



CHURCH OF THE

*Good Shepherd*

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

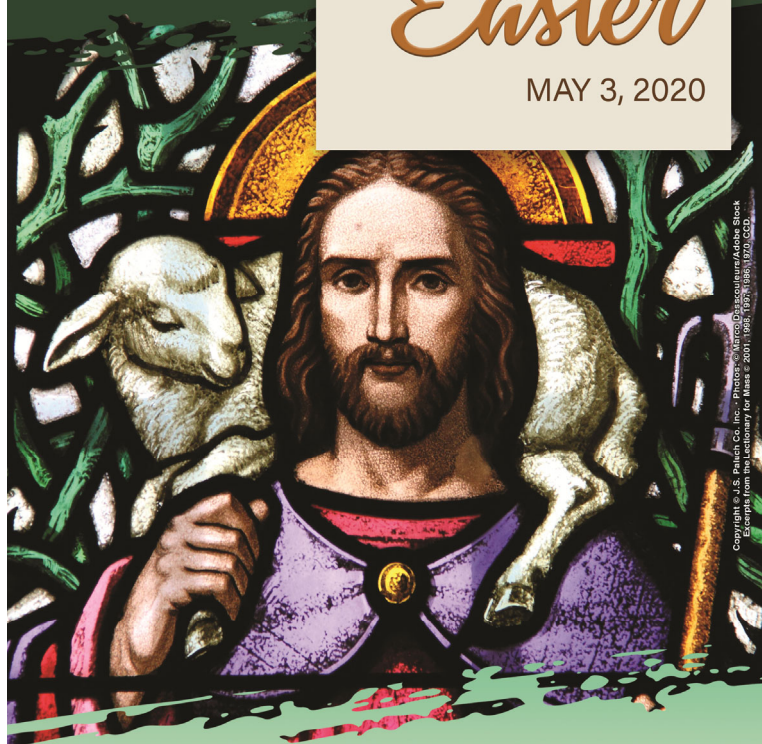
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FOURTH SUNDAY OF

*Easter*

MAY 3, 2020



The shepherd calls his own sheep  
by name and leads them.

John 10:3

Online Live Stream Mass  
Schedule. Links are available on our web-  
site and our facebook

**Monday– Friday**

**3:00pm**

(With the chaplet of Divine Mercy at 2:50pm)

**Saturday**

**8:am and 5:30pm (Vigil)**

**Sunday**

**10am; 12:00pm;  
3:00pm (Spanish)**

**Drive through Confession in front of  
the Church**

**Saturdays 4pm– 5pm  
or by appointment**



ANOINTING OF THE SICK HOTLINE 510-259-8706 ST. VINCENT DE



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

I hope you are all well. I am writing this message first of all to express my deep gratitude to all of you for your continuous loving support for our parish in this time of difficulty. We pray that this pandemic will end soon so we may get back to our normal routine of worshipping and praising our Lord in His church.

Secondly, I would like to inform you about the cutting short of our staff to keep the church running. As you all know, due to the Covid-19, church has been shut down. Our main income to run the church and pay for the staff salaries comes from the Sunday collections. Masses have been canceled. Our collections have been down badly. With the unstable situation of the Covid 19, we don't know when we will be able to get back to our normal routine. Therefore, I had several meetings with core members of the pastoral and financial councils. After consulting the Human Resources Department of the Diocese of Oakland, who told us that in order for our parish to survive this virus outbreak, we needed to cut down our expenses by letting go of some of our staff; those who have worked in the areas which are completely shutdown by the coronavirus such as Faith Formation, Liturgy and Music Departments and cleaning and maintenance positions. The change is effective on May 1st, 2020.

This is the hardest and most heart breaking decision for me. I have been a priest for almost seven years. I never thought that I would have to lay off my staff whom I consider as my brothers and sisters, my friends, my coworkers in the Lord's vineyard. It is just so sad to let them go! I would like to take this opportunity to say thank our staff who are leaving us. We thank you for your dedicated services to our church for many years. You have made such a great impact on the growth of our Good Shepherd family with your labor of love and care. We owe you a BIG THANK YOU. May God continue to pour out his grace upon you and your family. May he keep you well and safe.

My dear parishioners, due to the cutting short of the staff for survival, our remaining staff will try our best to fill in the shortage to keep the church moving forward. So we do ask for your understanding and patience. The diocese has recommended us to use volunteers to fill in the gaps at this time. We are so blessed that we have lots of dedicated volunteers in our parish. I believe with God's help, we can together go through this tough time. I hereby present to you the schedule of our upcoming important events:

- 1- Our Youth Confirmation Mass originally scheduled for May 22th is postponed until further notice. The Diocese will let us know the date and we will keep you updated.
- 2- First Holy Communions originally scheduled for the weekend of April 25-26 are now moved to weekend of June 13th-14th- Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.
- 3- All First Holy Communions scheduled for the month of May are moved to the month of July.
- 4- Sacraments for RCIA and RCIC Candidates will be tentatively celebrated on the Feast of the Trinity, **June 7th at 10am** if the circumstance allows us to do so.

We will keep you updated if there are any changes. If you have any question, feel free to contact me at [frthihoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org](mailto:frthihoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org) or 925-432-6404. Ext. 11.

Blessings,

Fr. Thi Hoang  
Parochial Administrator  
3200 Harbor St. Pittsburg, CA94565  
Phone: 925-432-6404. Ext 11  
Email: [frthihoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org](mailto:frthihoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to the Covid –19, we have decided to move the celebration of the sacraments for RCIC and RCIA Candidates to **Sunday June 7th at 10am, Feast of the Trinity.**

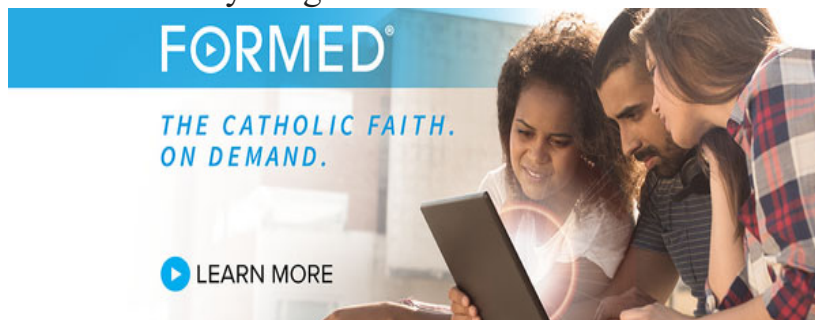
### Save the Date!

**First Holy Communions originally scheduled for the weekend of April 25-26 will be moved to the weekend of June 13-14.**

### *WHAT ARE YOU DOING DURING THIS TIME OF QUARANTINE TO INCREASE YOUR FAITH?*

Father Thi has made available to us one of the most revolutionary multi-media resources for our faith available today. [Formed.org](http://formed.org) is a wide and deep resource with readings – books, articles, blogs, videos – full-length feature films of the Saints, Christ, documentaries, TV shows and talks, educational videos, teaching and catechetical videos, lessons, multi-part devotionals, Bible and topical studies, video, and audio podcasts, breath-taking art from around the world, You can watch, listen to audiobooks and audio dramas, fiction and nonfiction on your computer, tablet, or smartphone. [Formed.org](http://formed.org) offers a wealth of resources for youth as well. As a member of our parish family, we have paid for your subscription. Simply go to <http://goodshepherdpittsburg.formed.org> and register or go to our parish website at [goodshepherdpittsburg.org](http://goodshepherdpittsburg.org), click on the tab – FORMED - and get started. FREE.

Go ahead, satisfy your hunger to know and love your “real” Father. Learn your roots and all your other brothers and sisters – the Saints. Moses pleads for us to know the “House Rules” and someday Jesus, the “head of the church,” may give you a pop-quiz. Now you have a terrific resource to learn and know about your family – God’s Family. Take advantage of it today by registering and start what will be your greatest adventure.





**SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER**

With mass attendance down due to the Coronavirus, we ask that you consider signing up for Electronic Fund Transfer so that we can keep the parish up and running during this difficult time. EFT is a safe, convenient way to give to the parish even when you are unable to attend mass or you are away on vacation. Simply fill out the bottom portion of this page and return it to the parish office at 3200 Harbor St., Pittsburg, CA 94565 or a form can be mailed or emailed to you. You can also visit our web site at [www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org](http://www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org) and conveniently donate through the **DONATION NOW BUTTON**. If neither of these manners of giving suit you, you can mail in your contributions any time you will not be present at mass or place them through the mail slot in the parish office door. Thank you for helping keep our parish afloat during this very difficult time.

**Electronic Funds Transfer  
The Easy Way to Tithe!**

Church of the Good Shepherd offers a **FREE** tithing option more convenient for many of our members  
—Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Program.  
The program has been a great success since we started it several years ago.

- ☐ You Tithe No More Than You Normally Do.
- ☐ You Control How You Tithe.
- ☐ You Choose A Tithe Frequency: Weekly, Semi-Monthly, Or Monthly.
- ☐ You Choose When You Want Your Account Debited.

**ENROLLMENT IN ELECTRONIC DONATION TRANSFER FOR SUNDAY GIVING**

Please enter the amount you wish to give and how often:

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Weekly (Transferred every Monday)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Semimonthly (Transferred on 1st & 15th)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly (Transferred on 1st or 15th—indicate preference)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to give this amount electronically weekly for 2nd collections using the same account information.

**CREDIT CARD OPTION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Type \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECKING ACCOUNT OPTION**

Simply attach voided check

I authorize Good Shepherd Church to process entries from my credit card or checking account as noted above. This authority shall remain in effect until I give reasonable notification to terminate this authorization.

**COVID-19**

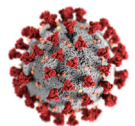
**In accordance with the Contra Costa Health  
Services order dated April 27, 2020, the parish will be  
physically closed until further notice.**

**We are operating the office virtually through the telephone (925-432-6404), our web site  
[www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org](http://www.goodshepherdpittsburg.org),  
or email at**

**[office@goodshepherdpittsburg.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdpittsburg.org)**

**All masses are suspended, but the chapel is available 24 hours a day to provide a place of prayer and  
solace. We will be providing more information on the celebration of sacraments soon.**

**We appreciate your understanding in this matter and praying for your health and safety and a swift  
end to this crisis.**



**Mi Querido Rebaño del Buen Pastor,**

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

Espero que estén bien. Escribo este mensaje en primer lugar para expresar mi profunda gratitud a todos ustedes por su continuo y amoroso apoyo a nuestra parroquia en este tiempo de desafío. Oramos para que esta pandemia termine pronto y para que podamos volver a nuestra rutina normal de adorar y alabar a nuestro Señor en su iglesia. En segundo lugar, me gustaría informarle que para poder mantener a la iglesia en funcionamiento tenemos que recortar a nuestro personal parroquial. Como todos saben, debido al Covid-19, la iglesia ha sido cerrada. Nuestro principal ingreso para administrar la iglesia y pagar los salarios del personal proviene de las colecciones Dominicales. Las Misas han sido canceladas. Nuestras colecciones han bajado mucho. Con la inestable situación del Covid 19, no sabemos cuándo podemos volver a nuestra rutina normal. Por lo tanto, tuve varias reuniones con los miembros centrales del consejo pastoral y financiero. Después de consultar a los Recursos Humanos de la Diócesis nos dijeron que para que nuestra parroquia sobreviviera a este brote del virus, necesitábamos reducir nuestros gastos dejando ir a parte de nuestro personal parroquial, aquellos que han trabajado en las áreas que están completamente cerradas por el coronavirus como los Departamentos de Formación de Fe, liturgia y música; puestos de limpieza y mantenimiento. El cambio se realizará el primero de Mayo del 2020.

Esta es la decisión más difícil y desgarradora para mí. He sido sacerdote durante casi siete años. Nunca pensé que tendría que despedir a mi personal a quien considero mis hermanos y hermanas, mis amigos, mis compañeros de trabajo en la viña del Señor. ¡Es tan triste dejarlos ir! Me gustaría aprovechar esta oportunidad para dar las gracias a nuestro personal, a los que tenemos que dar de baja. Les agradecemos sus servicios dedicados a nuestra iglesia durante muchos años. Han creado un gran impacto en el crecimiento de nuestra familia del Buen Pastor con sus trabajos de amor y cuidado. Les debemos unas INMENSAS GRACIAS. Que Dios siga derramando su gracia sobre ustedes y su familia. Que los mantenga sanos y protegidos.

Mis queridos feligreses, debido a la falta de personal para la supervivencia, nuestro personal restante hará todo lo posible para llenar la escasez y que la iglesia siga adelante. Así que pedimos su comprensión y paciencia. La diócesis nos ha reorientado a usar voluntarios para llenar los puestos vacantes en estos momentos. Somos tan bendecidos que tenemos muchos voluntarios dedicados a servir en nuestra parroquia. Creo que con la ayuda de Dios, juntos podemos sobre llevar estos momentos difíciles.

Nuestra Misa de Confirmación Juvenil originalmente programada para el 22 de Mayo se pospone indefinidamente. La Diócesis nos hará saber la fecha y le mantendremos informado.

Las Primeras Comuniones originalmente programada para el 25-26 de Abril se trasladan el 13th-14 de Junio.

Todas las Primeras Comuniones programadas para el mes de Mayo se trasladan a Julio.

Los Sacramentos para los Candidatos de RCIA y RCIC se celebrarán en la Trinidad Domingo, el 7 de Junio a las 10:00 pm.

Si tienen alguna pregunta, no duden en ponerse en contacto conmigo a través de mi correo electrónico: frthi-hoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org o al 925-432-6404. Ext. 11.

**Bendiciones**

**Padre Thi Hoang**  
**Administrador Parroquial**  
**3200 Harbor St. Pittsburg, CA94565**  
**Teléfono: 925-432-6404. Ext 11**  
**Correo electrónico: frthihoang@goodshepherdpittsburg.org**

**Guarda la fecha! ANUNCIO**

Debido al Covid-19, hemos decidido trasladar la celebración de los sacramentos para los Candidatos de RCIC y RCIA a la Trinidad Domingo, el 7 de Junio a las 10:00 pm.

**GRUPO DE ORACIÓN UNCIÓN DE LO ALTO- Viernes 7-9pm en las oficinas parroquiales y Sábados de 10:30 am-11:30 am en la Capilla** con el Santísimo. Para mas información por favor contactar a **Laura y Alvin Alvarez 925-765-0231**. Si tienes talentos musicales y tocas la guitarra ven acompañalos.

**GRUPO ESCUELA DE LA CRUZ** Cristo te espera, ven a descubrir su amor divino y su misericordia! te esperamos los **Miercoles 7:30pm-8:30pm (Oficina Parroquial)**. Para más información, por favor comunícate con **Romeo Gonzalez 925-565-9320**.

**EL GRUPO DE LA DIVINA MISERICORDIA -**

**Miercoles 6pm-7pm en la Capilla y**

**Jueves 6:30pm-8:30pm, en el salón de la oficina.** Para más Información, por favor comuníquese con **Lidia Castañeda 925-705-3045**.

**LA VIRGEN PEREGRINA** - Las Familias que desean inscribirse después de la Misa para llevarse a la Virgen

**ATENCIÓN MONAGUILLOS**

Si les gustaria participar en la sagrada Misa y aprender aún más de su FE, comuniquense con

**Rebeca & Bulmaro al 925-286-2276**, ellos los guiarán y enseñarán el bello ministerio de ser monaguillos.

**ATENCIÓN COMUNIDAD HISPANA**

Si algún miembro de la comunidad Hispana **esta interesado en recibir visitas a domicilio o comunión a los enfermos**, por favor comuniquense a la oficina parroquial para hablar con Carmen y establecer este servicio para nuestros miembros enfermos y confinados a casa.

**Reflexión de Cuaresma: “Encontrándome con Cristo”**

**Encontrándome con Cristo, es un proceso de formación espiritual intenso para la Cuaresma buscando una relación personal con Jesús. Esta formación está basada en:**

*“Si el Ministerio no fluye desde un encuentro personal y de una relación continua con el Señor, entonces, no importa cómo lo ha logrado, ese Ministerio carece de alma vital y fuente necesaria para dar frutos duraderos”*

Inscríbese con Carmen en las oficinas o al final de cada Misa con alguno de los facilitadores.

- ♦ **Las cartas del 2019 de donación de impuestos están disponibles llamando a la oficina parroquial al 925-432-6404. por favor, indique si desea recogerla o que se la enviemos por correo.**
- ♦ **¡NUEVO PARA EL 2020!**  
**Misas trimestrales para la "Unción de los Enfermos" tendrán lugar los Sábados a las 10am, comenzando Mayo 2, Agosto 1o y Noviembre 7**

**LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS  
TO THE FAITHFUL FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2020**

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

*Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020-Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist*

Pope Francis

***First Prayer***

O Mary,  
You shine continuously on our journey  
as a sign of salvation and hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who, at the foot of the cross,  
were united with Jesus' suffering,  
and persevered in your faith.  
"Protectress of the Roman people",  
you know our needs,  
and we know that you will provide,  
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,  
joy and celebration may return  
after this time of trial.  
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father  
and to do what Jesus tells us.  
For he took upon himself our suffering,  
and burdened himself with our sorrows  
to bring us, through the cross,  
to the joy of the Resurrection.  
Amen.

## Mass Intentions

May 4-10

3pm Daily Livestream on the Good Shepherd  
Facebook Page & YouTube

- Mon In Thanksgiving~Marcelo & Cirila Ysip  
 Tue Nick Gonzalez & Fr. Eliseo Santos, SDB †  
 Wed Souls in Purgatory, John, Geoffery & Others †  
 Thu Healing, Deliverance & Restoration for Family  
 Fri Elaine Calone †  
 Sat 5:30 pm Petra Morrero Orias,  
 Frank "Fongo" Aiello, &  
 10 Year Death Anniversary of Brenda Francisco †  
 Sun 10am Lucy Romero & Henry Gonzales†  
 12 pm Couchman & Sorci Families †  
 3:00pm FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH #

\*=Fr. Thi, #=Fr. Christopher

## 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

ACTS 6:1-7, 1 PETER 2:4-9, JOHN 14:1-12

## NEXT SUNDAY'S 2ND COLLECTION

SHEPHERD'S CLOSET



Second Prayer

"We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God".

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

Pope Francis

*Catholic Wisdom*

**Human beings are born with innate capacities oriented toward conversation with God as Trinity. The ability to communicate with and be touched by Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, belongs to each person. Knowing and appreciating these capacities in one's being produces interior freedom and increases joy in one's heart.**

Fr. Joh Horn, SJ from *Healing Prayer*

