

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

## **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

May 1, 2016

The Lord has freed His people,  
Alleluia!

### **Guest Column**

## **Asking the Holy Spirit to Guide Us**

For many Catholics, Vatican Council II was a watershed moment in Church history. I remember the nuns in our school turning on the radio to listen to reports. They shared what Pope St. John XXIII said at the start of the council. The media still follow large Church events, but it's easy to forget that Church leaders have been gathering to talk about the issues of the day since the first century.

In the first reading, we hear (in fairly abbreviated form) about the Council of Jerusalem. The apostles and other leaders of the Church came together to discuss whether Gentiles had to be circumcised (a tenet of Jewish Law) before they were baptized. There were legitimate claims on both sides. Remarkably, the leaders prayed, talked and prayed some more. They spoke from their experience and their faith. They assumed that all the assembled were people of faith, and so they wrestled together to find the answer most in keeping with the commands of Jesus.

In the end, when they decided to admit Gentiles without circumcising them, the whole community recognized that the Holy Spirit was at work, and the letter sent to the various churches began, "It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us..." The Council of Jerusalem gives us a model for resolving our differences: pray, dialogue, and pray some more. This week, read all of Acts 15 to see what happens when we trust the Spirit to guide us rightly: arguments fall silent, and we find delight, strength and peace (see 15:12, 31–32; John 14:27).

– Mary Katharine Deeley  
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

**April 30 – May 7, 2016**

	<b>Intention</b>	<b>Requested by</b>
Saturday, April 30	5 p.m. Anna Kovach †	Renty Family
Sunday, May 1	8 a.m. Peter Vietti †	Vietti Family
	9:30 a.m. Veronica, Marpa & Laura Achia †	Gina DeLa Torre
	11 a.m. Winifred Franz †	Keller Family
	12:30 p.m. Souls in Purgatory	Rosa Jaramillo
	6 p.m. St. John's Parishioners	Brazilian Community
Monday, May 2	8 a.m. Cesira Matteucci †	Gina Lencioni
Tuesday, May 3	8 a.m. Mark McEntire †	Eulalia McEntire
Wednesday, May 4	8 a.m. Esther Taylor – Healing	Taylor Family
Thursday, May 5	8 a.m. Robert Schiff †	Roberta Jewett
Friday, May 6	8 a.m. Cayetano Family	First Saturday Charismatic
Saturday, May 7	8 a.m. Juliana V. Soy	Patrick O'Reilly
	5 p.m. Flaviana J. Ramos †	Juat Family

**Stewardship**

Envelopes & EFT (111)	\$2,891
Loose Donations	<u>1,934</u>
Total Regular Collection	\$4,825
Youth Ministry	\$823
Next Weekend: Parish & School Development	

**Please remember St. John's in your will.**

**First Saturday Devotions**

Next Saturday, May 7, will be the first Saturday of the month. Therefore, we will have:

- Anointing of the Sick after the 8 a.m. Mass
- A Charismatic prayer service at 7 p.m., followed by a reception.

**Message of Stewardship**

Today's reading from Revelation offers a vision of the City of God, the new Jerusalem. "But," the bishops' pastoral on stewardship reminds us, "that 'life to come' is in continuity with this present life through the human goods, the worthy human purposes, which people foster now."



Antonia Tigert

**Novena Starts Friday**

Our annual Novena to the Holy Spirit, in preparation for Pentecost, begins at 7:30 p.m. next Friday, May 6, in St. John's Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel, next door to the church.

Please see the flyer on Page 4.

**Let Us Pray for the Sick:**

Crisostomo & Virginia Alday, Gera Assefa, Jade Austin, Evelyn Baker, Pearl & Patrick Baptiste, 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.

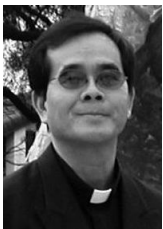
## Words from Laudato Si' (Excerpt from Pope's Encyclical)

As Benedict XVI has affirmed in continuity with the social teaching of the Church: "To manage the global economy; to revive economies hit by the crisis; to avoid any deterioration of the present crisis and the greater imbalances that would result; to bring about integral and timely disarmament, food security and peace; to guarantee the protection of the environment and to regulate migration: for all this, there is urgent need of a true world political authority, as my predecessor Blessed John XXIII indicated some years ago".

Diplomacy also takes on new importance in the work of developing international strategies which can anticipate serious problems affecting us all. – (§175)

## 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 a 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. Fr. Thuong has invited many guests for Saturday, May 21.

## 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](mailto:beng920@gmail.com), or drop them by the parish office, by May 10.

## Flores de Mayo, Saturday

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 This Sunday

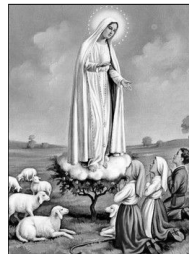
St. John's Seniors is conducting a jewelry sale this Sunday, May 1, in the Fr. John Maxwell Conference Room, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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.

## Fatima Procession

St. John's Parish is honoring Our Lady of Fatima with a monthly procession and Mass, starting on Friday, May 13.



In response to Our Lady's call for prayer, we are gathering on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May through October at 6:30 p.m. in the church to pray, process around the block while saying the Rosary, then return to the church.

That night's Novena to the Holy Spirit will take place at 7:30 in the church, and be followed by Mass. All are welcome.

## 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. May 3: Marian & Jerry

"Sing Along Leaders"

12:30: Lunch

# Come, Holy Spirit . . .

*A Novena to Welcome the Holy Spirit at Pentecost*



**7:30 p.m.**

**Friday, May 6, through Saturday, May 14**

**St. John's Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel**  
(except Friday, May 13, in the church)

- *Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*
- *Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit*
  - *Reflection & Novena Prayer*
  - *Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet*
- *Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit*
  - *Benediction*

*Sponsored by St. John's Community Groups:*

Worship & Spiritual Life  
Education & Faith Formation  
Divine Mercy Prayer Groups

Outreach & Evangelization  
Filipinos  
African-Americans  
Youth Ministry

Brazilians  
Hispanics  
Chinese  
Tongans

## CRS Response to Earthquake

On Saturday, April 16, a magnitude-7.8 earthquake struck coastal Ecuador.

As of April 20, more than 500 people had died and hundreds were still missing. The tremor caused widespread damage, not only to infrastructure, but to thousands of homes – the worst disaster the country has seen in decades.

Catholic Relief Services is collaborating with the local church and their Caritas partners on the ground to assess where to respond and determine the most urgent needs.

Please join in continued prayer for our Ecuadorian brothers and sisters facing this tragedy. For resources, in English and Spanish, to help communities pray, learn, act and give to support Ecuadorians in need, please go to [bit.ly/21d2IjX](http://bit.ly/21d2IjX).

## Thanks From ‘Get on the Bus’

Sincere thank you for your generosity to the Get On The Bus Project. Your marvelous donations totaled \$2,929.

Even with an increased number of families this year, your goodness makes it possible to take all to Chowchilla on May 6. Please keep us in your prayers for a safe and happy visit.

May God bless you and your families,  
Sincerely,  
Sr. Carmel

## Statue Coming to St. Callistus

The Pilgrim Immaculate Heart of Mary statue will visit St. Callistus Church in El Sobrante on Sunday, May 15.

It shows Our Lady’s image in her “Last Vision” as she appeared to Sr. Lucia at her convent in Spain in 1929.

The statue travels around America under the sponsorship of the World Apostolate of Fatima, USA, to spread the important Message of Fatima.

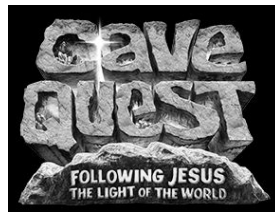


Theodore Dixon, Jr.

## Bible Day Camp June 20-24

St. John the Baptist’s 15th annual Vacation Bible Day Camp will be titled “Cave Quest.”

Your kids will be transported in our “Cave Quest,” following Jesus, the Light of the World, Monday through Friday, June 20-24.



All-Day campers \$170 are 9-5, or morning-option \$70 9-12:30 p.m. Pre-K-6th grade, junior high and high school leader-in-training options.

Online registration is available at [www.sjtbc.us/vbdc.html](http://www.sjtbc.us/vbdc.html).

Mark your calendars and set the date for the brightest and coolest week of summer.

We are working on some very special games, sports, special science experiments, service projects, tasty treats and amazing music.

It’s time for your kids to make new friends and be part of our camp community.

Questions? Call Pam Vincent at 507-8694.

## 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. next Saturday, May 7.

## Salesian Mother’s Day Brunch

Salesian College Preparatory will hold its Mother’s Day Mass and Brunch next Sunday, May 8, dedicated to the memory of the late St. John’s parishioner Connie Decuir.

The cost is \$18 adults, \$8 children, with raffle prizes and a free family portrait.

Ticket orders must be received by Monday, May 2, at 2851 Salesian Ave., Richmond, CA 94804.