December 16, 2018

Pastor’s Corner

Dear Parishioners of Divine Savior and our Cherished Visitors:

Today our first and second reading and psalm call us to be joyful. In our Gospel, John the Baptist gives some directions to the people of his day as to how they thought they could achieve joy in their lives. Various groups of people asked John what they should do, how they should act. John’s answers set the stage for Jesus. While it might seem so simple to us, we know that we all benefit from being reminded of living simply, looking at the world from behind the eyeballs of those with whom we interact.

In this light, John suggests that those who have two coats would share one with someone who has none. Given the tragic fires and mudslides, we know the joy we experience when we share our money or share in other ways with those who have lost most if not all of their property and goods. We might wonder how we have a right to feel joyful when others are so deprived and suffering so harshly. But it is helpful to remember that our joy comes from doing our best with what we have.

As the Gospel states, even tax collectors were affected by this process of encouraging us to find as many ways as possible to extend a loving hand to others. As the Gospel states, even tax collectors were affected by this process of encouraging us to find as many ways as possible to extend a loving hand to others.

Our second reading underscores this process by reminding us that our “kindness should be known to all.” The way of encouraging us to find as many ways as possible to extend a loving hand to others.

Seeking Baby Jesus!

We are in need of a baby for the Christmas Vigil Masses at 6:30pm and 10:00pm, and for the Christmas Day Mass at 10:00am. If your young baby (under 6 months old) is interested in this iconic role of a lifetime, please call or text Elaine at 916-4988-4984 to add or remove names as space is limited.

Pastor's Corner

Parish Announcements

Schedule for the week of December 16th - December 22nd

Tuesday-December 18th

9:30am Centering Prayer Church
7:00pm LUX-Young Adult Ministry Church Y2

Thursday-December 19th

8:30am Daily Mass Church
9:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet Church
1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry Library
3:00pm Community Meal Hall A
6:30pm Rosary Ministry Church

Friday-December 14th

6:30am Men’s Prayer Group M 4

Thursday-December 20th

10:00am  People of the Parish Church

Christmas Season Schedule

Christmas Eve Masses

4:00pm - Mass of Christmas
6:30pm - for Families & Children

all ages welcome

10:00pm - Candlelight Mass of Christmas in the dark of night beginning with Las Posadas

Christmas Day Mass

10:00am - Mass of Christmas

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

December 31, 2018

6:30pm-Vigil Mass

January 1, 2019

10:00am-Mass

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Vocations Cross

Sunday, December 16th, at the 9:30am Mass, Karen Martin will take home the Vocations Cross to pray daily for Vocations to the Priesthood, Diacariate and the Religious Life.

Prayers of the Week

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Prayers of the Week

Please pray for those who are sick, in pain or in need of spiritual healing. (Names will appear in upcoming issues.)

Alice Amantea
Bill Anderson
Dick Armstrong
Taryn Benson
Julie Bouse
Donna Brown
Tom Cairns
David Collier
Madeleine Crepin
Jim Doucet
Dorothy Feldman
Anna Maria Gomez
Patrick Hamilton
Myron How
Brian Kail
Carl Larson
Rachael Lopez
Richard Salter
Josephen Salter
Geoffrey Schmid
John Wilcox
Dona Schulte
Mary Scott-Salter
Tom Vail
Shari Sigl
Diane Stokes
Mike Struker
Matthew Watson
Jordan Wingate

Please pray for the souls of those who have died:

Macedonia Corona
Teresa Mary Groth
Arlene Ray
Peggy Williams

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

Military Prayer List

If your loved one is out of the military please call Mary at 916-988-4984 to have them removed.

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Parish Announcements

The Vocations Cross Ministry is looking for volunteers to sign up and take home the Vocations Cross for a week at a time, and pray for vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and the Religious Life. Volunteers will be in the vestibule this weekend to answer your questions, and take sign ups after all the Masses. For additional information contact Mona at 916-797-0234 or monavarno@ymail.com.

Parish Announcements

GRATEFUL APPRECIATION AND BLESSINGS FROM THE CHRISTMAS BASKET MINISTRY!!!

This weekend, Saturday, Dec. 15, was our distribution day for Christmas Baskets 2018. We distributed baskets to 80 families ranging in size from 3 individuals to 11 individuals! We thank all the donors, volunteers, and host families, and parish staff, for the incredible outpouring of resources and care in preparing and providing these gifts to our Orangevale families. In addition to the food collected from our own parish, we received the collection from Carnegie Middle School’s food collection. Each basket was generously and creatively put together to match the needs of the applicant families. As they arrived to pick up their baskets, their appreciation and gratitude was tangible. For those of us fortunate enough to see these items placed in the cars, it was a special blessing! We received smiles, hugs, blessings, and thanks meant for every one of our DS community responsible for the program. Divine Savior parish is over-the-top incredibly generous and loving, allowing the Spirit to work through us to touch so many lives! Praying God’s blessings on each of you for an especially Holy and joyful Christmas and blessed New Year.

Divine Savior Christmas Basket Ministry Team.

CFF, EDGE and LifeTeen wish you a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. EDGE & LifeTeen have Christmas parties this evening, then will have a break until Sunday January 13, when all faith formation sessions resume.

Parish Announcements

Be on the Look Out! Vehicle Burglaries

Vehicle burglaries are crimes that occur often. Taking extra safety precautions decrease your chance of becoming a victim of this crime. Please remember:
• Lock and secure all windows and doors when leaving your vehicle
• Do not leave items of value in your vehicle such as shopping bags, wrapped presents, GPS, laptops, cell phones, purses, briefcases, etc.
• Do not leave personal identification documents in your vehicle such as title to your vehicle, bank statements, social security cards, pay stubs, etc.
• Park in well lit areas during night
• Use anti-theft devices

When shopping for Christmas this year, remember every time you make a purchase on Amazon, you can make a donation to Divine Savior. Sign up today at https://smile.amazon.com and help support your parish family.

You can find this link on the parish website along with other ways to support the parish through your purchases.
(We Micro Give and eScrip)

Ministry Opportunities

Faith Formation News

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.

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 six informal sessions beginning Thursday January 10th, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. The sessions will include sharing, and updates on the Church today. For additional information, contact Kathleen Hass at 916-989-7400 or Kathleen@divinesavior.com

Faith Formation News

Parish Announcements

Year over Year Plate Collection Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Week # 24</th>
<th>YTD thru Wk</th>
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<td>2018-2019 Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017-2018 Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Difference</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Retire for Religious</td>
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Ministry to the Homebound

MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND
Do you enjoy visiting with others? The Ministry to the Homebound brings Eucharist to residents in 7 facilities, and to those who can’t get to Mass for an extended period -- and who request communion through the parish office. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, email Mary at mtthmaryk@outlook.com for further information. The time commitment is minimal.

Mary Frontiera

Parish Announcements

Have you checked out Divine Savior’s Facebook page?
You will Find you at facebook.com/divinesaviororangevale. A summary of Fr. Roman’s bulletin message and pictures from the weekend masses are updated weekly. If you attend a Divine Savior event, email them to Divinesaviorsocialmedia@gmail.com and we will review them to post on our Facebook page.

Faith Formation News

RCIA sessions, called Inquiry.
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.

Faith Formation News

Ministry Opportunities

Prayer Shawl Ministry
If you have the talent to knit or crochet, please consider joining our prayer shawl ministry. We meet twice a month (1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1-3pm) in the library. 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.

Faith Formation News

“Every life is a good and perfect gift. Many know this on an intellectual level, but those who love someone with a disability see it in their loved one’s face in a particular way. Our love for our children has nothing to do with their abilities. We love them simply because of who they are, and understanding this teaches us how to truly love everyone.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities “A Perfect Gift,” www.usccb.org/perfect-gift

Centering Prayer

Centering prayer is a method of prayer that helps develop a relationship with God by being still and listening. A Centering Prayer group meets at Divine Savior on the third Tuesday of the month. The group meets at 9:30am in the St. Cecilia Room. If you’d like to participate in this form of prayer join us on December 18th. Questions? Call Joyce at 916-990-0546.

Manna, Food from Heaven!
Manna Ministry is a pastoral care outreach that provides temporary, supplemental meals, when there is a newborn in the home, or when someone is down and out due to an illness, an injury, or the death of a loved one. Please tell anyone you know who could benefit from this service about Manna. Encourage them to call or offer to call for them. For more information, a meal request, or to volunteer, please call Denise Verbeck at 967-5110 or the parish office at 989-7400.