Pastor’s Corner

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Happy Easter! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

How different this Easter is from those we’ve celebrated before! And yet, how similar we are to the apostles who stayed behind closed doors in the upper room on the Sunday after Easter. They were in a self-imposed “shelter in place” for fear of the people! They did not know what the future held for them. They were afraid and anxious, just as we are today. It’s Sunday after Easter, and Lent seems to continue.

We are huddled in our separate places in fear and anxiety, and yet we are united in fear of what tomorrow will bring and in the anxiety of not knowing if our societies can withstand the devastating impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. We are afraid that we or our family members or friends may not survive this terrible moment. It’s the Sunday after Easter, and Lent seems to continue.

We feel as if we are still in the garden of Gethsemane with the disciples, and our faith is being badly shaken. Many in our midst are suffering, and we are tempted to feel that we have nowhere to turn. Our science, our governments, and the knowledge we have developed to this point in history seem to offer us too few solutions. It’s the Sunday after Easter, and Lent seems to continue.

The pandemic is making the suffering of vulnerable people - the elderly, the sick, the poor, the homeless, and unemployed – even deeper. As we urge our governments to ensure access to healthcare and social protection for everyone – particularly the most vulnerable–we wonder if, and fervently hope that, our leaders will rise to the challenge of promoting unity and a shared responsibility in all our countries. It’s the Sunday after Easter, and Lent need not continue.

This pandemic has thrown our lives and societies into chaos; thousands in our neighborhood and millions in our country are losing their jobs and face an uncertain future. Can each of us have the openness, courage, and generosity to allow everyone to belong to the human family in a dignified way? Can our societies put aside economic concerns and show that we care for everyone without exception? It’s the Sunday after Easter, and Lent need not continue.

Continued on last page
St. John Vianney Intentional Giving

The Christian community described in Acts understood and practiced total stewardship. St. Paul reports that the believers did not claim anything as their own, but held everything in common, and distributed to each whatever was needed.

Collection as of April 12, 2020

Plate Collections including mailed checks $ 6,755.00
Online Donations $ 2,893.00
Weekly Goal** $ 0
Total Collections $ 9,648.00
Excess $ 9,648.00
Year to date shortfall $(4,706.00)

*includes corrections

Easter $17,125.00

** no weekly goal is budgeted on Easter

One must do all one can for everybody, expecting no return save from God only.

St. John Vianney

Parish Office & Staff Contact Information

Parish Office: Monday– Friday. 8:30am - 4:30pm
Closed 12:00pm -1:00pm
Phone: (925) 939-7911 Fax: (925) 939-0450

Rev. William Rosario (Ext. 105) frwilliam@sjvianney.org
Deacon:
Herb Casey (Ext. 0) staff@sjvianney.org
Pastoral Associate for Administration:
Debbie Mellin (Ext. 103) dmellin@sjvianney.org
Pastoral Associate for Parish Faith Formation:
Liz Rogers (Ext. 125) lrogers@sjvianney.org
Pastoral Associate for Family Based Faith Formation
Shannon Rogers (Ext. 109) srogers@sjvianney.org
Director of Youth Ministry
Marlene Lee (Ext. 108) mllee@sjvianney.org
Director of Sacred Music:
Charlene Abellana (Ext. 107) charlene@sjvianney.org
Faith Formation Secretary
Jennifer DiSalvo (Ext 124) jdisalvo@sjvianney.org
Parish Secretary
Maryanne Richards (Ext 0) mrichards@sjvianney.org
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper
Indira Pethebridge (Ext 120) indira@sjvianney.org
staff@sjvianney.org to reach:
Debbie, Jennifer, Maryanne & Indira as a group

Pray for the Sick

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

Mollie Albrezzi, Jim Altomare, Bob Ambrose, Gloria Armstrong, Larry Balbierz, Brad Bates, Helen Barnes, Marilyn Benson, Lillian Bojorge, Jay & Diane Caldis, Bill Calicura, Jack & Kay Calloway, Priscilo Castro, Pam Chamblin, Jack Cherian, Mel Chew, Robert Clark, Rosemary Click, Stephen Coghlan, Roger Colton, CeCe Coulter, Barbara Quevedo Davis, Frank Delia, Alexa Despins, Margaret Earnest, Joyce Fellows, Theresa Flora, Angela Harfouche, Melissa Heikamp, George Heuga, Tom Hickey, Carolyn Hiland, Sara Hovorka, Kevin Huang, Norm & Mark Jokerst, Cynthia King, Ramon Llenado, Lauren Loftin, Jack & Barbara Malan, Pasquale Martirani, Bob Mason, Kevin Matthews, Emma Mendelssohn, Nancy Mitchell, John Mulane, Sarah Murtagh, Ray Nann, Ann Narloch, Nancy O’Keefe, Pete & Daisy Pedersen, Sofia Pella, Pete Plastow, Mike Pollard, John Quintanilla, Bill & Peggy Ragsdale, Shannon Reilly, Marsha Rocha, Randy Rudd, Joanne Rupert, Albert Sarkis, Ihab Samaha, Pat Schneider, Agnes Rowan Scholl, Pat Scott, Dona Smith, Janette Starke, Guy Stokes, Terry Tanner, Virginia Taylor, Mariae Tumelty, Sharla Vohs, Bob Volpi, Phyllis Williams, Stephanie Ziesel

Pray for the Deceased

Let us remember those from our parish family who have died recently and returned to the Lord. We give thanks for their lives and offer comfort to their families.

Virginia Eliziga, Anne Palmer

St. John Vianney Intentional Giving

Alleluia! Christ is risen and is victorious over sin and death! We are good stewards of our faith if, like St. Paul, we share this good news whenever and wherever we can.

Collection as of April 5, 2020

Plate Collections including mailed checks $ 7,760.00
Online Donations $10,366.00
Total Collections $18,126.00
Weekly Goal $ 0
Total Collections $ 9,648.00
Excess $ 9,648.00
Year to date shortfall $(4,706.00)

*includes corrections

Easter ** no weekly goal is budgeted on Easter

Easter $17,125.00

Collection as of April 12, 2020

Plate Collections including mailed checks $ 6,755.00
Online Donations $ 2,893.00
Weekly Goal** $ 0
Total Collections $ 9,648.00
Excess $ 9,648.00
Year to date shortfall $(4,706.00)

*includes corrections

Easter $17,125.00

** no weekly goal is budgeted on Easter

One must do all one can for everybody, expecting no return save from God only.

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Maryanne Richards (Ext 0) mrichards@sjvianney.org
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper
Indira Pethebridge (Ext 120) indira@sjvianney.org
staff@sjvianney.org to reach:
Debbie, Jennifer, Maryanne & Indira as a group
Mass Schedule

Sun. April 19, 2020  Sunday of Divine Mercy;
Public Masses Suspended, Mass will be taped or live streamed
Sunday Masses: 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am and 5:00pm
Readings: Acts 2:42-47 / 1 Pt 1:3-9 / Jn 20:19-31
Sunday Mass Intentions: Angelo Dimech and Otmar Pintaritsch

Mon. April 20, 2020
†Daily Mass: Public Mass Suspended
8:30am  For the People of St. John Vianney

Tues. April 21, 2020 †St. Anselm
†Daily Mass: Public Mass Suspended
8:30am  In Memory of John Hartley

Wed. April 22, 2020
†Daily Mass: Public Mass Suspended
8:30am  For the People of St. John Vianney

Thurs. April 23, 2020 †St. George & St. Adalbert, Martyrs
†Daily Mass: Public Mass Suspended
8:30am  In Memory of Michael McClaughry

Fri. April 24, 2020 †St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Martyr
†Daily Mass: Public Mass Suspended
8:30am  In Memory of John and Marie Parodi

Sat. April 25, 2020 †St. Mark, Evangelist
†Daily Mass: Public Mass Suspended
Readings: 1 Pt 5:5b-14 / Mk 16:15-20
8:30am  For the People of St. John Vianney
†Sunday Vigil Liturgy: 5:00pm Saturday, Mass Suspended
5:00  In Memory of Santiago Castillo
Vigil Mass Intention will be included with Sunday intentions

Sun. April 26, 2020  Third Sunday of Easter;
Public Masses Suspended, Mass will be taped or live streamed
Sunday Masses: Suspended
Readings:  Acts 2:14, 22-33 / 1 Pt 1:17-21 / Lk 24:13-35
Sunday Mass Intentions: Samuel Smith, Francis Jay Andaya and Marie Hill

Per the Shelter in Place Mandate Public Masses are suspended. Fr. William will be saying private Mass daily and remembering your loved ones in his intentions

Contra Costa County issued a New Shelter Order that requires specific Social Distancing Protocols for facilities to remain open. As a result, we regret to inform you that we are unable to keep the Church open for visitation and prayer. We want to insure that we comply with the County’s efforts to keep everyone healthy during this Shelter at Home period to limit the spread of the Coronavirus.

St. John Vianney Parish Community remains committed to connecting with our parishioners as we all stay at home to protect and safeguard ourselves, our families and those in our community. We are grateful to our doctors, nurses and emergency first-responders in our neighborhood as we do our part to reduce their burden.

Weekly Meeting Schedule

Given the Shelter in Place mandate from the Bay Area County Officials, all meetings, Masses and gatherings are suspended. The order has been extended to at least May 3. Once we have more information and are able to gather we will post the Weekly Meeting Schedule.

Special Notice from Bishop Barber

In collaboration with local Bay Area officials and in service to the common good of our communities and our country, the Diocese of Oakland is immediately putting into effect the following actions:

All public Masses are suspended
Information on online daily Masses can be found at https://www.oakdiocese.org/response-to-coronavirus-pandemic

All other events at parishes and schools are postponed, rescheduled or canceled until further notice.

In issuing these new guidelines Bishop Michael Barber stated, “Our Lady, Health of the Sick, has always come to the aid of the Church in times of plague, pestilence and danger. Let us pray to her to intercede for us with her Son.”

Grief Workshops

The Grief Workshops will be moving online during the COVID-19 Shelter in Place Order.
If you would like to attend, and you are not currently on the email distribution list, please email or phone Jerry Mellin at jerrymellin@gmail.com or 925-787-8865. Jerry will then provide the latest information about how to connect (we are not posting the information in the bulletin as it may change). Please also be aware that the time may vary slightly to accommodate heavy network traffic.) Ideally, you would get yourself on the distribution list so you can receive up-to-date information.

Grief Workshops are on the second and fourth Mondays at 7:15pm. The Loss of a Child Workshop is on the second Saturday of each month at 10:15am.

For more information please call Jerry (925) 787-8865
All are welcome.
Pray, Always Pray.

Your prayers are needed. During this time of unease please pray the Rosary every day. This is a wonderful opportunity to pray as a family. Pray your special intentions and for peace and healing for the world.

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Prayer to Mary

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick who at the cross took part in Jesus’ pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection.

Amen

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious blessed Virgin.

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Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
My Jesus, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and I unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen

We hope you will use this prayer for Spiritual Communion when you are watching a Mass on TV or a taped Mass.

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Praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy (Using your Rosary)

Optional Opening Prayers:
You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world.
O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

(Repeat 3 times) O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!

Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostle’s Creed

For each of the five decades (On each “Our Father” bead of the rosary, pray)

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

(On each of the 10 “Hail Mary” beads, pray)

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Concluding prayer (Repeat 3 times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Optional Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

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Subscribe to St. John Vianney YouTube

In order for St. John Vianney to livestream (in real time), our YouTube Channel has to reach 1,000 YouTube Subscribers. This way, when Fr. William goes live on the church, you will be able to follow along as opposed to seeing a pre-recorded video.

You will be notified any time Fr. William and St. John Vianney Church goes live. No more waiting for a Flocknote email and missing your chance to follow along.

Step 1: Search for St. John Vianney Catholic Church in YouTube or follow the below link. https://bit.ly/2y5hsO1
Step 2: Click on the Red Subscribe Button
Step 3: That’s it. It’s as easy as that! The subscribe button will turn grey to confirm that you have subscribed to the channel.
Suggestions for Combatting Boredom

While we are under the shelter in place notice we want to provide you with a list of activities and resources to enrich your mind as well as your soul. Please feel free to send us an email if you have other suggestions to share staff@sjvianney.org

Art at Home  https://artfulparent.com/top-10-art-activities-for-kids/. Art projects for the kids using things you probably already have at home. A quick search on YouTube may also yield some fun projects.

Fun at the App store - Waterlogue App allows you to change a photo into a Watercolor.

Kids Activities  https://kidsactivitiesblog.com/ You will find virtual field trips, Free Snoopy and the Peanuts gang coloring pages, a list of authors and illustrators who are doing online story time. Virtual Camps and virtual gym classes, cooking and much more. Not just for kids.

Check out some of the family obstacle courses on YouTube and recreate or create your own for a family competition.

Is there a driveway or sidewalk in front of your home? Create a chalk art work or chalk challenge course. Talk to your friends in the neighborhood (by phone, skype or zoom) and see if they can do one also. This way when you or others on your block are out for a walk you can have some fun.

Brighten your street facing windows by displaying your crafts. Stain “glass” art doesn’t need glass to sparkle. Take 2 pieces of wax paper and some crayon shavings and pretty pieces of color paper. Put on piece of paper on a work surface and place the shavings, and paper shapes then cover with another piece of wax papers. Get an adult to help with the next step - lay a thin cloth (rag or old towel) on top of the wax paper and use a warm iron to melt the crayons. You have created stain “glass” art. Can you find other ideas?

Begin a Gratitude Journal. We are a people of God and there is something to be thankful for every day. Especially now it is a powerful thing to see our blessings in writing.

Have children create a journal of life right now. Record day to day activities, fears, and feelings about life during the shelter in place. Include drawings, pictures and even video if that is their preferred media. Let them interview you and anyone else in the household. The children can also interview grandparents, aunts, uncles and neighbors (by telephone or video chat). Help them create a tangible primary source of their own history. When this is all over keep the journal for them so that one day they can share with their children and grandchildren about their own place in history.

Prayer Resources

As we turn to individual prayer, here are some resources with videos and readings so that you can experience prayers in your home.

Catholic Mega App  this is an app that can be loaded onto your smart phone that has the Stations in prayer and video. You can download the app from the Apple App store.

Catholic.org:  this site has materials and videos. The website  https://www.catholic.org/covid19/  will take you directly to their daily reflections page.

Mycatholic.life:  this website has many resources for prayer  https://mycatholic.life/daily-reflections/  This will take you directly to their daily reflections page.

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (usccb.org). The website  http://usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/index.cfm  will take you directly to their prayer and worship page.

Loyola Press:  https://www.loyolapress.com/ Loyola Press has 3-Minute Retreats and Sunday Connection. The Sunday Connection offers children’s activities by grade.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd  https://www.cgsusa.org/ has parent resources and articles about children’s spirituality.

Catholic Icing  https://www.catholicicing.com/ this website offers resources for parents and children


Just for Teens:  https://lifeteen.com/ Resources and inspiration includes a link to a series of global Life Nights.

Family Resources

Catholic Mom:  http://catholicmom.com/ This website offers Spiritual resources as well as family and fun activities. Such as Book Clubs, Tech Talks, Fitness. They also have a daily Gospel reflections, Sunday Gospel activities and a Sunday Facebook Live recitation of the Rosary.

Formed  https://formed.org/ Access to more than 600 videos, movies and resources from more than 50 Catholic contributors.

Youcat.org  https://www.youcat.org/daily#appLink Keep growing in the faith with a daily 5 minute dose of the Holy Gospel


Create a Sacred Space in your home or yard. A place to rest and a place to reflect and pray. In the yard find a little used spot and add a bench or chair, plant flowers or herbs, maybe a bird bath or butterfly saucer. In the home find a quiet corner or little used area to create your space. Add pillows or a comfy chair where you can sit quietly and pray or meditate.
Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!
Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.
During this time of loss and pain, something incredible is happening. We are noticing the bonds that form our human family, bonds that we’ve been taking for granted or neglecting. As we live in isolation, the global suffering we are seeing has made it startlingly apparent to us that we need other people and that other people need us, too. It’s the Sunday after Easter, and Lent need not continue.

It feels as though the stone that covers our tomb is slowly being rolled back to allow in a light of hope. This light heralds Easter and the risen Christ! It’s Sunday after Easter, and Lent need not continue.

Christ is Risen! Alleluia! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! It’s Sunday after Easter, and Lent cannot continue.

Our deepest thanks to the doctors, nurses, emergency workers, healthcare workers, and all those who put themselves in harm’s way for the well-being of all of us. The love of the risen Christ shines in and through these dedicated, courageous people. It’s Sunday after Easter, and Lent will not continue.

Our immense gratitude to all those who trustingly open their hearts and give of themselves fully to bring the light of love and hope into people’s lives at this dark time. The light of the risen Christ shines in and through these people. It’s Sunday after Easter, and Lent will not continue.

Even though we can’t come together physically to receive Holy Communion, many families of our Parish Community have come together in spirit and connected with one another during the past few weeks. You shared the light of peace and joy of the risen Christ in your own way – a true witnessing to the resurrection of Christ. It’s Sunday after Easter, and we will not let Lent continue.

I hold all the families of our Parish Community and our neighborhood in my prayers. May we all offer special prayers for families whose loved ones have tested positive and for families who have lost their family members or friends to the coronavirus. We pray especially for the families of all the healthcare workers and others on the front lines who are deeply concerned about the health and safety of their loved ones. May God watch over your loved ones as your loved ones watch over us. It’s Sunday after Easter, and we will not let Lent continue.

Christ is risen! Alleluia! He is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

Wishing you peace, joy, and love, the fruits of Easter,
Fr. William Rosario

Prayer to end the Pandemic

“Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger, to whom we turn in our distress; in faith we pray look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give glory to Your holy name.”

Amen

Are You Struggling?

These are most unusual times that call upon us to reach out in ways we may not have needed or thought of before. Despite strong faith, many of us struggle with loneliness, isolation, loss of social contact, difficulty deciding how to fill our time, among other struggles that may have arisen during this pandemic.

Our SJV Community has parishioners who are also clinicians who can assist on an informal, strictly confidential basis during our time of crisis. Anyone desiring to check in with one of us, please give the office a call at (925) 939-7911 and select option 0. There is no cost to parishioners.

Safe Environment Refresher Course

Thank you to the many volunteers who have taken the refresher course! Emails have been sent to all volunteers who need to take the course. We encourage you to give this simple task the urgency it needs for our parish to be in compliance for Safe Environment.

You can visit our website for information. If you need assistance completing this training or refresher course, please contact the Parish Office (925) 939-7911 x0 and we will return your call.