



CHURCH OF THE

*Good Shepherd*

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

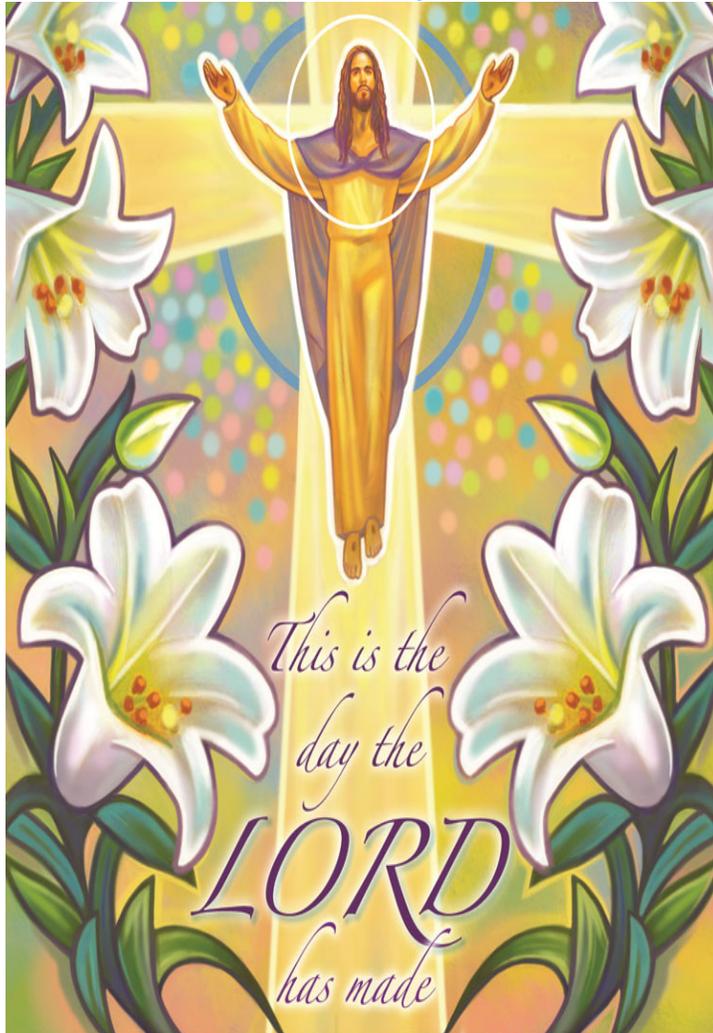
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**HAPPY  
EASTER!**

*Church*  
REOPENING

**25% capacity = 150 People per Mass/Service**

### **NEW MASS SCHEDULE**

*ALL MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL: Catholic Church of the Good Shepherd, Pittsburg, CA*

*Visit our parish website to sign up for weekend Mass you want to attend.*

#### **Monday - Friday**

7:30am

#### **Saturday**

8:00am and 5:30pm Vigil

#### **Sunday**

8:00am, 10:00am, 12pm, 3pm Spanish

#### **Communion**

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

#### **Adoration**

Fridays 8am – 9am

#### **Confession**

Fridays 8am-9am

Saturdays 4:00pm – 5:00pm

or by appointment

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK HOTLINE 510-259-8706**



**Christ is Risen! Alleluia!**

**May the Peace and Blessings of the Risen Christ be with you all.**

**We are Easter people. Alleluia is our song. As we rejoice with all Christians around the world on our celebration of the Risen Christ, let us not forget to spread the message of hope so we may continue to be inspired to go through these tough times of the pandemic.**

**Yes, Jesus is Risen! We have heard this for so long and so often that we have forgotten how shocking it is. Nobody has ever expected the dead to come back to life, but Jesus did it. He came back to life. The grave could not hold him; death couldn't contain him; forces of darkness could not stop him. He came out of the grave today. This Easter, evidence tells us that God always finishes what he has started in us. No matter how dark it is; how long it has been. No matter how the enemy was trying to put us down, God will take us from Good Friday to Easter Sunday, from death to life, from despair to hope and from sadness to joy. Yes, the Lord is risen. But this greatest news becomes useless if we don't feel we are part of it; if we don't feel it is for us. So each of us should ask ourselves: how does the Resurrection affect my life?**

**For me, Easter has a great impact on my life. Each time Easter comes, it brings me back to the past -20 years ago- when I had cancer. It was the Risen Lord who healed me and brought me back to life. The resurrection has changed my life, deepened my faith, given me hope and joy. Because of Him, every single day, through trials, difficulties, pain, challenges, I am still able to say: "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."**

**My dear brothers and sisters, there are so many things in life that can make us afraid. The spreading of the coronavirus, the sickness, the loss of a loved one, the unemployment, a broken friendship and the experience of not being valued by others are among the many experiences that can leave us despairing, not knowing what to expect, even scared. Easter offers the assurance that difficulties and challenges that threaten to overwhelm us will be overcome, that this pandemic will end soon. We can find healing and peace in Him who came that we might have life in all its fullness. The risen Christ, in His profound love, makes possible for all of us to have second chances, new beginnings and new lives.**

**My dear friends, life is complicated. It has mixed feelings of Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. Friday is the day of fear and pain. Saturday is the day of doubt and confusion. But Easter Sunday, the day of joy and victory, is our answer. We will face these three days over and over again in the course of our lives. We must learn to believe that God always finishes what he has started in us. The stories God writes about us; the plans God has for us always have good endings. Today Christ has won. And we know that in Him we shall win the battle of life. His resurrection reminds us that hope must never be lost for as dark as the road may seem, there always lies light at the end of it. So with no fear, let's keep fighting the good fight and fight it with hope and joy, for we are Easter people and Alleluia is our song.**

**On behalf of Deacon Gustavo and our parish staff, I wish you and your loved ones a grace-filled Easter. May the Risen Lord fill your hearts with compassion, peace and never ending hope and joy.**

**Happy Easter, Alleluia!**

**Fr. Thi Hoang**

**Cristo ha Resucitado! ¡Aleluya!**



**Que la Paz y las Bendiciones de Cristo Resucitado estén con todos ustedes.**

**Somos gente de Pascua. Aleluya es nuestra canción. Mientras nos regocijamos con todos los Cristianos de todo el mundo por su celebración del Cristo resucitado, no olvidemos difundir el mensaje de esperanza para que podamos seguir inspirados para atravesar estos tiempos difíciles de la pandemia.**

**Sí, Jesús ha Resucitado! Hemos escuchado esto durante tanto tiempo y con tanta frecuencia que hemos olvidado lo impactante que es. Nadie esperaba que los muertos volvieran a la vida, pero Jesús lo hizo. Volvió a la vida. La tumba no pudo retenerlo; la muerte no pudo contenerlo; la fuerza de la oscuridad no pudo detenerlo. Hoy salió de la tumba. Esta evidencia pascual nos dice que Dios siempre termina lo que comenzó en nosotros. No importa lo oscuro que esté; cuánto tiempo ha pasado. No importa cómo el enemigo esté tratando de humillarnos, Dios nos llevará del Viernes Santo al Domingo de Resurrección, de la muerte a la vida, de la desesperación a la esperanza y de la tristeza a la alegría. Sí, el Señor ha resucitado. Pero esta gran noticia se vuelve inútil si no nos sentimos parte de ella; si no lo sentimos, es por nosotros. Entonces, cada uno de nosotros debería preguntarse: ¿cómo afecta la resurrección a mi vida?**

**Para mí, la Pascua tiene un gran impacto en mi vida. Cada vez que llega la Pascua, me devuelve al pasado, hace 20 años, cuando tenía cáncer. Fue el Señor Resucitado quien me sanó y me devolvió la vida. La resurrección ha cambiado mi vida, ha profundizado mi fe, me ha dado esperanza y gozo. Gracias a Él, todos los días, a través de pruebas, dificultades, dolores, desafíos, todavía puedo decir: Este es el día que hizo el Señor, regocijémonos y alegrémonos en él.**

**Mis queridos hermanos y hermanas, hay tantas cosas en la vida que pueden atemorizarnos. La propagación del coronavirus, la enfermedad, la pérdida de un ser querido, el desempleo, una amistad rota y la experiencia de no ser valorados por los demás son algunas de las muchas experiencias que pueden dejarnos desesperados, sin saber qué esperar, incluso asustados. La Pascua ofrece la seguridad de que se superarán las dificultades y desafíos que amenazan con abrumarnos, que esta pandemia terminará pronto. Podemos encontrar curación y paz en Aquel que vino para que tengamos vida en toda su plenitud. Cristo resucitado, en su amor profundo, hace posible que todos tengamos segundas oportunidades, nuevos comienzos y nuevas vidas.**

**Queridos amigos, la vida es complicada. Tiene sentimientos encontrados de Viernes Santo, Sábado Santo y Domingo de Resurrección. El viernes es el día del miedo y el dolor. El sábado es el día de la duda y la confusión. Pero el domingo de Pascua, el día de la alegría y la victoria, es nuestra respuesta. Enfrentaremos estos tres días una y otra vez a lo largo de nuestra vida. Debemos aprender a creer que Dios siempre termina lo que comenzó en nosotros. Las historias que Dios escribe sobre nosotros; los planes que Dios tiene para nosotros siempre tienen un buen final. Hoy Cristo ha ganado. Y sabemos que en Él ganaremos la batalla de la vida. Su resurrección nos recuerda que la esperanza nunca debe perderse porque, por más oscuro que parezca el camino, siempre hay luz al final. Entonces, sin miedo, sigamos peleando la buena batalla y luchemos con esperanza y alegría, porque somos gente de Pascua y Aleluya es nuestra canción.**

**En nombre del diácono Gustavo y el personal de nuestra parroquia, les deseo a usted y a sus seres queridos una Pascua llena de gracia. Que el Señor Resucitado llene sus corazones de compasión, paz y esperanza y alegría interminables.**

**¡Feliz Pascua de Resurrección, Aleluya!**

**Padre Thi Hoang**

## WHAT CATHOLICS BELIEVE ABOUT EASTER

The Easter Vigil is the "Mother of All Vigils." Easter Sunday, then, is the greatest of all Sundays, and Easter Time is the most important of all liturgical times. Easter is the celebration of **the Lord's resurrection** from the dead, culminating in his Ascension to the Father and sending of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. There are **50 days** of Easter from the first Sunday to Pentecost. It is characterized, above all, by the joy of glorified life and the victory over death expressed most fully in the great resounding cry of the Christian: Alleluia! All faith flows from faith in the resurrection: "If Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; empty, too, is your faith." (1 Cor 15:14)

"What you sow is not brought to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel of wheat, perhaps, or of some other kind;...So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown corruptible; it is raised incorruptible. It is sown dishonorable; it is raised glorious. It is sown weak; it is raised powerful. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual one. So, too, it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being," the last Adam a life-giving spirit. But the spiritual was not first; rather the natural and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, earthly; the second man, from heaven. As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one (1 Cor 15:36-37, 42-49).

The octave of Easter comprises the eight days which stretch from the first to the second Sunday. It is a way of prolonging the joy of the initial day. In a sense, every day of the Octave is like a little Sunday.

The word "Easter" comes from Old English, meaning simply the "East." The sun which rises in the East, bringing light, warmth, and hope, is a symbol for the Christian of the rising Christ, who is the true Light of the world. **The Paschal Candle** is a central symbol of this divine light, which is Christ. It is kept near the ambo throughout Easter Time and lit for all liturgical celebrations.



From the USCCB website

# Divine Mercy Sunday



Mankind's need for the message of Divine Mercy took on dire urgency in the twentieth century, when civilization began to experience an "eclipse of the sense of God," and therefore, to lose the understanding of the sanctity and inherent dignity of human life. In 1931, Jesus appeared to Sr. Faustina in Poland and expressed his desire for a feast celebrating his mercy. The Feast of Mercy was to be on the Sunday after Easter and was to include a public blessing and liturgical veneration of His image with the inscription

"Jesus, I trust in You." St. John Paul II explains the hope of the Divine Mercy message:

This promise of mercy has been affirmed by the Church, which has made Divine Mercy Sunday an occasion for receiving a plenary indulgence, "the remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sin whose guilt has already been forgiven" (CCC, no. 1471). The plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful under the usual conditions (Confession, Eucharist, prayer for the intentions of the pope, and complete detachment from sin, even venial sin). The faithful may either take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy in any church or chapel or recite the Our Father and Creed in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus.

There are many aspects of the Divine Mercy devotion, including the Chaplet, the Divine Mercy image, and the "hour of great mercy" (3:00 p.m.). The popularity of these devotions, focused on the Lord's infinite mercy, has grown rapidly in recent decades. Regarding the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, St. Faustina wrote that Jesus said to her, "At the hour of their death, I defend as My own glory every soul that will say this chaplet; or when others say it for a dying person " (Divine Mercy in My Soul, no. 811).

## April 11, 2021

VINE MERCY SUNDAY

## Why is Easter Greater than Christmas?

If Easter had not happened, Christmas would have no meaning. If the tomb is not empty, the cradle makes no difference. If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then he really is just a misguided Jewish rabbi with delusions of grandeur. If Easter is not true, then Christmas is only the story of an obscure baby born in an out-of-the-way village in a forgotten land 2000 years ago. It is Easter that gives Christmas its meaning.

- Dr. Ray Pritchard

 [facebook.com/catholicsknowtheanswerofficialpage](https://www.facebook.com/catholicsknowtheanswerofficialpage)




**The 2021 Bishop's Appeal has officially launched!**

**Our goal this year is:  
\$35,600**

**Please help us reach our goal!**

***To All Those Visiting Us Today:***

***Welcome to our Good Shepherd family!***

***We're glad that you could be with us today. We're honored to share this Easter with you as we worship God's risen Son. We hope that God touches your life as we worship side by side and that you leave us today with the peace of God in your mind and heart. Happy Easter!***



Congratulations to the following members of our community who received sacraments at the Easter Vigil

Malaika Ignacio  
 Christopher Barrett  
 Gabrielle Barret  
 Arturo Zarco  
 Jeriamias Gomez  
 Angelica Torres Lacayo



**SECURITY GATE UPDATE**

The security gates are up. We have begun securing the property daily and all of the broken windows have been replaced.

At this time, the plan is to have the gates open from 6:30 am to 7 pm daily.

On weekends, we will open all the gates.

On the weekdays, we plan on opening the main gate for ingress and egress. We will inform you of any changes as we monitor how this plan is working out.



“Pray the LORD of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” (Matthew 9:38)



If you are a young man considering a priestly vocation, contact Fr. Carl Arcosa at 510-267-8356

## Mass Intentions

April 5-11

# Mass Intentions For The Week

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Mon	7:30 am	1 Year Death Anniversary Martha de la Torre †
Tue	7:30 am	Capupus Family
Wed	7:30 am	Capupus Family
Thu	7:30 am	Capupus Family
Fri	7:30 am	Capupus Family
Sat	8:00 am	Priscilla Acuna † All Souls in Purgatory & Members of FOSS
Sat	5:30 pm	Aiello, Russo & Barnes Families
Sun	8:00 am	Dale Eugene Jr. †
	10 am	Frances Ferrante Thomas †
	12 pm	Gilmore Usman Sr. †
	3 pm	For the People

## Parish Staff

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**Grace Yvette Ripoli, Business Manager**  
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**Carmen Esquivel, Parish Secretary**  
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**Dina Russell, Religious Education  
Coordinator**  
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dina@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

## 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 4:32-35, 1 JOHN 5:1-6,  
JOHN 20:19-31**

## NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

**NO 2ND COLLECTION THIS  
WEEKEND**



CHURCH OF THE

*Good Shepherd*

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

**Gifted to Give  
500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines**



As we celebrate 500 years of Christianity in the Philippines, we are selling this combo souvenir mug and mask for just \$20. Please support this fundraiser to help our parish in these difficult times.

**Mug + Mask for \$20.00**

We accept cash or check made payable to Church of the Good Shepherd

We also sell these new beautiful designed masks after Masses on Sundays

**\$5.00 each**

Below is contact information of people you can order your items. Thanks for you support.



**Lelani Andes  
925-212-8408**

**Tammy Vo  
925-698-4559**