



CHURCH OF THE

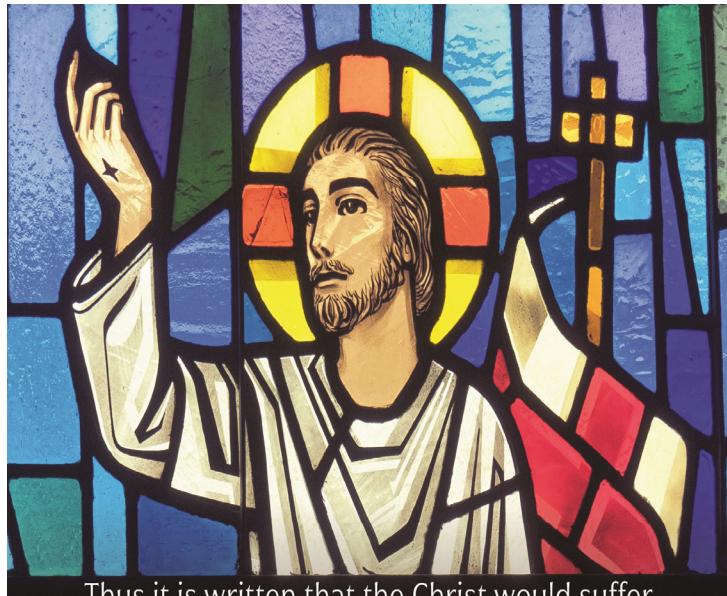
# Good Shepherd

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

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**THE CHURCH IS NOW REOPEN WITH 50% CAPACITY = 220 PEOPLE PER MASS OR SERVICE**



Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations.

LUKE 24:46-47

THIRD  
SUNDAY OF  
EASTER

APRIL 18, 2021

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## **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

First Fridays 8am-7pm

**Confession**

Fridays 8am-9am

Saturdays 4:00pm – 5:00pm  
or by appointment

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



### On the Road to Emmaus

Two disciples left for Emmaus while the rest of their grieving brothers and sisters were gathering in Jerusalem, mourning Jesus's death. The two were so frustrated and depressed with what happened to Jesus. They couldn't accept the shameful defeat of their master whom they expected to overturn the Romans and set them free. The story of the Road to Emmaus is our story, a story of despair and disappointment, a story of conversion and hope. Truly, we are the disciples on the road to Emmaus. There's so much to appreciate in this well-loved encounter: There are many spiritual lessons we can draw from this little story.

**First of all**, we notice two disciples walking on the road, sad. They were sad because they were walking the wrong road. Jerusalem is place of promise and salvation, but they were turning away from it. And while they were frustrated, they met a stranger who changed their lives. Who was it? It was the Risen Christ. This reminds us that we should not be afraid of strangers, Jesus now can appear and walk with us in all types of bodies: male and female, black and white, young and old, rich and poor, native and immigrant, Catholic and Protestant, Muslim, liberal and conservative, so on and so forth. We should welcome them with open arms, for many times Jesus comes to us as a stranger.

**Second lesson**, God always reaches out to us first. Jesus found the two disciples on the road. He sought them out so they could meet him face to face, heart to heart and be transformed. We should remember that on our journey of life, Jesus is continually seeking us out and desiring to find us. But we may all ask this question: Why didn't the disciples recognize Jesus? Because things did not happen as they had expected. They had a wrong perception of the resurrection. They thought that Jesus would redeem Israel in a powerful and glorious way, not by a shameful death on the cross. We can learn that God's ways are not our ways. What we consider to be failure might not be so in the eyes of God. It might just be a necessary step to something truly greater. The cross for some people is a sign of failure, but for those who believe, it is truly a sign of victory.

**Third lesson**, after Jesus broke the bread, their eyes were open. Then and only then they turned to each other and said: *Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scripture to us?* Notice that it's in looking back on the experience that they realized just how impactful it had been. It's in looking back and shifting and sorting through the events and the feelings of our day that we enhance our understanding, that we deepen our appreciation, we embrace the gift of love. Through daily examination of life, we grow in our appreciation of how much God loves us and how powerful his grace is at work in our lives. Sometimes we feel like we're walking down a dark corridor. Maybe it is beautiful on the outside with people laughing and playing, but inside our hearts it's all steel and concrete. Where is God in times like this? Where is Jesus?

Today's Gospel reminds us that Jesus is there, walking beside us, but we can't see him. If we dare to pour out our hearts, the Scripture says Jesus listens. He listens to the cries of our hearts. Every Sunday, when we come together to celebrate Mass, we re-enact the Road to Emmaus Story. In saying, "I Confess," we acknowledge all the darkness and sinfulness and lack of faith that we walk in. Then we listen to the Word of God in Scripture and let the Spirit of Jesus speak to our hearts. And then we meet Jesus in the Eucharist. **The key question then is:** What do I do after encountering the Risen Christ? Will I be like the two disciples who made a u-turn to Jerusalem, on fire with spreading the Good News? Do I bring this experience of Jesus with me at home, at work and in society? Do I feel my heart burning when I listen to the scripture? Am I taking Jesus' place as the stranger on the road, walking with others in need? Do I welcome strangers with open arms as I welcome Jesus? If I do all this, I am the true disciple of Christ, I am an Easter person. Alleluia is my song. Amen!

Fr. Thi Hoang



Camino de Emaús

Dos discípulos partieron hacia Emaús mientras el resto de sus hermanos y hermanas afligidos se reunían en Jerusalén, lamentando la muerte de Jesús. Los dos estaban tan frustrados y deprimidos con lo que le sucedió a Jesús. No podían aceptar la vergonzosa derrota de su maestro, de quien esperaban que derrocaría a los Romanos y los liberara. La historia del Camino a Emaús es nuestra historia, la historia de la desesperación y la decepción, la conversión de la historia y la esperanza. En verdad, somos los discípulos en el camino de Emaús. Hay mucho que apreciar en este encuentro tan querido: hay muchas lecciones espirituales que podemos extraer de esta pequeña historia.

**En primer lugar**, notamos a dos discípulos caminando por el camino, tristes. Estaban tristes porque iban por el camino equivocado. Jerusalén es el lugar de la promesa y la salvación, pero se estaban alejando de ella. Y mientras estaban frustrados, conocieron a un extraño que les cambió la vida. ¿Quién fue? Fue el Cristo resucitado. Esto nos recuerda que no debemos tener miedo de los extraños, Jesús ahora puede aparecer y caminar con nosotros en todo tipo de cuerpos: masculino y femenino, blanco y negro, joven y viejo, rico y pobre, nativo e inmigrante, Católico y Protestante, Misiones, liberales y conservadores, etcétera. Debemos recibirlos con los brazos abiertos, porque muchas veces Jesús viene a nosotros como un extraño.

**Segunda lección**, Dios siempre se acerca a nosotros primero. Jesús encontró a los dos discípulos en el camino. Los buscó para que pudieran encontrarse con él cara a cara, de corazón a corazón y ser transformados. Debemos recordar que en nuestro viaje por la vida, Jesús constantemente nos busca y desea encontrarnos. Pero todos podemos hacer esta pregunta: ¿Por qué los discípulos no reconocieron a Jesús? Porque las cosas no sucedieron como esperaban. Tenían una percepción errónea de la resurrección. Pensaban que Jesús redimiría a Israel de una manera poderosa y gloriosa, no con una muerte vergonzosa en la cruz. Podemos aprender que los caminos de Dios no son los nuestros. Lo que consideramos un fracaso puede que no lo sea a los ojos de Dios. Podría ser solo un paso necesario para algo realmente más grande. La cruz para algunas personas es una señal de fracaso, pero para los que creen, es verdaderamente una señal de victoria.

**Tercera lección**, después de que Jesús partió el pan, sus ojos estaban abiertos. Entonces, y solo entonces, se volvieron el uno al otro y dijeron: ¿No ardía nuestro corazón dentro de nosotros mientras nos hablaba en el camino y nos explicaba las Escrituras? Tenga en cuenta que es al mirar hacia atrás en la experiencia que se dieron cuenta de lo impactante que ha sido. Mirando hacia atrás, cambiando y clasificando los eventos y los sentimientos de nuestro día, mejoramos nuestra comprensión, profundizamos nuestro aprecio, aceptamos el regalo del amor. A través del examen diario de la vida, crecemos en nuestra apreciación de cuánto nos ama Dios y cuán poderosa es su gracia obrando en nuestras vidas. A veces sentimos que estamos caminando por un pasillo oscuro. Tal vez sea hermoso por fuera con gente riendo y jocando, pero dentro de nuestros corazones es todo acero y cemento. ¿Dónde está Dios en tiempos como este? ¿Dónde está Jesús?

El Evangelio de hoy nos recuerda que Jesús está allí, caminando a nuestro lado que no podemos verlo. Pero si nos atrevemos a derramar nuestro corazón, la Escritura dice que Jesús escucha. Escucha el llanto de nuestro corazón. Todos los domingos, cuando nos reunimos para celebrar la Misa, recreamos la historia del Camino a Emaús. Al decir: Confieso, reconocemos toda la oscuridad, la pecaminosidad y la falta de fe en la que caminamos. Luego escuchamos la palabra de Dios en las Escrituras y dejamos que el Espíritu de Jesús hable a nuestros corazones. Y luego nos encontramos con Jesús en la Eucaristía. **La pregunta clave entonces es:** ¿Qué hago después de encontrarme con Cristo Resucitado? ¿Seré como los dos discípulos que dieron la vuelta en U a Jerusalén, encendidos y difundiendo la Buena Nueva? ¿Traigo esta experiencia de Jesús contigo en casa, en el trabajo y en la sociedad? ¿Siento que mi corazón arde cuando escucho las Escrituras? ¿Estoy tomando el lugar de Jesús como el extraño en el camino, caminando con otros necesitados? ¿Doy la bienvenida a los extraños con los brazos abiertos como le doy la bienvenida a Jesús? Si hago todo esto, soy el verdadero discípulo de Cristo, soy una persona de pascua. Aleluya es mi canción. ¡Amén!

Padre Thi Hoang



**Calling All Women!**

**Magnificat SOTI, a Ministry for Catholic Women  
invite all to a ZOOM Event!**

**Saturday, April 17th - 9:30 am**

Please join us for a morning of Praise, Prayer, and Inspiration from our speaker Cindy Rippee. Cindy has taught religious education and Bible study for many years. She is involved in healing and prayer ministry with specific prayers for inner healing. She is a core team member of the Faith Alive prayer group. She is also active working with a team presenting Life in the Spirit seminars and is a Benedictine oblate affiliated with the Prince of Peace Abbey. She will share how God's word, His great grace, and strength have enabled her to live in the grace of the day with love, joy and hope.

**For more information:** <https://magnificat-ministry.net/ca-walnut-creek/>

Or:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ YtduiqqzIpHN2BbMPXBpZCxa2mA3s0PdgS>

Email [Magnificatsotisvp@gmail.com](mailto:Magnificatsotisvp@gmail.com) for reservation HELP



**It is with a grateful heart that I thank this wonderful community for their ongoing support of our parish through the pandemic, monetarily and in many other ways, and especially now during our Easter Season!**

**Our Easter Sunday Collection was: \$21,231.34**

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

### 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 gates are open from 6:30 am to 7 pm daily.

On weekends, we will open all the gates.

On the weekdays, we open the main gate for ingress and egress.

We will inform you of any changes as we monitor how this plan is working out.



? Put Spring into your marriage!

? The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience is a chance to look deeply into your relationship with each other and with God.

? It offers married couples an opportunity to learn a technique of loving communication that you can use for the rest of your lives.

? Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences.

? Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: <https://wwme.org/>

**April 24-25, 2021**

Jesus is the good shepherd and laid down his life for us that we may have new life. Give your marriage new life by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. Go to <https://wwme.org/> to find the next virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience that works for your schedule from the comfort of your own home!



# BISHOP BARBER'S STATEMENT ON VIOLENCE AGAINST ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS.

## Statement on Violence against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

Task Force for Racial Justice

Diocese of Oakland

March 29, 2021

As stated in *Brothers and Sisters to Us*, issued by the U.S. Catholic bishops in 1979, “Racism is not merely one sin among many; it is a radical evil that divides the human family and denies the new creation of a redeemed world. To struggle against it demands an equally radical transformation, in our own minds and hearts as well as in the structure of our society.”

The racially motivated violence against the Asian American and Pacific Islander community has reinforced the critical and moral imperative to stop the hate and end racism. Recent events in our Oakland community, throughout the Bay Area and across the country, and the caustic rhetoric that marks conversations around responsibility for the pandemic provide ample evidence there is still much work to do. As Christians, we are constantly called to examine our hearts and consciences and assist in removing racial divisions, intolerance, and discrimination.

As we stand with our Asian American and Pacific Islander brothers and sisters, we denounce all forms of hate, racism, and discrimination. Let us see them as they are, and as we are: Children of God, each created intentionally by God in his own divine image. Every person is sacred and equally valuable. Every form of racism, by definition, is to be rejected, knowing that love for all and a diverse and cohesive society makes us better and is what our faith calls us to build.

“God shows no partiality (Acts 10:34).”

“After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches<sup>\*</sup> in their hands (Rev. 7:9).”



**Take care and protect your family**



### Vaccinate against COVID-19!

La Clínica is offering the Covid-19 Vaccine to **Contra Costa** residents.  
Eligible candidates include those under the following categories.

• People 65 years of age or older	
<b>Those who work in the following:</b>	
• IHHS Workers (Home Health Care Aid)	
• Teachers or Child care work (formal or informal)	
• Restaurant or grocery stores	
• Farm work or landscape	

Sign-up in the interest list to be referred, La Clinica staff will contact you to schedule an appointment.

If you prefer call **(925)363-2000** to make an appointment.



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

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

**Please help us reach our  
goal!**



**Cuidate y protege a tu familia**



### ¡Vacúñate Contra el COVID -19!

La Clínica ofrece la vacuna a la comunidad del condado de **Contra Costa**.  
Son elegibles las personas que cumplen con una de las siguientes categorías.

• Personas de 65 años o más	
<b>que los que trabajan en:</b>	
• Trabajadores de IHHS (Servicios de salud en casa)	
• Maestros o Cuidado infantil (babysitting)	
• Restaurantes tiendas de comida	
• Trabajo del campo o jardinería	

Inscríbase en las lista de interés para referirle, personal de La Clinica le llamará para darle una cita.

**Si prefiere, puede llamar al (925)363-2000 y hacer cita.**



## Celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday April 11



### Youth Confirmation Evening *From Water to Fire* Retreat Sunday 4/11

Youth Confirmation Mass, Friday, April 23rd at 6:30pm in the Garden.  
51 Students will be confirmed on this day. Please keep them in your prayers!

## Mass Intentions

April 19-25

# Mass Intentions For The Week



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Mon	7:30 am	Mary & Dominic Nguyen † ^
Tue	7:30 am	Mary & Dominic Nguyen † *
Wed	7:30 am	Jose Solis † *
Thu	7:30 am	Peter Dong † ^
Fri	7:30 am	Magdalena Torres † *
Sat	8:00 am	Regina Nueva & Lorenzo Amigo Jr. † *
Sat	5:30 pm	Nicolosi & Hammett Families † *
Sun	8:00 am	Prudy Lujan † *
	10 am	Al Zbacnik † *
	12 pm	Ms. Opal Harper & Rev. Anthony Anderson † *
	3 pm	For the People #
		Fr. Helmut ^, Fr. Thi *, Fr. Arturo #

## Parish Staff

**Fr. Thi Van Hoang,**  
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**Dina Russell, Religious Education Coordinator**  
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dina@goodshepherdpittsburgh.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 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2,  
John 10:11-18**

## NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

**CATHOLIC VOICE**



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 your support.



**Lelani Andes**  
925-212-8408

**Tammy Vo**  
925-698-4559

## SCAM ALERT

If you have recently received an email or text message from Fr. Thi Hoang, asking for iTune gift cards or anything else, please note that it is a scam. So just disregard the message. Thank you.