Dear Parishioners of Divine Savior and our Cherished Guests:

Our Gospel today calls for us being careful about the message we convey. The intriguing numbers game Jesus and Peter played should bring a smile to our face, if not a hearty laugh. We humans like to know what Jesus expects of us, what is the limit? What is the least I have to do to comply with Jesus’ wishes?

As for the rest of the Gospel, it is important to keep in mind that the first followers of Jesus preached about their personal experience of Jesus. Then, a goodly time after the death and resurrection of Jesus when the early Church realized that Jesus was not returning as soon as they had thought He would, they decided to start putting the Gospels in writing. Furthermore, when the editors over the years worked at putting together a collection of the Gospels, further changes were made.

The point of the previous paragraph is that at times one segment of Jesus’ teaching does not fit with another as fully as they might have thought. That is certainly the case with the parable today. The king is a very mixed image. For the first segment, he does represent God as Jesus revealed God. “Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go and forgave all his debt.” That is certainly the case with the parable today. We go back to last Sunday’s Gospel where Jesus instructed that this first servant be treated as a Gentile or of the community. We have no sense of gratitude for what the king did for him. Cindy Teresi is no longer on staff here at our parish. As is widely known, Cindy was choir director for the three Masses we have on Sundays as well as director of our children’s choir. There is always a unique connection of singers and musicians with their director. Discontinuing that connection has its effects. Because it is important for the health of our community, I ask for two actions regarding any feelings, thoughts, questions and other reactions: a) that we focus on our gratitude for Cindy’s dedication and her efforts to connect us to a very special corner of heaven and earth; b) that any lingering issues be directed to Denise Hackett, our Parish Advisor, or to me.

Vigil Choir and Elaine Bauer will now direct and accompany the choirs at all Sunday masses. Fourteen months ago, we hired Elaine Bauer to be Director of Liturgy and Music. She came to us with considerable experience in accompanying and directing parish music ministry. I ask that we give Elaine and Gerry our full support and I welcome all who have a desire to sing or are able to play a musical instrument to let them know.

Pbasis Mueller.

STAFF CHANGES

Our parish is a faith community. When a significant change takes place, it causes a variety of feelings, thoughts, questions and other reactions. So it is with sadness that I report that Gerry Rheault will continue to direct and accompany the 4:30 Vigil Choir and Elaine Bauer will now direct and accompany the choirs at all Sunday masses. Fourteen months ago, we hired Elaine Bauer to be Director of Liturgy and Music. She came to us with considerable experience in accompanying and directing parish music ministry. I ask that we give Elaine and Gerry our full support and I welcome all who have a desire to sing or are able to play a musical instrument to let them know.

I have every confidence that God will bless us with music and singing that will enable us to pray and develop a closer relationship with Jesus and to build up His body here at Divine Savior.

Fr. Roman Mueller, S.D.S.

COLLECTION FOR RELIEF FROM HURRICANE HARVEY

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Fr. Roman Mueller, S.D.S.
Salvatorian Anniversary Celebration
October 14th
4:30 p.m. Mass of Thanksgiving
6:00 p.m. Appetizer Social
7:00 p.m. Mission of Mercy Concert
Fr. Joe Rodrigues SDS, U.S.A. Provincial, will lead an entertaining, multi-media concert filled with laughter, inspiration, dance and songs from his newly released CD, Mission of Mercy.
Tickets can be purchased online at http://bit.ly/MissionofMercyWEST or at Divine Savior starting the weekend of September 23rd & 24th. $25 per ticket and includes appetizer social and concert.

Catholics Returning Home
An Open Door for Returning Catholics
Were you raised Catholic but do not come or seldom come to 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 Thursday, September 21st, 4:00 p.m. The sessions will include sharing, and updates on the Church today. Please contact Kathleen Hass at 989-7400 or kathleen@divinesavior.com for additional information.

Jeff Cavins to Speak at Divine Mercy Conference
October 7th in Sacramento!
The 12th Annual Divine Mercy Conference will begin at Divine Mercy Parish, 2231 Club Center Dr., Sacramento, CA 95835 with 8:30 Mass. The program runs from 9:30 to 4:30 with a lunch break. Keynote speaker is Jeff Cavins of The Great Adventure Bible Series. Also Sister McInida Gilara of St. Faustina’s Boston Convention will tell of her work spreading the Divine Mercy message in prisons, care facilities, parishes, retreats and conferences. Connor Maher, Life Teen Youth Minister will share his own personal testimony of his path to Christ and how he brings this to his ministry. A good box lunch is available for under $10, bring your own or get some fast food at nearby locations. We expect this to sell out, so get your tickets right away: $20 now or $25 at the door. Children under 18 $5. Carpool options available. Questions? Call Linda 961-7082. You don’t want to miss this event!

Mission of Mercy Concert
Children’s Choir
We are excited to announce that our children’s choir will begin rehearsals tomorrow, Monday, September 18th. Rehearsals will be from 4:30-5:30 pm in the music room of the church. The choir will sing once a month at Mass. Please contact Elaine at elaine@divinesavior.com or feel free to call her at the parish office with any questions.

Youth Choir
Are you a teenager in choir, band or orchestra at school?
Were you once a teenager? Would you like to share your gifts with your parish family at Divine Savior? Our 11:30am Contemporary Choir would love to add your voice to ours. Rehearsal time will now be Monday evenings at 6:30 pm in the church. Please call or email Elaine Bauer at the parish office for further information.

Mission of Mercy Conference
Mission of Mercy Concert
Monday, September 18th
6:00pm in the music room – Visit www.missionofmercywest.com for more information.

Country Hoedown – Tickets on Sale Now!
Saturday, September 23, 5:30 – 9:30pm
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.
Adults: $15, Children 4 - 10: $7, Children 3 and under: Free
Family Special: $38 (2 adults & 2 children)
Tickets on sale after Masses & Parish Office.

Going Deeper with Father Roman
Let’s Talk
Tuesday, September 22nd 6:30pm In Hall A

Catholic Men’s Ministry Opportunities
Seeking new team members and volunteers!
We are seeking new people to help with the many preparations and communications to once again serve families in need this Christmas. Do you like to talk on the phone? Are you good with emails or text messaging? How about posting on Facebook and Websites? Are you an “expert shopper?” Do you speak Spanish? Do you like working with groups large or small? ANY OF THESE TALENTS would be valuable to our extended team of volunteers. Please contact Jan Bencken, coordinator, at 987-1836 or jbencken.com for more information or to volunteer.

Let’s Talk Tuesday, September 22nd 6:30 pm
In Hall A

Recycling Drive at Masses on September 23-24!
Saturday 4:00pm – 5:45pm and Sunday 7:30am – Noon behind the church and M-4. All proceeds go to the Salvatorian Haiti Project, to provide school lunches for children. The following recyclables will be accepted: clean, empty plastic containers (milk, juice, water, detergent), aluminum drink cans, glass bottles. (OK to commingle) Please NO paper, tin cans, plastic bags, batteries, electronics or hazardous/medicinal wastes.

Bishop Soto to pray with Men’s Prayer Group on September 22nd!
Bishop Soto will be with the Men’s Prayer Group on September 22, 6:30am-7:30am in Y-2 to pray the Rosary and discuss this Sundays readings -- and whatever else is relevant. (Spiritual Growth, Family, Spouse, Kids, Work, Stress?) Contact Greg Mathews call/text 220-3129 or gdmathews@gmail.com