



CHURCH OF THE

Good Shepherd

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

3200 Harbor Street ~ Pittsburg, CA 94565

Phone: 925-432-6404

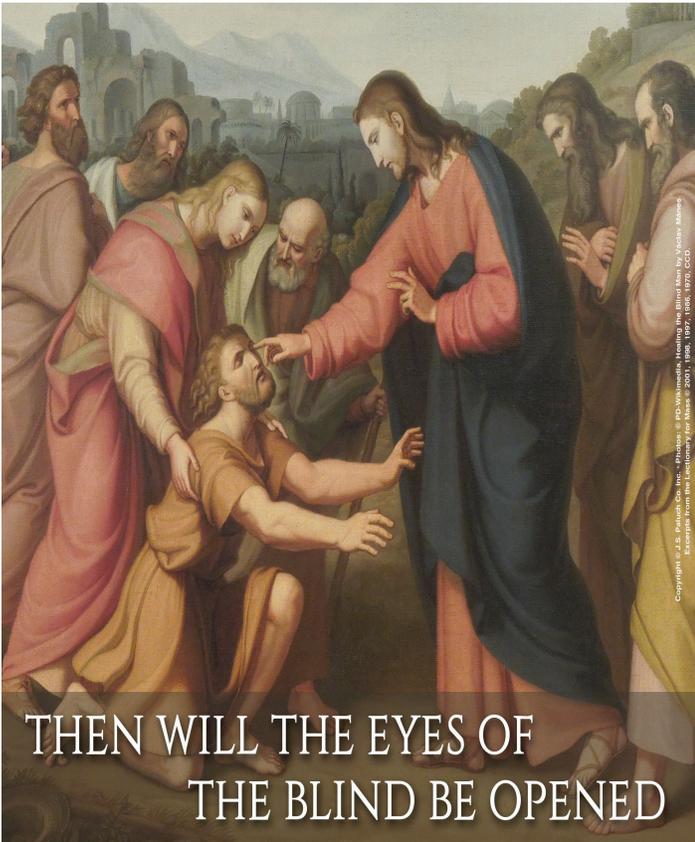
Email: office@goodshepherdpittsburg.org

www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org

www.facebook.com/goodshepherdpittsburg



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



the ears of the deaf be cleared;
then will the lame leap like a stag,
then the tongue of the mute will sing.

Isaiah 35:5-6

SEPTEMBER

5
2021

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
9am-12 pm & 1-4 pm

MASS SCHEDULE

We livestream all daily Masses and 10am Mass on Sunday on your Youtube Channel.

Sundays: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. & 12 noon & 3pm Spanish
Monday through Friday : 7:30 a.m.
1st Fridays: 7:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. (Vigil)
Holy Days: 7:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Morning Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours)/ Rosary
7:00a.m.

Confessions: Fridays: 8am-9am
Saturdays: 4-5 p.m. or by appointment

Adoration: Fridays: 8am-9 am; 1st Fridays: 8am-7pm
Adoration in the Chapel (door code required-call parish office).

Devotions: Divine Mercy Monday-Friday after 7:30am Mass
Our Lady of Fatima/Perpetual Help~1st Saturday
Santo Nino~2nd Saturday
Divine Mercy~3rd Saturday
Saint Padre Pio~4th Saturday
Healing Mass~5th Saturday

(All devotions take place following 8:00 am Mass)

Baptisms: In order to make baptismal arrangements contact [car-men@goodshepherdpittsburg.org](mailto:carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org)

Marriages: In order to make marriage arrangements contact [car-men@goodshepherdpittsburg.org](mailto:carmen@goodshepherdpittsburg.org) 6 months prior to marriage day.

Funeral Arrangements: Should be arranged by family, church and mortuary. Normal Christian burial consists of Vigil Service, Holy Mass and Burial in a Catholic Cemetery. Any other arrangements should first be discussed with parish priest.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK HOTLINE: 510-259-8706



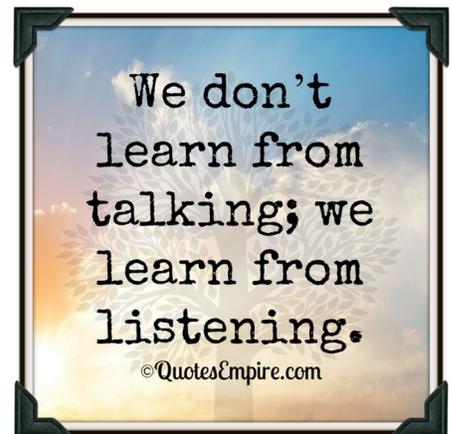
We, human beings, tend to be selective in what we hear. We pick and choose what we want to hear. We want to follow Jesus, but we only want to hear Him when he talks about rewards and blessings. But the moment He starts talking about the ugliness of our sins, about the need for repentance and conversion, about the cross, self-sacrifice, humility and dying to self, our ears close and we become deaf. St. Augustine said, *"If you believe what you like in the Gospel and reject what you do not like, it is not the Gospel you believe, but yourself."*

The Gospel of this 23rd Sunday invites us to reflect on one word "Ephphatha"- Be opened. This is a powerful word because it is an action word. Jesus is the Word made flesh. When He speaks, his word becomes reality. By saying the command "Be opened!" the deaf man's ears are opened and his speech impediment is removed. When Jesus speaks, His word changes things. This is true in this Gospel story and it is also true in our lives. We all are deaf and struggle with a speech impediment in the sense that we do not always hear God's voice and speak His word. We live in a society where there are voices of all kinds affecting us. Some voices try to mimic the voice of our Lord. They are voices of personal pleasure, self-interest, laziness, greed and sin. They all say, *"follow me, I will bring you life."* So we need to stay alert and let Jesus speak to us. We must let Him take us off to a quiet place alone and speak to us as He did to the deaf man: "Ephphatha!-Be opened!"

We might not be physically deaf; but spiritually, we may experience deafness on different levels: deaf from the call of forgiveness from those people who might have hurt and wronged us; deaf from the cries of those who are struggling to provide for themselves; deaf to the teachings of the Church that might be challenging and hard to follow; or probably deaf to the pleadings and requests of our parents to do our best with our studies; or playing deaf when our teachers and parents ask us to do something for our own good. The list can go on and on.

God created us with two ears, but one mouth for a reason. God wants us to listen more than talk. We must hear God's words first before we open our mouth to speak. If we follow this command, we would never hurt others with our words. Let our ears be open to hear His words of forgiveness. Let our mouths be open to speak the good news of what God is doing in our lives. Let our hearts be open to love our neighbors as ourselves. Let our lives be open so God may dwell in us. And let us be like the deaf man. May we be able to cry out and beg the Lord for the gift of healing from pain, suffering, difficulties, frustrations, fears, doubts and anything that bothers and concerns us. May the Lord touch us and speak that same word "Ephphatha!" "Be opened." Amen!

Fr. Thi Hoang





Nosotros, los seres humanos, tendemos a ser selectivos en lo que escuchamos. Elegimos y elegimos lo que queremos escuchar. Queremos seguir a Jesús, pero solo queremos escucharlo cuando habla de recompensas y bendiciones. Pero en el momento en que comienza a hablar sobre la fealdad de nuestros pecados, sobre la necesidad de arrepentimiento y conversión, sobre la cruz, el sacrificio, la humildad y el morir a nosotros mismos, nuestros oídos se cierran y nos quedamos sordos. San Agustín dijo: *"Si crees lo que te gusta del Evangelio y rechazas lo que no te gusta, no es el Evangelio lo que crees, sino a ti mismo"*.

El Evangelio de este vigésimo tercero Domingo invita a reflexionar sobre una palabra "Efata": ser abiertos. Esta es una palabra poderosa porque es una palabra de acción. Jesús es el Verbo hecho carne. Cuando alcanza su punto máximo, su palabra se convierte en realidad. Al decir el comando "¡Ábrete!" se abren los oídos del sordo y se elimina su impedimento del habla. Cuando Jesús habla, su palabra cambia las cosas. Esto es cierto en esta historia del Evangelio y también es cierto en nuestras vidas. Todos somos sordos y luchamos con un impedimento del habla en el sentido de que no siempre escuchamos la voz de Dios y decimos Su palabra. Vivimos en una sociedad donde hay voces de todo tipo que nos afectan. Algunas voces intentan imitar la voz de nuestro Señor. Son voces de placer personal, interés propio, pereza, codicia y pecado. Todos dicen: *"sígueme, te traeré vida"*. Así que debemos estar alerta y dejar que Jesús nos hable. Debemos dejar que nos lleve a un lugar tranquilo a solas y que nos hable como lo hizo con el sordo: "¡Ephphatha! - ¡Ábrete!"

Puede que no seamos sordos físicamente; pero espiritualmente, podemos experimentar sordera en diferentes niveles: sordos del llamado del perdón de aquellas personas que podrían habernos lastimado y agraviado; sordos a los gritos de quienes luchan por mantenerse a sí mismos; sordos a las enseñanzas de la Iglesia que pueden ser desafiantes y difíciles de seguir; o probablemente sordo a las súplicas y peticiones de nuestros padres de hacer nuestro mejor esfuerzo con nuestros estudios; o hacernos sordos cuando nuestros maestros y padres nos piden que hagamos algo por nuestro propio bien. La lista puede seguir y seguir.

Dios nos creó con demasiado oídos, pero con boca por una razón. Dios quiere que escuchemos más que hablemos. Primero debemos escuchar las palabras de Dios antes de abrir la boca para hablar. Si seguimos este mandamiento, nunca lastimaríamos a otros con nuestras palabras. Que nuestros oídos estén abiertos para escuchar sus palabras de perdón. Dejemos que nuestras bocas estén abiertas para hablar las buenas nuevas de lo que Dios está haciendo en nuestras vidas. Dejemos que nuestros corazones estén abiertos para amar a nuestro prójimo como a nosotros mismos. Dejemos que nuestras vidas estén abiertas para que Dios more en nosotros. Y seamos como el sordo. Que seamos capaces de clamar y suplicar al Señor el don de la curación del dolor, el sufrimiento, las dificultades, las frustraciones, los miedos, las dudas y todo aquello que nos moleste y nos preocupe. Que el Señor nos toque y diga la misma palabra "¡Efata!" "Ábrete." ¡Amén!

Padre Thi Hoang

The 2021 Bishop's Appeal has officially launched!
Our goal this year is: \$35,600.0 We are at 51% of Goal.
Please help us reach our goal. Thank You!

FLOCK PARTY WATER AND SOFT DRINK DONATIONS NEEDED!

Once again we are asking for donations from our generous parishioners to help us offset expenses for the Flock Party. If you can help us, bring your donations to the parish office any time during business hours, Monday-Thursday, 9 am to 4 pm. Thank you!



SHEPHERD'S CLOSET REOPENS

Shepherd's Closet will reopen on Tuesday, September 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Ministry Building. We provide used items to families who need children's clothes, from infant to 8 years old, as well as diapers, formula, furniture, and many other needed items.

Returning families who already have identification cards need to bring them. New families, and returning families without ID cards, must bring some form of identification (either a driver's license, ID card, or PG&E bill). All families will be issued Shepherd's Closet Identification cards.

Due to the covid pandemic, each person will need to wear a mask, and sanitize their hands before entering the building and sign in. Time will be limited for each person entering the building, and because of limited space, only 5 people at a time will be allowed in. For these reasons, **WE ASK PARENTS NOT TO BRING CHILDREN WITH THEM.** If you have any questions or problems, please call Ann or Bill Abitz at 925-432-3995.

SAN NICHOLAS de TOLENTINO 50TH ANNIVERSARY FIESTA CELEBRATION!

Saturday, September 11, 2021

Special Mass at 10 am in the church

Lunch to follow in the

Good Shepherd Spiritual Garden

Any donation accepted. Make check payable to *Church of the Good Shepherd*

San Nicholas de Tolentino, is the patron saint of the souls in purgatory, childless couples, peacemakers, prisoners whose feast day is September 10.

OCTOBER 3, 2021~GOOD SHEPHERD'S ANNUAL FLOCK PARTY RAFFLE!

If you are a registered parishioner you should have already received a mailing for this event that includes raffle tickets for a drawing that will take place at the Flock Party.

If you did not, you can purchase tickets after any mass between now and the event.

No need to be present to win ~ but we'd love to see you there!

Tickets are \$5 each or 6 tickets for \$25.

1st Prize is \$2,000, 2nd Prize is \$500, 3rd Prize is \$250

Plus other consolation prizes will be given away!

Place your stubs in any Sunday collection basket, mail them in or bring them to the parish office.



A PROGRAM AND SERVICE OF
THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC RISK RETENTION GROUP, INC.

 **VIRTUS**[®] *Online*

ATTENTION: All Active Ministers

It is time for you to complete your online Safe Environment Training. Go to Virtus.org and create an account and complete the Protecting Our Children 3.0. **This is not optional.** If not completed you will have to leave your ministry. If you have questions, Contact Dina 925-432-6404x21 or email dina@goodshepherdpittsburg

ATTENTION—

- 1- First and Second Year Confirmation program will begin class in person on Sunday, September 12 at 10am, starting with the Mass and the class to follow.
- 2– Children Faith Formation/CCD program will begin on Wednesday September 15.
- 3– Adult Confirmation and RCIA will begin in October.

If you would like to join these programs but have not registered, please do so as soon as you can by either visiting our website or calling the parish office or meeting with Dina and Lorena after weekend Masses. They are there to help you register.

THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM THIS YEAR. DO IT NOW!

JOIN our Adult Confirmation and RCIA Program

Why do Catholics do that?

Are you an adult interested in learning more about the Catholic Church? Perhaps you've been thinking of becoming a member of Good Shepherd, or perhaps you are just curious about what Catholics believe. Maybe you wish to receive sacraments you missed earlier in life. **INFORMATION NIGHT IS COMING SOON.....CHECK BACK**

HERE FOR DATE AND TIME.





CHURCH OF THE

Good Shepherd

Bring the whole family,
stay for the day!

Good Shepherd's Annual Flock Party

Sunday, October 3 2021

9:00am - 5:00pm

Come and join us! We will have delicious food, drinks,
live music, dancing, karaoke, and best of all: Family fun!



We will have a big Raffle!, the Prizes are:

- 1st Prize \$2000 cash
- 2nd Prize \$500
- 3rd Prize \$250

Plus other consolations prizes will be given away!

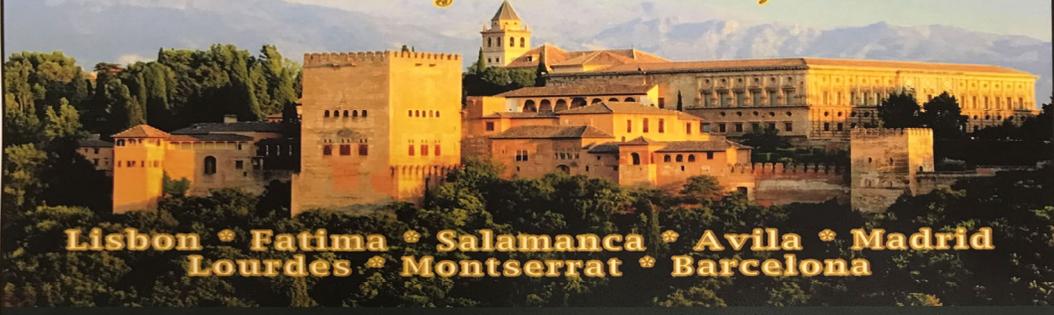
Free Admission!

3200 Harbor St, Pittsburg CA, 94565



PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA & LOURDES Plus Madrid & Barcelona

11 DAYS: JULY 12-22, 2022



Lisbon * Fatima * Salamanca * Avila * Madrid
Lourdes * Montserrat * Barcelona

Hosted by
Rev. Thi Hoang

**\$3799 from
San Francisco**

(Air/land tour price is \$3279 plus
\$520 gov't taxes/airline surcharges)

Featuring: Roundtrip airfare from San Francisco, first class/select hotels, most meals, comprehensive sightseeing with a professional tour guide, entrance fees, portorage.

FOR A BROCHURE WITH COMPLETE DETAILS, PLEASE DETACH & MAIL TO CONTACT:

Mrs. Tammy Vo / Fr. Thi Hoang
4673 Clayton Road #F
Concord, CA 94521
Tel: (925) 698-4559
Email: tammyhairtrends@gmail.com

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____
 STATE: _____ ZIPCODE: _____
 PHONE: _____
 EMAIL: _____

NAWAS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INC.



**THE
PARISH
OFFICE WILL
BE CLOSED
ON MONDAY
SEPTEMBER
6 IN HONOR
OF THE
LABOR DAY
HOLIDAY**

Mass Intentions

Sep 6-12

Mass Intentions For The Week

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Mon	7:30 am	Fausto Carlos †
Tue	7:30 am	Joseph Mercurio †
Wed	7:30 am	Frank Garcia †
Thu	7:30 am	Momma Mary Capupus Family
Fri	7:30 am	Raul A. Zamora †
Sat	8:00 am	Birthday of Gina Couchman Victor Gutierrez †
Sat	5:30 pm	Teresa Beck †
Sun	8:00 am	Larry Eugene Watson †
	10 am	Frances Ferrante Thomas †
	12 pm	Capupus Family
	3 pm	For the People

Parish Staff

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

Fr. Arn Cabrias, Priest in Residence
arnuscab@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

Lorena Reyes, Office Assistant
lorena@goodshepherdpittsburg.org
432-6404 Ext 20

ATTENTION!

Dear Flock of the Good Shepherd,
In compliance with the new order issued for all Bay Area
Counties,

masks are required indoors,
regardless of vaccination status, effective,
August 2, 2021.

Thank you for your collaboration.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- ◆ Healing Masses September 25 & November 20
- ◆ Marian Rosary Processions 13th of September and October
- ◆ Faith Formation begins September 15
- ◆ Confirmation begins September 12
- ◆ Flock Party October 3rd

More details to follow soon on all of these events.
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**BIBLE STUDY HAS
RESUMED**

Study Join us on Thursday nights at
7 pm in the Ministry Building and get
reacquainted with the Bible.
Just show up or contact Ben Davi at
439-9279

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

**Isaiah 50:5-9a, James 2:14-18,
Mark 8:27-35**

NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

Diocesan Priest Retirement

BISHOP BARBER: NO RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION FOR COVID-19 VACCINE

The Catholic Church recommends people get vaccinated against COVID-19, and for good reason. The **Vatican has stated** the connection with aborted fetal tissue is remote enough that it is morally permissible to take the vaccine. Therefore, since the Catholic Church has formally recommended its members receive the vaccine, a "religious exemption" would not apply to Catholics.

The Church also teaches people should not be forced to take the vaccine against their will. The Diocese of Oakland will not mandate obligatory vaccination for our employees and clergy. But we do mandate that our Catholic school employees unable or unwilling to be vaccinated get tested every week.

If a Catholic feels it is against their conscience to take the vaccine, that is a decision between them and God. True, the Church teaches people should follow their consciences. But a priest or bishop may not sign a "religious exemption" for a *conscientious* objection. They are two different things.

As faithful Catholics and responsible citizens, we have the moral and civil obligation to protect the well-being of our society. To get vaccinated is to protect ourselves, our neighbors and to help stop the spread of this deadly virus. Pope Francis received the vaccine. So did Pope Benedict. We recommend you get vaccinated too.

HAPPY 25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY TO ALBERTO AND VERONICA!



Vaccination is a simple way of promoting the common good and caring for each other, especially the most vulnerable.

Pope Francis
urges everyone to get vaccinated against COVID-19



Happy 15th Birthday Carolina!



Padre Pio Mass & Devotion

