he is a man of humility. He acts. But he is never showing off his achievement. For deep down in his heart, he knows that God is the one who did it. We live in a society where the I and Ego are emphasized too much. We say "I can do it. You can do it." Wait a minute! Can you do it without God's help? So let's be humble like St. Joseph so everything we do is for God's glory.

St. Joseph has an important message for all Christians, especially for men. For men who have been called by God to be husbands and fathers, do we try to exercise our spousal and fatherly responsibility in the family as Joseph did? Through the example and prayers of St. Joseph, may we have the patience, courage, wisdom and strength to be ideal caregivers and providers for the families that God has placed in our charge. May each of us discover in Joseph -- the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, humble and hidden presence -- an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. St. Joseph, pray for us.

Please visit the website below for all the resources about the Holy Year of St. Joseph.

[apostolatestjoseph.org/who-is-st-joseph.php](https://www.apostolatestjoseph.org/who-is-st-joseph.php)<https://www.apostolatestjoseph.org/who-is-st-joseph.php>

Mass Intentions

January 18-24, 2021

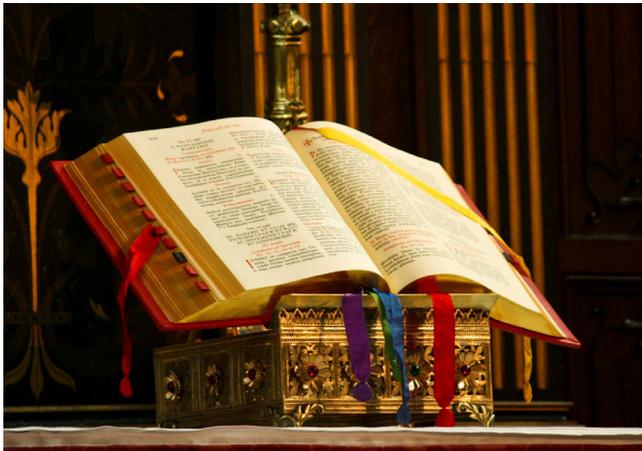
Mass Intentions For The Week

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Mon	7:30 am	Auza Family Thanksgiving #
Tue	7:30 am	Auza Family Thanksgiving *
Wed	7:30 am	Recovery for Julio Crespo *
Thu	7:30 am	A. D. Seenó † #
Fri	7:30 am	Florencio Punla Sr. † *
Sat	8:00 am	Capupus Family & Guyena Ancheta † *
Sat	5:30 pm	Nita Esposito † *
Sun	8:00 am	Genoveva Acevest † *
	10 am	Mary French † *
	12 pm	Carlos Hernandez † *
	3 pm	For the People *

*=Fr. Thi, #=Fr. Helmut



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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

**JONAH 3:1-5, 10, 1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31
MARK 1:14-20**

NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

THE CATHOLIC VOICE

Praise the Lord! Finally, we are able to start building the fence to protect our church. It looks great. It takes a few weeks to get the work done. Great news for us is that our generous and loving contractor, the All Glass company will donate two automatic gates for us. So if we can raise \$5,000 more, we can have three gates remotely controlled. Wow! What good news! We now need a total of \$50,000. We have collected about \$30,000 so far. We



need \$20,000 more. Together we can do this. I am confident that we can make the goal because we have so many generous people in our church. Please remember our fence project, when you receive the \$\$\$ stimulus from the government. We ask that if you can help us with just 10% of your stimulus, or any amount you can. Equal sacrifice, not equal giving. You can write us a check or do the online giving on our website . Thank you so much.

