Dear People of Divine Savior and our Cherished Visitors:

What can we learn about Jesus from today’s Gospel? His behavior invites us to reflect on how important it is to gather with a faith community for worship. Psychologists today are seeing that we are hard-wired to connect with each other in meaningful ways. We tend to find it most comfortable to connect with people we know and especially those whom we like and feel most comfortable. Studies are showing that gathering with anyone because of a desire to be with people, especially for Mass or other religious services, whether we know anyone there or not, can help us to realize that we are not alone and we may have less of a tendency to feel overwhelmed.

One particular researcher asserts that going occasionally to a funeral of someone we do not know can be a great way to connect because we are communicating to the family and friends that we care about their situation and express that care by taking the time to be with them. This could lead to a great parish ministry where a group is formed whose members take turns coming to funerals at Divine Savior as a way to offer support to those who are grieving. This would be especially meaningful when the number of people participating are not many in number.

We easily observe that Jesus was teaching during this particular synagogue service. This astonished the people who were present and they commented that Jesus taught with authority and not as the scribes. What is the likely content of Jesus’ teaching? Likewise, the people in that synagogue probably realized that what Jesus said was rooted deeply in His own personal experiences of the love of God.

No doubt Jesus felt very comfortable as He taught and He had a constant and not dependent on how people behaved. It is not much of a stretch to think that Jesus shared from His experiences with His Father. He exhibited a deep mercy of God, rest in peace.

Parish Announcements

Parishioners are invited to the following events:

- **Ash Wednesday Schedule**
  - Februay 14th
  - Liturgy of the Word & Ash Distribution: 6:30am & 12:00pm
  - Mass & Ash Distribution: 8:30am & 7:00pm

- **Save the Date!**
  - Mardi Gras Pancakes is coming soon. Mark your calendar Tuesday, February 13th.
  - Pancakes served 5:30pm - 7:00pm. Come and join us in the gym for our annual Mardi Gras Celebration.

- **Mardi Gras Mini-Market Fair**
  - If your ministry would like table space at this year’s Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner and Market, please send your information to Caroline Easton, caroline@divinesavior.com. Table space is limited, so please don’t wait!

- **Messiah Concert**
  - Handel’s Messiah is coming soon to Divine Savior! This epic and inspirational piece of music will be performed with a live Chamber orchestra, professional soloists and members of our community as the choir members on Saturday, March 24th at 7:00pm. The audience members will be invited to sing along with the chorus numbers, such as the famous “Hallelujah” and “ Glory to God.” It will be a beautiful way to start Holy Week! Admission will be free. We are looking for soloists and choir members! Rehearsals begin on Thursday, February 1st. Contactergy Rheault at grrheault@gmail.com for details about singing for this event.

- **Military Prayer List**
  - If your loved one is out of the military please call Mary at 988-4984 to have them removed.

- **Year over Year Plate Collection Performance**
  - Week # 30: YTD thru Wk #30
  - 2017-2018 Year: $14,626, $470,363
  - 2016-2017 Year: $11,222, $447,030
  - D Difference: $23,333
  - % Difference: 5.2%

CRAB FEED TICKETS will go on sale starting at the 4:30pm Mass on January 27th, THURSDAY WEEKEND. Tickets can also be purchased in the office Monday-Friday, 8-4pm. Come join us for our Annual Crab Feed on March 10th. Tickets are $50 each and only 550 tickets will be sold. Gather your group and get your tickets as this will be a SOLD OUT event. Tables of 8 & 10 (only twenty tables of 10 are available) may be reserved as long as all tickets are purchased at the same time. All other requests will be considered however not guaranteed.

Eucharistic Adoration
- 9:00-noon
- St. Cecilia Room

Eucharistic Adoration
- Hall A
- Community Meal
- Catholic's Reuniting Home

Prayers of the Week

- For these and all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

- Fr. Roman

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Suspension of Communion Cup

The California Department of Public Health has indicated that the incidence of flu and flu-like illnesses has reached a level requiring that we take action to mitigate the possibility of infection at Mass. In order to protect the health and well-being of everyone, Bishop Soto has issued the following directives:

- The use of the Communion cup is suspended temporarily.
- Receive the Body of Christ in the hand (although receiving on the tongue is permitted).
- Do not shake hands. Offer the sign of Peace to those around you with a simple nod, saying “peace be with you.”
- Do not hold hands during the Our Father.
- Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are reminded to cleanse their hands with an alcohol-based antiseptic before and after administering Holy Communion. This also applies to those who take Holy Communion to the home bound.
- The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and other Holy Days requires that we take action to mitigate the possibility of infection at Mass. In order to protect the health and well being of everyone, Bishop Soto has issued the following directives:
  - Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are reminded to cleanse their hands with an alcohol-based antiseptic before and after administering Holy Communion.
  - Do not hold hands during the Our Father.

Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBTQ Community Can Enter into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion and Sensitivity by James Martin, S.J. Building a Bridge provides a roadmap for repairing and strengthening the bonds that unite all of us as God’s children. Facilitator: Brenda Daly. Place: Folsom, Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30pm (4 sessions) starting Feb. 13, Cost: $15.00.

Catholicism DVD Series: Journey around the world and deep into the Catholic faith with Bishop Robert Barron, who will take you to over 50 locations in 16 countries that are inspirational. Facilitator: Margaret Helen. Place: Roseville, Wednesdays, 6:30pm starting Feb. 21.

Everyone Needs to Forgive Someone by Allen Hunt: The lesson is simple. Give forgiveness and you will unleash a flood of grace on yourself and those around you. This little book, with 12 real life stories, will help you capture the power of forgiveness in your life. Facilitators: Joyce Daniels & Mary Lou Gillis. Place: Homes of Joyce and Mary Lou - Fair Oaks. Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30pm starting Feb. 21. Participants guide $15.00

Gratitude, A Six Week Journey: Susan Scott, a retired teacher-librarian and D.S. parishioner invites you to join her for 6 sessions that include various videos, scripture and creating a craft all focused on the ability to be grateful. Place: D.S. Module Y-1, Mondays, 10:30am – Noon starting Feb. 12. List of items needed for craft assemblies.

LECTIO DIVINA “SACRED READING”

Go deeper in your prayer life through a guided process called Lectio Divina. We use the Sunday Scriptures for sacred reading. Facilitator: Sharon Laitinen. Place: Church – St. Cecilia Room (across from sacristy), Thursdays, Noon-12:45

Lenten Longings – For the Life of the World, by RENEW International: Corresponding to the 6 weeks of Lent, each session will be connected to prayer, scripture, and action responses to the call for justice and on-going conversion. Facilitator: Sharon Mester. Place: D.S. module Y-1, Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30am, Feb. 21-Mar. 28, Costs about $7.50.

Little Rock Scripture Study – “Introduction to the New Testament” Given a commentary and a workbook, the facilitator, Mike Keneshpiel, will navigate participants through the New Testament starting with the Gospels all the way to the Book of Revelation. Place: Orangevale, Tuesdays, 6:30pm. Purchase your packet at the parish office, $18.00


My Life with the Saints by James Martin, S.J.: To deepen our understanding of how saints can guide and help us find holiness in our lives, each chapter provides a short biography of a saint. Even though the sessions are focused on Children’s Faith Formation, everyone is invited! Facilitator: Nick Zetik. Place: D.S. M-4, Sundays, 8:30-9:15am, starting Feb. 11. Book costs about $13.00.

Return – Drawing Your Child Back to the Church by Brandon Vogt: This is a guide on what to do and not do when talking to your children about returning to the Catholic faith. It emphasizes humility and includes information that will help parents to be empathetic and understanding. Facilitators: Steve & LoniK Jackson. Place: Jackson home – Citrus Heights, Mondays, 7:00-8:00pm starting Feb. 19.

Why Am I Catholic (and You Should Be Too) by Brandon Vogt: gives a persuasive argument for truth and beauty to those who have become jaded and disenchanted with religion, and at the same time offers practicing Catholics a much-needed dose of confidence and clarity to affirm their faith against an increasingly skeptical culture. Facilitator: LouAnn Knespel. Place: LouAnn’s home in Orangevale, Time: TBD, Book costs about $14.00