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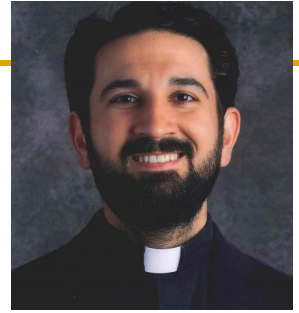
Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer
and rise from the dead on the third day
and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins,
would be preached in his name to all the nations.

LUKE 24:46-47

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 18, 2021

Clergy Bulletin Letter



Dear St. Joseph Family,

A blessed and joyful Easter to you all. As it is with Christmas, Easter is not simply one day, but an entire season that extends until Pentecost Sunday on May 23rd. During this time, we celebrate Jesus' rising from the grave on Easter Sunday, as well as the period of time he remained with the early Church community until His Ascension 40 days after the Resurrection. I imagine those were incredible days for the Apostles, our Blessed Mother, and many others who encountered the risen Lord as he continued to teach and heal. The Church offers us this extended period of time in order to draw us into this experience of remaining with Jesus so that He can teach and heal us as well.

In his homily on the Easter Vigil, Pope Francis mentioned that Easter is about accepting the invitation of Jesus to go to Galilee to meet Him Who goes before us and waits for us there. It is in "Galilee", the place where the encounter with Jesus first began, that, despite our failures and defeats, we can begin anew. It is there that we will be amazed by our Lord's infinite love. Returning to Galilee, Pope Francis also said, is a call to move away from the tomb, to move away from living in the past, and of thinking that Jesus is only a distant memory. Returning to Galilee is a signal that our faith must always be on the road, journeying forward, with an openness to being continually surprised by God.

How do we do this? How do we return to our own Galilee? What can we do, practically, during this period to set it apart, to savor it, to be surprised by God, so that it doesn't simply become a holiday on the calendar that comes and goes, but a *season* that informs the entirety of our lives? I would like to recommend three things. Prayer, Reconciliation and Service.

First, prayer. Not to quote Pope Francis too much, but in his General Audience on Wednesday, he remarked that prayer is the breath of our faith; without prayer, our faith cannot survive. Looking to Luke's Gospel, the Pope turned to Jesus' question, "when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" For so many of us, life can become consumed with organizational success. But Jesus is not asking for this, He is asking for faith, an entrustment of our lives to Him, which is nourished in prayer. Some of us may find prayer difficult. "How do I pray?" we ask. I always recommend coming to church outside of Mass and sitting in God's presence. Five minutes at a time, then increase. Be silent and open your heart to hear God speak and to receive His love. Prayer is precisely this, not so much us speaking many words, but an exchange of love between God and us.

Second, Reconciliation. Last week we celebrated Divine Mercy Sunday. Besides reception of the Eucharist, there is no greater exchange of love that we can regularly participate in than the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is there that we say "yes" to leaving our own tombs behind to begin a new life. Has it been a while since you've been to Confession? Don't be afraid or embarrassed. As I said in my homily on Sunday, nothing means more to me, or any priest for that matter, than welcoming home a prodigal son or daughter, because we've been there ourselves.

Lastly, service. Jesus came to serve, that was His mission, to serve us with his dying and rising, and this was the mission He gave to His Apostles and us. And serving is not a burden. It is what flows naturally from the person who has been reborn and set free by God's mercy. Service is a way for us to experience and prolong the message and dynamism of Easter. Each time we encounter someone in need and share with them what we have received, the Resurrection of Jesus is manifested anew in our world.

I am grateful to God for you and for this community that has shown me fervent witnesses to the power of prayer, reconciliation and service. Continue to live these things and you will inspire many more to love Jesus and be loved by Him.

With much love, happy Easter,
Fr. Mario



Lord, let your face shine on us.

—Ps 4:7a

Getty Images

April 22 is Earth Day!

As Catholics, we are called to:

- uphold life and the dignity of each human person
- support families and future generations
- love the poor and vulnerable
- advocate for basic rights and a just economy
- be in solidarity with all, as one human family
- care for all of God's creation

Grounded in our Catholic Tradition, now is the time to protect the earth for our children and grandchildren.

PRAY to hear God's call to live our faith for the common good, knowing that everything is interconnected.

LEARN how the climate crisis is a profound moral issue greatly affecting the poor and vulnerable.

TELL your local and national leaders to protect creation.

Praise be to you, our Lord, God of all Creation!

Learn more!

usscb.org/environment
wearesaltandlight.org/cst101
Catholicclimatecovenant.org

What's Going On At St. Joseph's?

If you're new to the parish, you might like to know that many programs are continuing online during this time. Children's Liturgy of the Word helps youngsters connect with the day's gospel every Sunday at 10 am, RCIA Inquiry for adults thinking about becoming Catholic meets at 7:30 pm Wednesdays, and the Scripture Reflection Group offers a chance to reflect together on the upcoming Sunday's readings at 7 pm on Thursdays. The Young Adults Group offers opportunities for those in their 20's and 30's to gather virtually twice a month. Visit our website at www.sjbalameda.org for details on any of these, and more.



Thank you for your generosity!

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the Shower with Cards Volunteers and all SJB donors for making this Easter so very special for our brothers and sisters who are homebound, in care homes, and in Midway Shelter. Our blessings included mailed and hand-delivered cards and chocolates. A very diligent subgroup led by Terri Kallsen put together beautiful baskets for Midway Shelter with your generous donations. Let us continue on as Easter People. We will be collecting completed cards for Mother's Day on the Rectory porch until Sunday, May 2. We are also looking for volunteers to help put together flowers for our care home residents and Midway shelter moms. If you are interested in writing cards, donating flowers, and/or making bouquets, please contact us at:

sjbasilica.outreach@gmail.com.

May the Holy Spirit continue to bless our most vulnerable community members through all of you!

Parish Registration

We welcome all new members to our St. Joseph parish family, an active and diverse parish. If you are new and have not registered, please fill out the online registration form [here](#).

The Parish Staff look forward to welcoming you!

Virtual Program Presented by Fr. Tom Bonacci

Dates: April 20 or April 21

Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose Center for Education & Spirituality present invites you for a online program, titled:

***RACISM-Until Black Women Are Free,
None of Us Will Be Free***

presented by Fr. Thomas P. Bonacci, C.P.

For details or registration, [here](#).

FORMED VIDEO PICK OF THE WEEK: Companions in Shipwreck

Link to Video: <https://watch.formed.org/companions-in-shipwreck-1>

In the era of cancel culture and shunning of our neighbors, we should look back at how friendship should be integrated into our lives. It may be as simple as getting to know someone, or going further and visiting them regularly. What can we learn of the true principles of friendship? Who can we learn it from? Look no further than the life of the famed author and Catholic, J.R.R. Tolkien. The relationships he exhibited are a wonderful example for all of us to follow, especially with those we may disagree with. As Tolkien described marriage, it's all about being "companions in a shipwreck."

Not registered with FORMED? Registering is easy and free. Click [here](#) and follow the steps. Search for St. Joseph Basilica.



Important Information

Mass Times

Daily In-person Mass
(no reservation required)
11:00 am, Basilica
Monday - Saturday

Livestreaming available on our Facebook Page. Link: <https://www.facebook.com/sjbalameda/>

Reminder:

Catholics in the Diocese of Oakland are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation until further notice. We encourage you to live-stream Mass each weekend for those of you who prefer to stay at home or are not feeling well.

Drive-through or walk through Communion on Sundays

Starts at 1:30 pm and ends 2:00 pm, weather permitting.

Sunday In-person Mass Times:

5:00 pm Saturday Vigil - Basilica

9:30 am - Quad

12:00 noon - Basilica

Reservation is required to attend in-person Mass. Please click on the following link to reserve a spot: <https://sjbalameda.org/sunday-mass-schedule>

Note: Reservations open on Monday afternoons and close on Fridays at 2:00 pm, or when capacity is filled.

12:00 Noon Mass live-streamed On YouTube Link:

<https://sjbalameda.org/mass-live-streamed-youtube-links>

Worship Aid: Please click [here](#)



Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays, 3:30-4:30pm

Reconciliation will be held in the Confession Room

Basilica Open for Private Prayer

- Monday-Friday: 9:00 am-7:00 pm
- Saturday: 9:00 am-5:00 pm
- Sunday: 9:00 am-11:00 am;
1:00 pm-5:00 pm (closed 11:00 am-1:30 pm to prepare for 12:00 noon Mass)

Please continue to practice the recommended hygiene and social distancing. We ask you to refrain from gathering in groups, and to avoid touching surfaces and to wash hands as often as possible.

Note: Bathrooms are closed.

Community Prayers

Mass Intention

Saturday, April 17

11:00am †Josephine Loan Nguyen
- 100th day death anniversary
5:00pm, Vigil †Larry de Vera

Sunday Masses, April 18

9:30 am People Of The Parish - Living and Deceased
12-noon & Deceased 1)Harnett Family - Living &
Live-streamed 2)†Lavinia Bonacci

Monday, April 19

11:00am 1) †Marilyn Rico Vilorio
2) †Lourdes Relevante

Tuesday, April 20

11:00 am †Yolanda Magnaye Hernandez

Wednesday, April 21

11:00 am 1) Daryl San Buenaventura -
Thanksgiving
2) In Honor of Our Blessed Mother

Thursday, April 22

11:00 am †Generoso Bugaoan

Friday, April 23

11:00 am †Gerald Salleh

Saturday, April 24

11:00 am 1)†Joseph Paul Tan
2)†Marilyn 'Zilla' Pierson
5:00 pm, Vigil †Alice Garvin

Sunday, April 25

9:30 am Thong & Lim Families - Living and Deceased
12 Noon & Lived-stream 1) †Myrna Vito Sapugay Pedrosa
2) People of the Parish - Living & Deceased

*Please remember to include
St. Joseph Basilica in your will.*

Mass Intention Request

for the month of April & May is closed as dates are filled up.

Sick List

May those who are in need of our prayers, place their trust and faith in the comforting presence of the Lord. Amen.

Ronald M Bautista, Romelita Baustita,
Lhiza Brown, Jazlynn & Nia Cain,
Mary Cronin, Fong Che, Greg Falkner,
David McGaffey, Amelia Miguel, Nory
A. Reyes, Reena Salud, Ramon N.
Tirona, John Verduzco.



The List is refreshed monthly.

Please email: secretary@sibalameda.org or call (510) 995 9420 if you would like a name added to our prayer list.

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp for the month of April
is sponsored (anonymous)
for the Community of St. Joseph

Sanctuary Flowers

The Main Altar flowers
for the week of April 17/18
Is sponsored by
the McGaugh Family

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Easter
Wednesday: St. Anselm;
Administrative Professionals Day
Thursday: Earth Day
Friday: St. George; St. Adalbert
Saturday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

MARTYRDOM

*It is not the suffering but the cause that makes the martyr.
—English proverb*

General Information

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9am - 5:00pm

Note: The Parish Office remains CLOSED during Shelter in place but we continue to serve you remotely. If you need to contact members of the Parish Staff, please communicate with us via EMAIL or phone.

Sacrament of Marriage

Preparation for registered, active parishioners should begin at least six months in advance of the proposed wedding date. Please contact Fr. Mario Rizzo directly to begin the process. Call (510) 995-9421 or email: frmario@sjbalameda.org.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please visit our website under “Sacraments” for information.

- For infant baptism (6 or younger) contact Sherley Lim 510-995-9420, or email: secretary@sjbalameda.org
- For adults or children over age 6 please contact Anne Marie, 510-995-9409, or email: afourre@sjbalameda.org

Clergy:

Rev. Mario Rizzo - Parochial Administrator
(510) 995-9421 / frmario@sjbalameda.org

Rev. Sunil Orathel - Priest In Residence
(510) 301-5975 / sunil@sjbalameda.org

Parish Staff:

Stan Schonberg - Business Manager
510-995-9411 / business@sjbalameda.org

Anne Marie Fourre - Director of Faith Formation
510-995-9409 / afourre@sjbalameda.org

Sherley Lim – Parish Secretary
510-995-9420 / secretary@sjbalameda.org

David Howitt - Music Director
510-995-9403 / dhowitt@sjbalameda.org

Michael Chinnvaso – 7:00pm Music Coordinator
510-522-0181 / mchinnvaso@sjbalameda.org

Community Staff:

Julie Guevara - Principal, SJND High School
510-523-1526 / jguevara@sjnd.org

Katherine Francisco – Principal, Elementary School
510-522-4456 / kfrancisco@csdo.org

Parish Ministries During Shelter In Place

Most events or gatherings are canceled during SIP, although some are continuing through video conference or other means. For information on how to connect, contact:

- Grief Ministry: billkueppers@gmail.com
- RCIA Inquiry: afourre@sjbalameda.org
- St. Vincent de Paul Hotline: (510) 995-9471
- Shelter-in-place ministry: sjbasilica.outreach@gmail.com
- Special Needs Inclusion Ministry: drmaponce@yahoo.com
- Pastoral Care Ministry: sunil@sjbalameda.org
- Young Adults Ministry: AlamedaYAG@gmail.com
- Legion of Mary: Terecita@terecitadean.com

Parish Grief Ministry

As the COVID-19 restrictions continue and we cannot meet as a group as usual, we want to reassure you that you are still in our hearts and prayers. We are also well aware that some parishioners have now suffered new losses. Remember, the Grief Ministry is here for you. If you need or desire support around your grief/grieving, please feel free to reach out to one of us - we are available to support you via telephone, email, or text Bill (510) 846-3882 (Cell/text), email: billkueppers@gmail.com;

Suzanne (219) 879-4819 (Cell/text), mail: suzanne@morris.guide;

Pamela (209) 814-2586 (Cell/text), email: pamelaprime1@gmail.com.

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