May 6, 2018

Dear Parishioners of Divine Savior and our Cherished Visitors:

With two more weeks remaining of the Easter Season, we reflect on the most important word for us followers of Jesus: love. In today’s Gospel, Jesus used the word nine times. We have heard and continue to hear love sung about, portrayed in movies and described in print material. What did Jesus have in mind when He used the word?

Jesus’ life was one fully dedicated to revealing the love He experienced in His relationship with His heavenly Father. When Jesus speaks of keeping the Father’s commandments, He refers to His mission of being loving to all people. We see love in action as Jesus ate with the ones considered unclean, outcast from the community and sinners. Love meant that these people had the greatest opportunity in their lives to experience themselves as the beloved people of God.

Jesus’ love was expressed as He encouraged people to let love relieve them of fear, anxiety, worry and shame. Love was evident the more people lived in the peace that only Jesus can give. Love was evident as Jesus chose not to condemn those who resisted His message, those who ridiculed Him, even those who tortured and crucified Him. Jesus showed us how we can become non-violent as we choose to accept and live out, as He did, loving one another regardless of our differences.

As our Gospel points out, living in love allows us to be Jesus’ friends, close intimates. The love of Jesus calls us to put aside anything that enslaves us in any way. We are meant to live as people free from any human-made restraints regardless of their origin. Love is the relationship established by Jesus that supersede all laws, customs and traditions. Free from these limiting influences, Jesus wants us to live with complete joy that comes about as we recognize that the goodness of God abides in us and we abide in Christ.

Love empowers us to produce fruits of love that we are able to bring about the more we follow Jesus’ example. Our first reading provides a great example of what love can bring about. Just prior to today’s reading, Peter realizes that he is to go to the home of Cornelius. This troubles Peter because Cornelius is an official of the Roman government, the occupying force in the land. Peter at first considers this not only troublesome but contrary to how he understood the mission of Jesus. What may have been running through his mind were Jesus’ words that He came to the Jewish community as a faithful disciple, Peter goes and enters Cornelius’ home.

The month of Mary is celebrated in the Americas in May. In 2002, Pope John Paul II said, “Today we begin the month dedicated to Our Lady.” ‘Marian’ month serves as a “moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world [pay] to the Queen of Heaven.” Our Lady of Guadalupe Society will display information on the various Patronesses honored on the two American continents. This week please stop by the Marian Niche to learn more about the South American countries’ devotion to the Virgin Mary.

Due to computer issues in the office and printer deadline we are not able to provide last week’s Plate Collection Performance.

The Month of Mary Celebrated in the Americas

May 5th, 2018

May 5th 4:30pm Adelmiria & Felix Rodriguez (D)
May 6th 7:45am Evelyn Crain (D)
May 7th 9:30am Elizabeth Morales
May 8th 9:30am People of the Parish
May 9th 11:30am Andrew Nicollini (D)
May 10th 7:30am Anthony Marcius (D)
May 11th 8:30am Cathy Pippig (D)
May 12th 8:30am Dale Bartlett (D)
May 13th 8:30am Mary Pippig (D)
May 14th 8:30am Jean Dean (D)
May 15th 8:30am Jeremy Hass
May 16th 8:30am David Alway (D)
May 17th 6:30pm Rev. Neil Seidel, S.D.S. (D)
May 18th 6:30pm Van Ngo (D)
May 19th 4:30pm Rev. Neil Seidl, S.D.S. (D)
May 20th 5:30pm Helen Massoud (D)
May 21st 7:45am Yutaro Akihama (D)
May 22nd 9:30am Anna Minh (D)
May 23rd 9:30am Leonard & Jeff Gonzales (D)
May 24th 11:30am Jessie Lee (D)
May 25th 11:30am People of the Parish

Fair Trade Coffee
Sales will take place next weekend Saturday, May 12th and Sunday, May 13th after each Mass in the Vestibule.

Thank You!
We collected $299 from our Recycling Drives in April. This money raised from this will go to the Salvadoran Haiti Project.

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May 6th 7:15pm Catholics Returning Home St. Simon
May 7th 4:30pm Max with Baptism Church
May 8th 11:30am Max with Baptism Rosario De Mayo Celebration Church
May 9th 12:45pm Max with Baptism Rosario De Mayo Reception Hospitality

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As a faithful disciple, Peter goes and enters Cornelius’ home. Despite the upset Cornelius experienced when he realized a Jewish Jew was being sent to his home, he receives Peter with quite the fanfare. In a gesture of true love that leads Peter to say he sees himself as an equal to Cornelius, Peter soon realizes that the love of God is made available to all people without any predetermined criteria. Even though the people who had gone with Peter were astounded at what they experienced, Peter was able to acknowledge that the Holy Spirit makes His Presence known to anybody regardless of status, religion, or any other qualification.

We pray that as we allow God’s love to be renewed within us, that we will find ways to build bridges with others, especially those we might consider different from ourselves.

Fr. Roman
Are you hungry? Come over to Hospitality after Mass and have breakfast! Our Knights of Columbus are offering a free pancake breakfast after all the Sunday Masses this weekend, May 6th!

Sunday Masses this weekend, May 6th!

TREASURE FEST 2018 planning is underway! Our first drop off day for donations of gently used items will be in July. However, if you have a large item to donate that will not fit in your car/truck/SUV, we can arrange to pick it up at your home. Due to limited storage, we can only accept large items at this time. Please contact Bob Reilly to schedule a pick up. He can be reached at (916) 988-1040. Also, if you have a truck or are able to lift large items and can help with these pickups, please contact Bob as well.

Win a Divine Savior Vacation If you have an RV or a camper, you can win a four-night vacation between July 31 and August 3 at Divine Savior’s Black Top Campground, complete with power hookups and camper parking spaces large enough for all size RVs and campers. While you stare gaze (no trees to block your view), barbecue, play card games, and sing campfire songs in the church’s Black Top Campground (aka, parking lot behind the gym), you will be asked to watch Mass, barbecue, play card games, and sing campfire songs in the church's Black Top Campground (aka, parking lot behind the gym), you will be asked to watch Mass. If you have an RV or a camper, you can win a four-night vacation between July 31 and August 3 at Divine Savior’s Black Top Campground, complete with power hookups and camper parking spaces large enough for all size RVs and campers. While you stare gazed (no trees to block your view), barbecue, play card games, and sing campfire songs in the church’s Black Top Campground (aka, parking lot behind the gym), you will be asked to watch Mass, barbecue, play card games, and sing campfire songs in the church's Black Top Campground (aka, parking lot behind the gym), you will be asked to watch Mass.

4th Annual Flores de Mayo Celebration Sunday, May 13th at 11:30am Mass Calling all children, girls & boys! Come bearing gifts of flowers from your garden, to offer to our Blessed Mother. The Filipino Ministry invites you once again, to participate in the beautiful tradition of Flores de Mayo: a time-honored, Filipino cultural celebration of honor and praise to our Blessed Mother, Mary. The introduction of this revered event 3 years ago was an astounding success, and we hope to keep this tradition alive with your presence and active participation!

During the procession, we encourage the older teens (8 girls, preferably) to carry the poles bearing the decorated letters, while the younger children offer their gifts of flowers and greens. As always, white attire (white dress, white shirt, any color skirt or pants) is requested, as we embody Mary’s holiness, purity, innocence, and grace. Participants should arrive 20 minutes before the Mass & assemble in the Vestibule. For more info, please contact: Junie Baldonado at dsfilipinoministry@gmail.com.

TALENT SHOW – Saturday June 16th Do you have talent? Of course you do! Come share that talent with your Parish Family on Saturday, June 16th at 6:30pm. If you can sing, dance, play piano or guitar or Native American drum, tell FUNNY jokes, or another talent that would be suitable for an audience in the church, please call or email Elaine at (559) 307-4216 or elaine@divinesavior.com to set up a time to “audition”. Auditions are not to assess skill level, only appropriateness, length and program placement. So lets and groups welcome.

SAVE THE DATE/VOLUNTEERS NEEDED We’d like to offer a Music Camp the week of July 16-20th, however in order to do so volunteers are needed. Camp will be held from 9:00 - Noon for ages 5-12. If you can assist this week or if you have an interested camper please email or call (or text) Elaine at elaine@divinesavior.com or (559) 307-4216. Emails are preferred.

Catholics Returning Home An Open Door for Returning Catholics Were you raised Catholic but do not come or seldom come to church anymore? Are you a Catholic who now feels separated from the Church? Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church as it is today? No matter how long you have been away and no matter the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church.

Please join us for Thursday, May 10th, 7:15-8:30pm. The sessions will include sharing, and updates on the Church today. Please contact Kathleen Hass at kathleen@divinesavior.com or 916-989-7400 for additional information.

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Vocations Cross Saturday, May 5th at the 4:30pm Mass, Shirley Daniels & Gray Allen will take home the Vocations Cross to pray daily for Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and the Religious Life.

Looking for Children's Books Get on the Bus Ministry Returns! The Lay Salvatorians of DS parish, along with the Knights of Columbus, will be hosting children traveling to visit their incarcerated parents at Folsom Prison in June. We are looking for gently used and new children’s books for children (birth-teens) to give to them as they arrive for their day with their parent. This was hugely successful when we did it in prior years, and we’d like to gift the children again this year. Please drop off your books in the Vestibule in the designated containers from now until June 23. This is a great opportunity for us to support children in their literacy development and express our care and support of them growing into productive citizens.

World Youth Day 2019 I am the servant of the Lord. May He be done to me according to your word” (Lk 1:38) World Youth Day 2019 will be celebrated from January 22-27, 2019 in Panama! World Youth Day 2019 marks the 15th celebration of this encounter with the Pope and the young people of the world. Celebrated every 3 years, this event is an opportunity for all young people to share their faith and share in the universality of the Church. It allows them to deepen their faith and grow closer to Christ. Parishies in our own diocese are on fire to join the Holy Father in Panama! For more information contact Ninoshka Kniznik at WYDFolsom@icloud.com

Other Ministry Happenings