

Fifth Sunday
of Easter

April 24, 2016

The Lord
has worked wonder for us!

Guest Column

Sharing God's Word, Wherever We Are

I was fortunate to do my hospital chaplaincy rotation with a young seminarian who was ordained about three years after our summer experience. Tom and I became good friends. He came to my wedding and I went to his ordination. My children forever referred to him as young Fr. Tom. He has been a blessing to me and my family.

When he was ordained, I tried my hand at writing a song as a gift for him. He was so eager and willing to preach the Gospel wherever he was sent that I wanted to mark that in some way. One lyric I wrote went like this: "Finding our homes where we can share your word, only to leave again when it's been heard...to be your people."

Fr. Tom serves in Africa now, training other seminarians, and I often think of him and of that song because I have come to realize that we are all called to share God's word, whether we are in a comfortable place or a strange one. Perhaps part of our challenge is to leave the areas where we are comfortable and welcomed for those where the path is rougher and less clear, but the need for the Good News is all the greater.

Today our models are Paul and his companions, who travel from place to place to preach the Gospel and move on when they have done what they can. They follow Jesus' command to love and find the glory of the Lord in that work and in whom they serve. If we are to be God's people, we, too, must spread the hope of God's love to all we meet, even if we have to travel far to do so.

– Mary Katharine Deeley
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

April 23 – 30, 2016

	Intention	Requested by
Saturday, April 23	5 p.m. Juana Juat †	Fely Sabares
Sunday, April 24	8 a.m. Bianca Joy Ferreros – Thanksgiving	Mom & Kuya
	9:30 a.m. Mathew & Thresiakutty Kalapurackal †	Mary & Prasad Pollayil
	11 a.m. Jayne Klatt †	Kathy Klatt
	12:30 p.m. St. John’s Parishioners	St. John the Baptist Parish
	6 p.m. St. John’s Parishioners	Brazilian Community
Monday, April 25	8 a.m. Martha Harris †	Fely Sabaras
Tuesday, April 26	8 a.m. Gordon Jewett – Birthday	Roberta Jewett
Wednesday, April 27	8 a.m. Leong Sioc Cheny †	Rosie Murphy
Thursday, April 28	8 a.m. Esther Taylor – Healing	Family
Friday, April 29	8 a.m. St. John’s Parishioners	St. John the Baptist Parish
Saturday, April 30	8 a.m. St. John’s Parishioners	St. John the Baptist Parish
	5 p.m. Anna Kovach †	Renty Family

Stewardship

Envelopes & EFT (140)	\$5,204
Loose Donations	<u>1,461</u>
Total Regular Collection	\$6,665

Please remember St. John’s in your will.



Honesto & Lolita de los Reyes

It’s Bundle Sunday

Don’t forget to drop off your gently used clothes,, shoes, linens, blankets and sleeping bags, in the bags provided, with St. Vincent de Paul this weekend for distribution to the poor.

First Sunday Empty Basket

Our St. Vincent de Paul Society will conduct its First Sunday Empty Basket collection next weekend., April 30-May 1. Please bring canned or dry food to place in the basket at the front of church.

Message of Stewardship

In today’s readings, both Isaiah and Peter hear the call of God and feel themselves unworthy. But, reassured by the Lord, both answer and follow. Do *I* hear the Lord asking, “Whom shall I send?” Am I prepared to answer, “Here *I* am. Send *me!*”

Let Us Pray for the Sick:

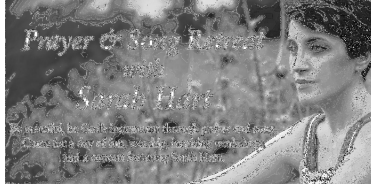
Crisostomo & Virginia Alday, Gera Assefa, Jade Austin, Evelyn Baker, Pearl & Patrick Batische, Barbara Brendlinger, Robert Britto, Richard Calapini, Evelyn Canepa, Jeff Chavez, Bernadine Clark, Brenna Clark, Jennette Cleadenger, Betty Cooper, Ernesto P. Cruz, Pablo de la Vega, Tami Duncan, Juanita Estrellas, Philomena Giese, Mike Giovannini, Joseph Golinveau, Teresa Grant, Domingos Gregorio, Andy Gutierrez, Ruben Gutierrez, Maydelle Halligan, Donna Heuken, Frances, Joanne, Marvin & Maurice Haynes, Sherry Highlander, Tamaya Hunt, Pat Jeffrey, Ann Jones, Robin Laws, Maria Impang Lozada, Marian & Michael Luoma, Nancy McVey, Philip Moore, Judith Padilla, Theresa Parella, Angelina Patacsil, Victoria Payless, Evelyn Rodgers, Fely Sabares, Linda Schneider, Salvador Tejero, James Vaughn, Sarah Vidal, Evodio Walle, Jan Williamson, Masaru Yokoi.

Please call the rectory to add or remove names.

Concert Next Saturday

Next Saturday, April 30, in conjunction with the Prayer & Song Retreat, the main speaker, Grammy-nominated Sarah Hart, will give a concert open to all audiences at 7:30 p.m.

Sarah has been a singer, songwriter and keynote speaker for 20 years. Her parish missions and ministry events



have taken her across the United States and abroad. Sarah has performed for countless parishes, conferences and conventions such as L.A. Youth Day and for Pope Francis in 2013.

Her songs have been recorded by numerous performers and are found in many hymnals. At St. John's, most of the music from Holy Week was written by her.

Tickets are now on sale at \$20 for adults and \$10 for students (18 yrs. and below) after each Mass and online at www.prayerandsongretreat.org.

For details, contact Andy Gutiérrez at 703-1076 or andyg@sjtbc.us

Holy Spirit Novena

To prepare for the coming of the Paraclete at Pentecost, St. John's Parish invites you to participate in a novena to the Holy Spirit, starting Friday evening, May 6, and ending Saturday, May 14.

The sessions will take place in St. John's Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel at 11152 San Pablo Ave., except Friday, May 13, when it will be in the church.



The services will start at 7:30 p.m. and will consist of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by a reflection, novena prayer, Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit, prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and closing with Benediction.

The various St. John's community groups will sponsor each night and lead our community in prayer. Everyone is invited to participate.

Words from Laudato Si' (Excerpt from Pope's Encyclical)

Enforceable international agreements are urgently needed, since local authorities are not always capable of effective intervention. Relations between states must be respectful of each other's sovereignty, but must also lay down mutually agreed means of averting regional disasters, which would eventually affect everyone. – (§173)

Fr. Thuong's Jubilee

We will celebrate the silver jubilee of the ordination of our pastor, Fr. Thuong Hoai Nguyen, on the third weekend of May.



Fr. Thuong

At the 12:30 p.m. Mass on Sunday, May 22, we will have a special liturgy. This will be an opportunity for Fr. Thuong to share his ministry with the entire parish.

After the Mass, our Parish Council will host a reception with a light lunch, where all St. John's parishioners can come and celebrate.

His family is arranging a special liturgy for the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, May 21, followed by a reception hosted by his family and friends in the school gym.

Got Photos?

We'd like to have a video show at Fr. Thuong's Silver Jubilee celebration.

If you have photos of Fr. Thuong that we can use in a video, please send them to Jasmin Salcedo at beng920@gmail.com, or drop them by the parish office, by May 10.

St. John's Seniors

St. John the Baptist Community Center
6500 Gladys Ave., corner of Lexington
Director: Jan Duckart 527-2850
Telephone 237-3808 on Tuesdays
10 a.m. April 26: Member Meeting
11:30: Music with Ligia
12:30: Lunch & Birthday Celebration



Youth Retreat

This year's Youth Retreat was a huge success for our 19 teenagers awaiting the Rite of Confirmation! It was filled with faith, fun, fellowship and the Holy Spirit.

The three-day weekend format centered on the life of Christ – the Person and Savior Jesus – with the use of scripture from the Gospel of Luke. Our students experienced the strength and courage of Jesus. The retreat aims to help young people live their life in Christ. The 19 students will receive the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, June 19, at the 12:30 Mass.

Thank you for all the hard work and dedication of our retreat volunteers; Carol Mansinne-Shafer, Bill Walton, Diana Virgil, Bridget Swan, Andy Guterrez, Gabie DeLaTorre & Fernando Molinar. Without all of you, we could not have done it. We also thank Fr. Thuong and Fr. Tran for being present this weekend and supporting our teens.

— Gina DeLa Torre
Youth Ministry Coordinator

First Communion, May 14

First Holy Communion will be celebrated at St. John's Church on Saturday, May 14.

Students in St. John's School will receive Jesus for the first time at a special Mass at 2 p.m.

Children who have been attending our Children's Religious Education classes will receive their First Communion at the 5 p.m. Mass.

All the children will attend their First Reconciliation (Confession) at 10 a.m. on the previous Saturday, May 7.

Flores de Mayo, May 7

We will honor Our Blessed Mother by celebrating Flores de Mayo at the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, May 7.

We will pray the Rosary at 4:30 p.m., followed by a floral offering and coronation of the Blessed Mother by the presiding priest before the Mass.

Children are especially invited to join in the procession.



Jewelry Sale Next Sunday

St. John's Seniors will conduct a jewelry sale next Sunday, May 1, in the Fr. John Maxwell Conference Room, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Get ready for Mother's Day, May 8!

Select some wonderful hand crafted jewelry for the special women in your life, created by some of the special women of St. John's Senior Center. Proceeds from the sale will benefit our Tuesday senior program.

Bishop's Appeal Update

St. John's parishioners have thus far contributed \$20,824 to the 2016 Bishop's Appeal.

That's 92 percent of our parish goal.

Pledges or donations can still be sent to:

Bishop's Appeal
Diocese of Oakland
2121 Harrison St., Ste. 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Be sure to indicate your donation is from St. John the Baptist Parish in El Cerrito. Any donations over our goal will go back to our parish.

Serra Club Meeting Monday

The Serra Club of West Contra Costa invites all parishioners to its monthly business meeting at 6 p.m. Monday, April 25, at Denny's Restaurant in San Pablo.

Fr. Kwame Assenyoh from St. Columba Church in Oakland will be guest speaker. Call Raoul Martinez, secretary, for reservations and/or directions at 964-4668.

May 2016

CC – Community Center CC-2 – Community Center Upstairs

CH – Church

CR – Conference Room

DR – Dining Room

MR – Music Room

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i> SVDP Food Basket Seniors' Jewelry Sale 10:30: CRE Classes 7 pm: Brazilians (CR)	2 7:30: Mercy Video	3 <i>SS Philip & James</i> 9 am: Seniors (CC) 7 pm: SVDP (CR) 7:30: RCIA (CC)	4 8:30: Perpetual Help (CH) Noon: Women's Covenant 6:30: 8 am Choir (MR) 7 pm: YM/Confirmation 7:30: Scripture Study (CR) 7:45: Youth Instruments	5 7:30: 12:30 Choir (MR) 7:45: 11 am Choir (CH)	6 8:30 am: Benediction 9:30: School Mass 7:30 Holy Spirit Novena (Chapel) 7:30: Brazilian Prayers	7 8:30: Blessing of the Sick 9:30 am: Pastoral Council 10: SVDP Pantry 10: Kids' Reconciliation 4: Confessions (CH) 7 pm: Charismatic (CH) 7:30: H.S. Novena (Chapel)
8 <i>Ascension</i> 10:30: CRE Party 3 pm: Brazilian Party 7 pm: Brazilians (CR) 7:30 H.S. Novena (Chapel)	9 7:30: H.S. Novena (Chapel)	10 9 am: Seniors (CC) 7:30 H.S. Novena (Chapel) 7:30: RCIA (CC) 7:30: Brazilian Choir	11 8:30: Perpetual Help (CH) Noon: Women's Covenant 6:30: 8 am Choir (MR) 7 pm: YM/Confirmation 7:30 H.S. Novena (Chapel) 7:45: Youth Instruments	12 10: EC Royale 6: Retreat Meeting (CR) 6:30: Fatima Procession 7:30: H.S. Novena 7:30: 12:30 Choir (MR) 7:45: 11 am Choir (CH)	13 6:30: Fatima Procession (Church) 7:30 Holy Spirit Novena (Church) 7:30: Brazilian Prayers	14 <i>St. Matthias</i> 9:30: SVDP Training (CC) 9:30: Liturgy Mtg (CR) 2 pm: First Communion 4: Confessions (CH) 5 pm: First Communion 7:30: H.S. Novena (Chapel)
15 <i>Pentecost</i> 7 pm: Brazilians (CR)	16 7:30: Mercy Video	17 9 am: Seniors (CC) 7: SVDP (CR) 7:30: RCIA (CC)	18 8:30: Perpetual Help (CH) Noon: Women's Covenant 6:30: 8 am Choir (MR) 7 pm: YM/Confirmation 7:30: Scripture Study (CR) 7:45: Youth Instruments	19 7:30: 12:30 Choir (MR) 7:45: 11 am Choir (CH)	20 7:30: Brazilian Prayers	21 9 am: Finance Cmte (CR) 10: SVDP Pantry 10:30: Youth Choir (MR) 4 pm: Confessions (CH) 5: Fr. Thuong Mass
22 <i>Most Holy Trinity</i> 12:30: Fr. Thuong Mass & Reception (Gym) 7 pm: Brazilians (CR)	23	24 9 am: Seniors (CC) 7 pm: SVDP (CC)	25 8:30: Perpetual Help (CH) Noon: Women's Covenant 6:30: 8 am Choir (MR) 7 pm: YM/Confirmation 7:30: Scripture Study (CR) 7:45: Youth Instruments	26 7:30: 12:30 Choir (MR) 7:45: 11 am Choir (CH)	27 7:30: Brazilian Prayers	28 10:30: Youth Choir (MR) 4 pm: Confessions (CH)
29 <i>Body and Blood of Christ</i> 7 pm: Brazilians (CR)	30 7:30: Brazilian Prayers	31 <i>Visitation</i> 9 am: Seniors (CC) 7:45: 11 am Choir (CH)	1 8:30: Perpetual Help (CH) Noon: Women's Covenant 6:30: 8 am Choir (MR) 7 pm: YM/Confirmation 7:45: Youth Instruments	2 7:30: 12:30 Choir (MR)	3 <i>Sacred Heart</i> 8:30: Benediction 9:30 Baccalaureate Mass 7:30: Brazilian Prayers 7:30: School Graduation	4 8:30: Blessing of the Sick 9:30 am: Pastoral Council 10: SVDP Pantry 10:30: Youth Choir 4: Confessions (CH) 7 pm: Charismatic (CH)