Dear Beloved People of Divine Savior and our cherished visitors:

Our Gospel passage is rather brief but it clearly provides much rich material for our reflection. This passage tells us about the relationship between Jesus and His Heavenly Father, namely, that they are one. Jesus as fully human allowed Himself to be fully open and vulnerable with the Father. Jesus listened intently to the Father, reflected on and integrated what the Father wanted Him to do for the people, and carried it out in all the ways and means that empowered Him to live in praise of His Father. When we observe Jesus’ varied actions and ponder His words, we realize that to take in all that Jesus said and did is our way to know the Father the way that Jesus did.

Because of this intimate relationship, people would follow Jesus because they trusted Him; He spoke and acted with authority, meaning that what Jesus said and did was rooted in the depths of His being. As the Gospel states, if we follow Jesus, we are promised eternal life. A major component of following Jesus is to replicate His words and actions. We are blessed with the high privilege of making known the goodness and kindness of our Savior in all the ways and means with which we have been blessed. What a gift it is and what glory we offer to God when, because of us, others are put on the path that leads to eternal life! We hope that we will continuously let the love of God saturate us so that when people experience us, they will recognize they are with a fully dedicated follower of Jesus.

We live in a world where scandalously many people are longing to have the promise of our second reading come true for them. We pray that we will find more ways to care for peoples’ immediate needs, but also dedicate our resources to changing the systems that cause people to end up in impoverished situations. What will it be like when more people will, through us, find adequate shelter, drinkable water and sufficient food? How enriched will we feel when we shepherd to the resources that the needy ache to have so that they can reflect on how they experience themselves as God’s beloved and precious people!

The beginning of our second reading as well as our first reading reminds us that we are to be concerned about every nation, race, people and tongue.” In our first reading a distinct segment of the Jewish people used violence and subterfuge to try to dissuade Paul and Barnabas and other messengers of the good news. In various places in the Old Testament, we read statements such as “I have made you a light to the Gentiles that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth.” We notice that God’s plan is not that all people have to be of the same religion; we are asked to be a light, to lead other people to walk in the light of love and care for one another. We are to help people to accept that the God who created the world did so out of love and that all God’s people are to love one another.

During the Marian Month of May, there will be a display in the Marian niche that features the Blessed Mother patronesses of Central, North and South America. The Church honors her as the Mother of God, looks to her as a model of perfect discipleship, and asks for her prayers to God on our behalf. Our Lady of Guadalupe Society is pleased to present this display which acknowledges the strong faith and devotion to our Blessed Mother expressed by millions of Catholics living throughout the two American continents.

Family Traditions

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Mark your calendars for Pentecost Sunday, June 9th for a Cultural day of celebration at Divine Savior.

The celebration will begin at the 11:30am Liturgy and follow with festivities in the gym. The aim of this celebration is to celebrate the cultural & ethnic diversity we have in our parish family. Please check the bulletin in the upcoming weeks for details of the event and to make sure that no group is left out. There will be a world map in the vestibule to identify all the groups. We are looking for volunteers to help in the Liturgy, set up the gym, greeters and servers. Sign-up sheets will be in the vestibule. And, Fr. Marcel will be in the vestibule this weekend to answer your questions and take suggestions, or you may contact Fr. Marcel at fmarcel@divinesavior.com. Let us all make this celebration great!

Power In My Hands is a film that uncovers the beauty, timelessness and power of the rosary. In Power In My Hands, prominent individuals and others not only present the beauty and power of the rosary, but also share their personal witness to this power in our hands. Viewing will be Friday, May 17th at 9:15am and 6:30pm in the Y3 portable building.

MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

We take communion to the homebound, whether it be in a private home or in a facility. If you want more information, contact Mary at annmaryk@outlook.com.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

If you have the talent to knit or crochet, please consider joining the prayer shawl ministry. We meet twice a month (1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1-3pm) in the Parish Office. Please contact Nancy Begley at 916-705-5464 for more information.

If you know someone in need of loving comfort who could benefit from a prayer shawl, please contact the parish office.

DID YOU KNOW?

We have monthly presentations on topics of interest to seniors. On Tuesday, May 21st at 6:00pm in Hall A, Dr. Beverly Chang, Geriatric Psychiatrist, will speak on Psychotropic Medications for Dementia Behaviors: Useful or Harmful?

Join Dr. Chang as she discusses the different classes of medications used to treat behavioral symptoms of dementia. Dr. Chang will also address the risks and benefits of these medications. For more information and to reserve your seat, please call Senior Care Solutions at (916) 965-5565.

Second Collection for the Community Meal

Next weekend, there will be a second collection to support our Community Meal. Guests often comment on how delicious the meals are and sometimes it is their only meal of the day. In 2018, we served nearly 6000 meals. It appears that this year we will serve more than 7,800 meals! Many thanks to all who have supported this ministry with their time, talent, and treasure. And thank you in advance for your generosity next week!

For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. — Matthew 25:35

WANT TO HELP MAKE DECISIONS ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE PARISH?

Become a member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) at Divine Savior! PPC is a 12 member selected body that provides ideas and resources to the pastor and staff to help us accomplish our mission of being a vibrant faith community that worships at mass together, shares in the sacraments and participates in programs and ministries that allow parishioners to share their time and talents.

In July, 4 of the members will end their 3 year term so we are selecting new members. If you or a fellow parishioner has ideas and gifts to share that will allow parishioners to share their time and talents.

The deadline to turn in nominations is Friday, May 17th.