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Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 7, 2019

I consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

-- *Philippians 3:8*



Daily Mass

Week of April 8th – 13th

Monday: 8:00 Vincent Raphael+
 Tuesday: 8:00 Betty Murphy+
 Wednesday: 8:00 Intentions: Paul Boothman
 Thursday: 8:00 Aldo & Betty Ann Sciamanna+
 Friday: 8:00 Josefina McKay+
 Saturday: 8:00 Elizabeth Meagher+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Michael Echaniz, Tina Chaix, Samantha Winterer, Carol Cullinane, Michael Kluziski, Sebastian Romeo, Louise Ahern, Owen Burns, Bernice De Vries, Paul Cummings, Patricia Dombrink, Laura Pierce, Marvin Johnson, Cora Rose, Tom Reid, Henry Souza, Alexis Walker, Michael Bozman and Dori McGee-Lundy.

Weekly Collection	March 31, 2019
Plate	\$10,606.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$2,326.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$1,940.00



Treasures From Our Tradition!

Next weekend, many churches provide palms to be carried in the opening moments of the liturgy as we gratefully recall Jesus' entry into the holy city of Jerusalem. The children who greeted him on that day used what was both handy and traditional, since palms were carried to inaugurate the joyful harvest feast of Succoth. To this day, faithful Jews are directed to take a beautiful palm branch, green and straight as possible, called a lulav, and bind it with three myrtle branches fifteen inches long and two longer willow branches. At the end of the temple service, everyone carries the lulav, circling the sanctuary in a dance called the Hoshanot, singing hymns of joy. In other climates, Jews and Christians alike have had to make accommodations over the years. In Italy, everyone carries olive branches, often brought from their own garden. In England, forsythia branches are preferred, a relative of the olive, a sign of peace. Germans prefer pussywillows and others look for flowering spring branches. In our part of the world, what do you think would be the best choice to express joy and welcome, and to remind us of the joy of Christ's victory even as we prepare to commemorate his passion?



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Lenten Season will soon give way to the joys of Easter. In two weeks, we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

Our journey from here to there will lead us through Judea, where Jesus will raise Lazarus from the dead. Then on to Jerusalem, where Jesus will arrive to the acclamation of the people:

*"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord,
 the king of Israel."*

Five days later, we will witness him standing before Pilate in judgment: the people will speak once again, this time saying:

"Crucify him, crucify him!"

From the praetorium, we will follow him to Calvary where he will be raised up on the glory of the Cross. Our Lord willingly made this journey because he loved us and he didn't want us to walk alone.

The Easter experience awaits us; but, in order to truly appreciate it, we must pray for the humility and courage to follow Jesus from here to there.

Love, Fr. Leo



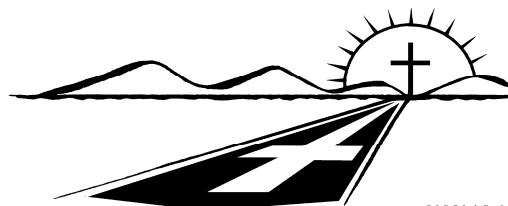
Today's Readings

First Reading -- See, I am doing something new! (Isaiah 43:16-21).

Psalm -- The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

Second Reading -- I have been taken possession of by Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:8-14).

Gospel -- Go, and from now on do not sin any more (John 8:1-11).



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Annmarie Mota and Allison Quantz have decided to call Corpus Christi Church their spiritual home. Both women have been a part of the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) process this year and are preparing for their sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

They, like many of us, have questions how faith relates to daily life. How do we live out our faith at work when we work in a secular job? How are we called to care for the earth because of our faith? How do we reconcile it when we disagree with what the Church teaches about a particular issue?

Do you have similar questions? Are you looking for others to discuss them with? Are you searching for a spirituality that is life-giving rather than constrictive or irrelevant? If so, you are welcome to join the Corpus Christi group which is exploring such things from a faith perspective. Please contact RCIA Director, Ann Naffziger, at: 521-8011 or email her at: ann@gospelliving.org for more information.

Middle School Youth Group!

Join us today, April 7th, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Gibson Center for another Middle School Youth Group. This month's topic will be Passover. What does the holy day mean to our Jewish brothers and sisters, and what does it mean to Catholics? Prepare for an experience that will use your five senses, including taste! All 6th, 7th and 8th graders are welcome. Bring a friend!

Summer Academic Enrichment Programs!

This summer, spend time learning at beautiful Peralta Park in Berkeley at Saint Mary's High School summer Academic Enrichment programs and sports camps for youngsters in grades 6 through 9. The dates are Monday, June 17th, through Friday, July 12th. Week-long sports camps led by Saint Mary's coaching staff will emphasize team building, while students learn skills in: Basketball, Volleyball, Baseball, Flag Football, and Strength & Conditioning. The Middle School Academics Enrichment programs in Math and English are tailored to students in grades 6, 7 and 8. All information, grade level-specific program details and online registration can be found at: www.smsummer.org. Saint Mary's is a Lasallian Catholic High School founded in San Francisco in 1863 and located in Berkeley since 1927. Visit: www.saintmaryschs.org for more information.

An Evening at the Oakland Zoo!

Please join us in celebrating Katie Murphy and her distinguished forth-seven year career in Catholic education on Saturday, June 8th, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the California Trail at the Oakland Zoo. Tickets are \$100.00 per person, with partial proceeds funding a School scholarship in Katie's name. Purchase your tickets early as they are expected to sell out. Please visit: www.auctria.com/auction/happytrailsKatie for additional information.



Special Outreach Collection!

The Outreach collection for April and May is for new and gently-used infant and toddler clothing to 2 years. The clothing will benefit clients of the Visitation Center in downtown Oakland. If you have any questions, call Madeline Briar at 530-6316 or Lenore McCracken at 530-7304. Please be as generous as you can!

Oakland Elizabeth House Annual Luncheon!

Join in the festivities at the Annual Luncheon to benefit Oakland Elizabeth House on Thursday, May 2nd, at the Claremont Country Club, 5295 Broadway Terrace in Oakland. Tickets are \$95.00 per person before April 15th and \$115.00 after that. Reception and Wine Pull, Raffle Ticket Sales and Basket of Hope will be from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Luncheon will be from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., featuring keynote speaker Nancy O'Malley, Alameda County District Attorney, followed by a Live Auction and Fund-A-Hope. With your support, this fundraiser will provide a significant portion of Oakland Elizabeth House's operating costs. "Hope Lives" because of your generosity. Tickets will sell out, so get your tickets as soon as possible at: www.oakehouse.org/events.

Transforming Lives Tour!

Catholic Charities of the East Bay helps people in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties who are struggling with poverty and other complex issues. To learn more about this work and how you can get involved, please join a Transforming Lives Tour. You'll learn about: preventing homelessness; helping young people stay in school, despite pervasive community violence; crisis counseling and family support for victims of crime; and immigration legal services and refugee resettlement. Visit: <http://www.cceb.org/get-involved/transforming-lives-tour> to register. For more information, contact Stephan Pippen at 768-3133 or go to: spippen@cceb.org.

Something New!

"See, I am doing something new!" (Isaiah 43:19). All during this Lenten season, the scriptures have revealed the truth of these words, proclaimed in today's first reading from the prophet Isaiah. We have heard about a bush in the desert aflame but not consumed. We have listened to a parable about a father, the depth of whose love for his prodigal son was almost inconceivable. Today, instead of condemning a woman caught in the act of adultery and joining in stoning her to death, the Lord Jesus sends her on her way, away from what would have been certain death, admonishing her to sin no more. Indeed, God has been doing something new in our midst. Even when we are trapped in sin, with no perceivable way out, we are offered forgiveness when we turn to the Lord with repentant hearts. Let us remember that God has done something new in the heart of each of us.