Dear Parishioners of Divine Savior and our Cherished Visitors:

After reflecting for five Sundays on the sixth chapter of John’s Gospel, we return to pondering parts of the Gospel written by Mark. Today’s passage focuses on Jesus’ saying that the Pharisees and scribes were hypocrites. Some might think this is Jesus’ making a judgment about the Jewish leaders. But the word hypocrite refers to an actor who does not follow the script. So Jesus is making the observation that the Jewish leaders do not live out their own statements.

Jesus states elsewhere that we are not to judge others, or we will be liable to judgment. The act of judging reduces the one doing the judging to the same level as the one about whom the judgment is made. When applied to us personally, we diminish our status as God’s beloved when instead of affirming God’s given identity we judge ourselves to be other than that. The healthier thing to do is to observe and to acknowledge that our thoughts, feelings or actions are not in line with our standards, morals, or beliefs. Not wasting energy on judging ourselves provides us with the energy to change our behavior, attitude and thinking.

We are well aware that being overly concerned with minute details can keep us from dealing with much larger issues. So why did the Pharisees and scribes develop the many rules that they forced the people to live by. Their initial intentions were good. They believed that God is Holy, and they saw that their mission was to help people be as holy as possible. But they got too detailed and controlling. They decided that if people didn’t follow their minute interpretations of the law they had the right or even obligation to declare those who fell short to be unclean, unholy. Pushed far enough, they saw it as their duty to exclude people whom they thought were eroding the holiness of the community.

It seems that they forgot the important message of our first reading when Moses stated rather plainly that they were not to add to what he commanded nor to subtract from it. By observing what Moses gave them as statutes and decrees, they were to exhibit their wisdom and intelligence. In our second reading, James reminds us of a traditional teaching from the Old Testament, namely that religion that is pure and undefiled involves the care of orphans and widows in their affliction. James also invites us to welcome humbly God’s word that afflicts. James also invites to welcome humbly God’s word that afflicts.

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Faith Formation News

Faith Formation Enrollment Time!!!
It’s time to enroll for Children’s Faith Formation, CFF (K-5th), EDGE (6-8th), and Life Teen (9-12th) including Sacrament Preparation You can stop at the parish office to enroll or visit our website for enrollment information. If you have questions, please call 989-7400.
If you would like to volunteer as a catechist, team up with a friend to teach every other weekend or help out in other capacities with CFF please contact our CFF coordinator Jennifer. Email Jennifer@divinesavior.com or call (916) 989-7400.

Youth Seeking Baptism or First Communion
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If you know someone that is asking questions about their faith or needs to be baptized or confirmed, please call Sharon Laitinen at the parish office, 916-989-7400 x224 or email sharon@divinesavior.com.

Ministry Opportunities

MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND
New ministers are welcome and personal coaching is provided. If you are interested in this ministry, email me at mtthmarkay@outlook.com for further info. We take communion to residents in 7 facilities—and also to those who, because of the inability of getting to Mass for an extended period, request communion through the parish office.
Mary Frontiera

Companioned Prayer Introduction
Wednesday, September 5th, after Mass join us in the St Cecilia’s Room and come hear about a new Companioned Prayer program at Divine Savior. This wonderful prayer of inner listening opens us to the gentle loving presence of our Lord.
"I hope everyone can participate in the Companioned Prayer program. It can change your life."
- Bishop emeritus Francis Quinn

Moving On Fellowship
We will not meet on Labor Day, September 3rd, but on Monday, September 10th, at Annie’s Restaurant (Beech & Greenback). Join us at 10:30am for a no-host brunch. We are an informal group of widows and widowers who try to help those who have also lost a loved one in “moving on” to find a new, satisfying life.
For more information call Pat Biasotti, 530-307-2147.

Parish Announcements

Year over Year Plate Collection Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>YTD thru Wk #9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018-2019 Year</td>
<td>$13,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018 Year</td>
<td>$15,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>$ Difference</td>
<td>$14,690</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Difference</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug Capital Campaign</td>
<td>$10,468</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. Building Fund</td>
<td>$5,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North CA Fire Relief</td>
<td>$3,783</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Free firewood!
Last month we had some trees removed and trimmed throughout the property and we have wood available for the first person to pick it up. There is wood that can get picked up right now along the Southwest road and the empty lot next door. If you would like access to the wood in the empty lot please call Brian at 916-989-7400 and he will schedule a time to unlock the gate.

Are you or someone you know suffering from a divorce, separation or end of a relationship?
DivorceCare is a program that can help you through this troubling time by offering you tools, coping skills and support from people who understand and care. This 13-week series, held on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the Library of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Rocklin, 4450 Granite Drive, begins on September 13th and runs through December 20th. The $30 cost includes your workbook. If you’d like to register for this 13 week series or want more information and support on this topic please contact Corinne Lalanne at 916-765-1939 or clalanne@sbcglobal.net

Eucharistic Adoration
Divine Savior invites everyone to Eucharistic Adoration on the 1st Friday of the month, September 7th. Adoration begins at 9:00am immediately after Mass and continues until 12:00pm in the Church. This devotion allows a person the opportunity to provide further thanks for God’s love and time to enter into a more personal communication with God. We are encouraged to communicate with God in the silence.

Are you thinking of becoming Catholic and have questions?
If you are thinking of becoming Catholic, there are RCIA sessions, called “Inquiry.” In a warm and accepting environment, you are welcome to share your questions. If you are interested, please contact sharon@divinesavior.com or call the parish office for more information.

Youth Seeking Baptism or First Communion
Do you have a youth, ages 7-17 who hasn’t been baptized or celebrated his/her First Communion? Do you know someone that is asking questions about their faith and seeking answers? Now is the time to make a phone call to find out how this child/youth can get their spiritual desires met. Please call Sharon Laitinen at the parish office, 916-989-7400 x224 or email sharon@divinesavior.com.

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