Pastor’s Corner

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I’m excited that we celebrate our Parish Ministry Faire this weekend. A time of blessing and grace! The Ministry Faire flows from two convictions: the first, that God has blessed us with gifts and the second, that He counts on us. Isn’t it amazing that God counts on us?

While the good news may be that all of us are called to minister, the trick is in discerning and knowing where you are called to serve. The sad reality is that if we do not step into the role that God has in mind for us, that work will remain undone till the end of time. This is what makes us unique: God counts on us. What an irony that He seems to depend on us!

One of the most satisfying, yet, demanding aspects of our Christian life is ministry. However, unlike other jobs or professions, you don’t choose to serve God; it is God that calls and chooses you to serve Him and His people.

You may ask, “Well, how do I know what I am called to do?” A good question, and a good start too. God deals with us as individuals and so, He doesn’t do the same thing with everyone. “One size fits all” does not apply to ministry. God calls each one of us by name; He talks to us personally. Sometimes in the silence of our hearts; at other times, through others. There are times when we are reading something or as we are listening to a homily, God’s call is made known to us. But He calls each one of us – no exceptions.

Do you know what you are called to do? Have you discerned God’s dream for you? Whatever it is and however it may come to you, I hope that you will listen to the voice of God, heed his call and choose to serve.

We all can have different experiences when we receive the calling to ministry. A friend of mine once said: “I know that I’m called but am clueless as to what I can bring to the table? I have no idea of where and how I can be of service”.

It’s here that prayer and discernment help. Take your dilemma to the Lord; He will shed light on you. Talk to your friend or pastor about it; hopefully, they will make things clear for you. Yes, God acts through the instrumentality of people. Read the Scriptures; the Word of God will enlighten you more than anything else.

So, how did you do? Have you realized that God has called you into ministry? When will you make the effort to come out of your own shell; from whatever may hold you back, and get ready for the most fantastic adventure in your journey of faith you can possibly experience in life?

Continued on next page
You have been given a wonderful gift. Don’t you want to share it with others?

You have been blessed by God with gifts of nature and of grace. It’s time you became a blessing to your Parish Community and neighborhood. Come join us! Sign up for a ministry and become who God wants you to become.

With prayerful wishes and blessings,
Fr. William Rosario

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**Diocesan Priest Retirement Collection**

The special collection for the Diocesan Priest Retirement Benefit Trust is next weekend, September 14 & 15. This collection allows us to express gratitude and support for our retired and soon-to-be retired priests, many of whom are still “laboring in the vineyard” in service to the faithful. They now face retirement with minimal government assistance. Please prayerfully consider how you can match their generosity to the Church by contributing to the Retirement Fund.

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**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

Pastor:
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) mlee@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 (Ext0) 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

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**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.


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**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.

Ted Sciaccia,

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**Pray, Always Pray.**

Your prayers are needed. The Rosary is recited daily, Monday - Saturday at 8am in the Church before Mass.

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**St. John Vianney Intentional Giving**

Jesus tells the crowd that only those who renounce all of their possessions can be His disciples. Is He truly asking us to give up everything? Perhaps instead He is trying to help us see that everything we think we won is really a gift from God. Good stewards know that and strive to use those gifts accountably.

**Collection on August 31 / September 1, 2019**

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<th>Description</th>
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Weekly Meeting Schedule

Monday, September 9, 2019
8:00-8:25 am Rosary Group Church
9:30-11:30am Yoga Vista
7:30-9:30pm Grief Ministry Vista

Tuesday, September 10, 2019
8:00-8:25am Rosary Group Church
9:30-10:30am Contemplative Prayer Rectory Parlor
7:00-9:00pm RCIA Rm. 2
7:00-8:30pm Middle School Youth Ministry FF Building

Wednesday, September 11, 2019
8:00-8:25am Rosary Group Church
4:00-5:00pm Children’s Choir Church
6:00-7:00pm Novena Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
6:30-8:30pm Alpha for Teens FF Hall
7:00-9:00pm Lectors of the Week Office
7:00-9:00pm Music Ministry Church
7:00-9:00pm Alpha Vista
7:00-9:00pm St. Vincent de Paul Rm. 3

Thursday, September 12, 2019
8:00-8:25 am Rosary Group Church

Friday, September 13, 2019
8:00-8:25 am Rosary Group Church
11:30am-1:00pm AA FF Rms. ABC

Saturday, September 14, 2019
8:00-8:25 am Rosary Group Church
9:00am-12:00pm Eucharistic Adoration Church
9:00am-12:00pm St. Vincent de Paul Vista
4:00-4:30pm Parish Reconciliation Church
10:00am-12:00pm Grief Ministry Loss of Child Cmns Library
4:15-5:15pm Cantor/Rehearsal Church
6:00-6:30pm Rosary Garden Statue

Sunday September 15, 2019
9:00 & 11:00am Children’s Liturgy of the Word Vista Annex
12:00-3:00pm Parish Picnic
3:30-4:45pm Contemporary Choir Rehearsal Church

Mass Schedule

Sun. September 8, 2019
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
†Sunday Masses: 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am and 5:00pm
Readings: Wis 9:13-18b / Philm 9-10,12-17 / Lk 14:25-33
7:30am In Memory of Clarence & Mildred Klein
9:00am In Memory of Esther Melcher
11:00am In Memory of Angelo Dimech

Mon. September 9, 2019 †St. Peter Claver
†Daily Mass: 8:30am
Readings: Col 1:24-2/3 / Lk 6:6-11
8:30am In Memory of Albert Sarkis

Tues. September 10, 2019 †
†Daily Mass: 8:30am
Readings: Col 2:6-15 / Lk 6:12-19
8:30am In Memory of Denis Richardson

Wed. September 11, 2019
†Daily Mass: 8:30am
Readings: Col 3:1-11 / Lk 6:20-26
8:30: In Memory of Velma & Larry Bruschini

Thurs. September 12, 2019 †The Holy Name of Mary
†Daily Mass 8:30am
Readings: Col 3:12-17 / Lk 6:27-38
8:30: In Memory of John & Amelia Mustone

Fri. September 13, 2019 †St. John Chrysostom
†Daily Mass 8:30am
Readings: 1 Tm 1:1-2,12-14 / Lk 6:39-42
8:30: In Memory of Betty Ricco

Sat. September 14, 2019 †The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
†Daily Mass: 8:30am
8:30: In Memory of Thomas Casebolt
†Sunday Vigil Liturgy: 5:00
5:00 In Memory of Josephine M. Castro

Sun. September 15, 2019
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday Masses: 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am and 5:00pm
Readings: Ex 32:7-11,13-14 / 1 Tm 1:12-17 / Lk 15:1-32
9:00am In Memory of Tammy Juenemann
11:00am In Memory of The Ding Family
Albert, May, Stan & Ron
5:00pm In Memory of Regina Borchers

Eucharistic Adoration Saturday Morning

Eucharistic Adoration begins immediately after each 8:30am Saturday Mass with Prayers, Reflections and Meditations by the priest or deacon followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament which will conclude at 9:30am. On the 1st Saturday of the month silent Adoration continues until 12:00 noon, closing with a hymn of Praise and the beautiful Angelus prayer.

Please join us in the Church on Saturdays after daily Mass for this special morning of prayer.
Register now for Fall Faith Formation

Registration is open for our Fall Faith Formation programs. Starting in September, we will have monthly interactive gatherings for families with young children as well as weekly sessions for youth group for Middle School and High School students.

Registration forms as well as the required Diocese of Oakland Medical Permission form are on the Forms page of the website.

You can visit with the staff on Walk In Registration days: Wednesday August 21 10:00am to 2:00pm and Thursday, August 22 3:00pm-7:00pm in the Faith Formation Hall.

Have questions? Contact Shannon Rogers for Family Based Faith Formation and First Eucharist at (925) 939-7911 x109 srogers@sjvianney.org or Marlene Lee for Middle School, High School and Confirmation at (925) 939-7911 x108 mlee@sjvianney.org

Curious About the Catholic Religion?

♦ Are you drawn to Mass
♦ Do you like what Pope Francis says about mercy?
♦ Are you unbaptized and recognize a need for spiritual dimension in your life?
♦ Were you baptized in another Christian tradition and want to explore the Catholic Church?
♦ Are you married to a Catholic and attend Mass but don’t know what the next step is to become a Catholic yourself?
♦ Are you an adult Baptized Catholic who has never received First Eucharist and Confirmation? Or
♦ Do you just need adult Confirmation?

Programs begin in October. Please contact Liz Rogers for more information, (925) 939-7911 x 125 or lrogers@sjvianney.org

Faith Café Genesis to Jesus

Join us Mondays from September 30 thru November 25 at 7:00pm in the Faith Formation Hall for 8 events of food, fun and fellowship!

This Bible study group will help deepen your knowledge of Scripture. Learn where the Bible comes from and how we as Catholics can better understand it. In this 8-week series, we will view 12 videos featuring Roman Catholic theologian, Dr. Scott Hahn.

Walk ins are welcome, and signups are appreciated. For more information or to sign up, contact: Mary Ann Casey at emay5@aol.com or Liz Rogers lrogers@sjvianney.org or phone (925) 939-7911 x125

Join us for Teen Alpha

Wednesdays thru October 16, at 6:30pm

Alpha for Teens meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm in the Faith Formation Hall, and includes food, film and fellowship. The short films are shot at locations all over the world and show youth from different countries sharing their views on faith. There is small group discussion about different weekly topics, like “Who is Jesus?” and “Prayer: why and how do I pray?”. There will also be a one-day retreat on Saturday, September 21st where teens can explore the topic of the Holy Spirit.

Alpha for Teens runs from Wednesday, August 21st through Wednesday, October 16th. High School teens may sign up online on the SJV website or in person at Faith Formation.

Questions, contact Marlene Lee mlee@sjvianney.org

Celebrating 10 years of ON FIRE!

Calling all High School Youth,

Next Saturday September 14, at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom in Vallejo, CA join us for the 10th Anniversary Event. One Church, ON FIRE, featuring Jamie Augustine, Will Hince and others. Contact Marlene Lee mlee@sjvianney.org for more information.

Alpha at SJV

Wednesdays 7-9pm In Mullen Commons Vista

If you crave a deeper connection with God and others, try Alpha. Alpha which is part of our Stewardship of Faith offerings, is a rare opportunity to explore questions of life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. No pressure. No charge. No follow up.

Alpha runs in churches, homes, coffee shops, and bars all over the world. It typically includes a meal, a video and time afterwards for sharing your thoughts. Alpha is open to all people, whether you’re a regular parishioner who’s just curious about what this new program might be or you’re interested in learning more about Christianity, you are welcome to attend! Questions, contact Liz Rogers lrogers@sjvianney.org or call (925) 939-7911 ext. 125
Loaves and Fishes Coffee Cups & Mugs
Today is the collection of coffee cups and mugs for Loaves and Fishes Martinez Dining Room. We have a box in the back of Church and another in the Mullen Commons Vista to collect your gently used or new mugs and cups. Thank you.

Christian Yoga & Meditation
Got Stress? Feel tight? Always wanted to try yoga? Come join us on Monday morning at 9:30am in the Vista Room or Monday evenings at 7:15pm at Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church (MDUUC). We do very gentle stretching yoga, breath exercises, and laughter yoga. From 11am to 11:30am join us for a guided meditation based on the Week’s scripture which includes a prayer for world peace. Make a difference in your life and the world. Come for one part or both. Relax and deepen your experience of God.
We will begin meeting again on September 9. Please contact Sharon Lawrence with any questions. (925) 938-8349.

Family Life Ministry
Senior Social: Upcoming Senior Socials are September 20, October 18 and November 15 from 11:30am to 2:30pm in the Mullen Commons Vista.

Annual Winter Nights Rolling Duffle Bag Drive
The Contra Costa Interfaith Council (CCIC) Winter Nights program begins its season in September. Homeless families with children will be given shelter in churches and temples throughout Contra Costa County.
The families have unique needs because they move to a different "hosting congregation" every two weeks. For many years our parish has collected and donated rolling duffle bags for the families. In addition, the Winter Nights shelter program has a "Wish List" of items that would help ease the challenges faced by the families. Items include: Rolling suitcases/duffle bags (no backpacks or hard side luggage), new standard size pillows, new sleeping bags (rated 35° or warmer), baby wipes, printer ink - HP #62 or #63, and gift cards for Target, Walmart, Safeway and Food Maxx.
SJV will collect these items at all Masses the weekend of September 21 & 22. Please contact Gina Drakes if you have any questions quackers@pacbell.net or (925) 831-3993.

Grief Workshops NEW DAY
You cannot grieve alone. Grief shared is grief diminished. Come and grieve in a safe environment where people truly understand.
Grief Workshops are on the second and fourth Mondays at 7:30pm in the Mullen Commons Vista. The next grief workshop is Monday September 9.
The next Loss of a Child workshop is Saturday September 14 from 10am to 12pm in the Mullen Commons Library.
For more information please call Eileen at (925) 939-8149. All are welcome.

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Fair Trade Sale. It was a huge success and we sold out of the wonderful products. We hope you enjoy it all!
We plan to hold another Fair Trade Sale after the new year. Remember to look for fair traded products when doing your regular shopping.

Assistance Requested
Telecommunications & Security Cameras
We are in need of someone with Telecommunications experience to help us research what we might need and what might be available for a phone system for the office.
Also needed is your expertise in the location and installation of security cameras? Please contact Debbie Mellin at (925) 939-7911 x103 or email dmellin@sjvianney.org if you can help in either way. Thank you.
Ministry Fair

The Stewardship Committee is responsible for enabling and encouraging our parishioners to make “Stewardship a Way of Life” by giving back through time, talent and treasure those gifts God has given us. One major opportunity to give back and make “Stewardship a Way of Life” is through the various Ministries offered at SJV.

This weekend, September 7-8, in the Vista is our annual Ministry Fair after each Mass. This is opportunity for all parishioners to explore the many Ministries available and to find one that fits your talent and time available to get involved. In preparation for the Fair we ask that you take home a Ministry Directory, discuss as a family or with friends and decide which Ministry(s) you might want to explore and possibly join.

We are very thankful to all those that do such a great job in the many Ministries in our Parish. Without your help we simply could not do what is necessary to give the spiritual care needed in our parish and community.

Grow Your Faith

The Bible lists nine fruits of the Spirit. Each one can help us grow in our relationship with God. “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control; against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5:22-23

When we accept Jesus as our Savior, the Bible says we received supernatural help from the Holy Spirit. Because of that help, we can become more like Jesus, showing some key characteristics, the fruits of the Spirit, in our daily lives. Three of these fruits are:

**Love** It’s no coincidence that love is the first fruit listed in Galatians chapter 5. Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God and love one another (Mark 12:30-31). When we love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and love our neighbors as ourselves, we show the world we belong to Jesus. Until you know God loves you, it will be difficult to love God and love others. Whether you’ve never heard that God loves you or you just need a reminder about God’s amazing love for you.

Our culture uses the word love so casually (“I love your dress!” “I love cheeseburgers”). It can be hard to identify the kind of love Jesus spoke about in the Bible. What does it look like to love God with all we have? Like any relationship, love means setting aside time. Take time to talk with God and get to know Him through the Bible. Once we love God, we can love others. But love isn’t just something to talk about; Jesus taught us to show our love through acts of kindness. Find ways to love people through acts of service. Even a simple phone call can make a difference. Then share God with others. Know someone who is hard to love?

**Joy** “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice” (Philippians 4:4). It’s easiest to rejoice when things are going our way. It’s a different story when life is hard. But followers of Jesus are called to have joy all the time, not just when life is good. One of the keys to being joyful is knowing why we rejoice. We don’t rejoice in our money, jobs, vacations or even our relationships. We must rejoice in the Lord. Is your focus on the problems of this world, or the eternal joy that is to come? If you find yourself focusing on negatives, redirect your thoughts to Jesus and the promise of heaven.

**Peace** Like the word “love,” “peace” is a word that has become casual and hard to define. But true peace comes from God, and there’s nothing like it. “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulations. But take heart; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). Jesus spoke those words thousands of years ago, but they’re still meant for us today. Check yourself. Does your peace come from trusting Jesus, or does it come from your circumstances?

It seems more people than ever suffer from anxiety. But you can have peace when you train yourself to focus on God instead of yourself or the world around you. Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers” (Matthew 5:9). We should pray for peace throughout the world, but we also can’t forget about our own backyard. Is there strife within your own family or workplace? Be a peacemaker there.

Kick off the Year with a Parish Picnic

September 15 at Noon

Youth Ministry and Family Faith Formation Classes are beginning, our Fall Alpha programs have begun and Faith Café is just around the corner! Let’s celebrate with a Parish Picnic!

Everyone of ALL AGES is invited to join us for food and festivities beginning at Noon on Sunday September 15. We will have FREE Mexican Food, drinks and beer as well as games for kids/adults of all ages.

Join us at the Vista so we can all begin this Faith Formation year in celebration together!

We are each of us like a small mirror in which God searches for his reflection.

St. John Vianney