Notes from Matt Gray

In the Gospel for the Fifth Sunday of Lent the raising of Lazarus foreshadows the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. It is an emotional account of friendship and love, grief and hope that reveals Jesus’ identity as the Christ, the Son of God. He raises Lazarus so that we may believe that the Father sent him. And it is through our belief that we connect our love, grief and hope to Jesus. We become one with Him. His mission becomes our mission. Those who believe will never die.

Mixed into this story are key words and phrases that tell us something about the life we are invited to live. For example, to people grieving their deceased friend, Jesus asks, “Where have you laid him?” They answer, “Come and see.” Come and see can be our words today: Jesus, come and see our sorrow and what brings us despair. Come and see our darkness and things that extinguish our hope. Come and see the binding power, the strength of our anxieties, fears, and insecurities. Jesus, I don’t feel joy. I am worn out and indifferent to so many things… Jesus come and see me as I am. Come into my heart with your love and peace and set me free.

The invitation for Jesus to come and see leads Him to the tomb and to the innermost parts of our being. That is what happens when we invite Jesus: He doesn’t stay on the periphery. He goes deep inside! At the tomb Jesus prays and then cries out, “Lazarus, come out!” Jesus is sent into the world to reveal God’s love for us. This love restores Lazarus’ life. But Jesus isn’t finished. “Untie him and let him go,” he says to the others. God’s love is the power that sets us free. Others are there to untie us. We don’t heal on our own. We are baptized into a community. We untie one another.

We untie each other by accepting others and by acting out of genuine concern for others,

(Continued on page 2)
especially those in need. We learn to untie one another at Mass, where we listen to the stories and bring all that we are to the table and allow Christ to transform us so we are able to carry out his work.

The focus is always outside our doors. We gather to be sent. We model our faith and people notice. Grounded in Jesus’ love, we do great work for others through our various organizations like the Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent DePaul and a host of other ministries from visiting the sick and the imprisoned to accompanying those who grieve the loss of loved ones.

When we are exposed to the love of Jesus, we can become the people we are called to be. We accompany others. We invite others to share in the joy that we know. What a gift it is to encourage your spouse, friend, or co-worker to deepen his or her faith by completing the Sacraments of Initiation! Or, maybe you realize that Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist are gifts waiting for you to accept now. Life touched by Jesus and lived through the lens of Gospels and the Sacraments changes everything.

Faith is contagious and it is in faith that we untie those around us. We all have friends and family members who are not religious but who feel a bit empty, perhaps without meaning or purpose. Our doors are open. We can encourage them to try the Invite 2.0 series, designed specifically for those who are not Catholic or religious but who feel a tug to something spiritual. We invite and watch the Holy Spirit unfold and enliven others to enjoy healthy and holy relationships.

We trust that God’s promise and dream for us is enough because God has already acted. As Paul tells us in today’s second reading, the Spirit of Jesus already dwells in us. And because of what has already happened through Christ, with joy and hope we do the work of Jesus to build the Tri-Valley into a holy community and to help change the world.

Much peace,

Matt

(Masses at St. Augustine)

Sunday Vigil: 5:00 PM (Saturday)
Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM
Weekday Masses: 8:30 AM Monday - Saturday
Holy Days: 8:30 AM and 7:30 PM
Eucharistic Adoration: First Fridays, following 8:30 AM Mass
Benediction: 11:30 AM
Reconciliation: Saturday: 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM (Confessions)
Weddings: 6 months preparation time required by the Diocese. Call for an interview.
Baptism: Call for an interview.

(Masses at St. Elizabeth Seton)

Sunday: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 4:00 PM and 6:30 PM
Weekdays Masses: 12:10 PM Monday - Friday
Holy Days: 12:10 PM and 6:00 PM
Eucharistic Adoration: 12:45-6:30 PM Monday and Wednesday

Parish Team
Rev. Paul D. Minnihan Pastor
Rev. Kwame Assenyoh Associate Pastor
Rev. Michael Pham Associate Pastor
Rev. Chris Renz, OP Weekend Associate

St. Augustine Church
3999 Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566
Telephone (925) 846-4489
Fax: (925) 426-5061

Deacon Richard Martin
Deacon Joseph Gourley Director of Christian Living
Michael Harmon Director of Communications
Olga Morineau Office Manager
Henry Correa Director of Life Long Learning
Nancy Schlachte Coordinator of Middle School & Intergenerational Ministries
Nicole Browne Youth Minister & Confirmation Coordinator
Kathy Works Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation & Children’s Sacraments
Sharon Hansan Secretary
Ira Stein Director of Music Ministries
Matt Gray Director of Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

St. Elizabeth Seton Church
4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588
Telephone (925) 484-5020
Fax: (925) 484-1184

Deacon Gary Wortham Director of Worship
Stephen Melander Director of Facilities
Bronco Hinek Facilities Manager
Alejandrina Fonseca Finance Manager
Marilu Radcliff Secretary
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Mass Intentions</th>
<th>Calendar of Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MON April 3</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Maurice P. Holmes</td>
<td>St. Vincent de Paul Meeting</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<td>Lent Adult Reconciliation Service</td>
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<td>TUE April 4</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Bridget Coyle</td>
<td>Al-Anon Meeting</td>
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<td>12:00 PM</td>
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<td>Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>WED April 5</td>
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<td>Thomas Northam</td>
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<td>THU April 6</td>
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<td>Robert Kinne</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<td>FRI April 7</td>
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<td>Frank Caldwell</td>
<td>First Friday Eucharistic Adoration</td>
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<td>TUE April 4</td>
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<td>Mary MacDonnell</td>
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<td>WED April 5</td>
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<td>Eva M. Pereira</td>
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<td>Evelyn Bankhead</td>
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<td>Inbae Antonio Kim</td>
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<td>SUN April 9</td>
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<td>Carolina del Carmen</td>
<td>RCIA Inquiry</td>
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<td>Steve Wilson (L)</td>
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<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>For the People</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Joni Scott &amp; Family (L)</td>
<td>Hall</td>
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Scripture Readings
April 9
Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26: 14-27:66 or 27:11-54

Stations of the Cross
St. Augustine Church
Every Friday at 7:30 PM

On April 7, we have the opportunity to share traditionally the Cross of Christ, led by different ministries such as: Legion of Mary, Women in God’s Spirit, St. Vincent De Paul, Italian Catholic Federation, Sowers (SCC); Knights of Columbus.

Dress a Girl Around the World
Saturday, April 22 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
St. Augustine Parish Hall

For more information, call Suzanne Beck at (925) 352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com.

Easter Food Baskets
The St. Vincent de Paul Conference is collecting NON-EXPIRED, nonperishable food for its Annual Easter Food Baskets for the needy in Pleasanton. Please leave your food donations in the food bins in the vestibules of each Church any time until Saturday, April 8, 2017. Canned tuna, chicken, fruit, vegetables and soup are appreciated. Cereal, snacks, packaged food mixes and dried goods such as rice, pasta and beans are also welcome. Thank you!

Employment Connections
Our focus is on where you as an individual are in your job search today. We address those issues you need direction on today and offer job search guidance, resource information, networking, inspiration and support in a safe environment. We welcome everyone in need of help with their job search to join us. Meetings are held on the 1st Monday each month at 7:00 PM in Room B at St Elizabeth Seton Church. Join our Linkedin Group: Employment Connection CCOP or contact Mike Machi at (925) 462-9765.

Ministry Of Mothers Sharing
Wednesdays - April 19 - May 31
9:30 - 11:30 AM
St. Augustine Hall - Room 8

The Ministry Of Mothers Sharing (M.O.M.S.) invites you to join other Christian mothers for a six-week spiritual workshop. Discuss topics such as self-esteem, stress, personal growth, friendships, and everyday spirituality. Childcare will be provided. For more information or to sign up visit www.catholicofpleasanton.org/moms.

Invite 2.0
The intention of Invite 2.0 is to help people explore big questions — to find a deeper sense of their spiritual side.

We invite people to explore their spirituality in a deeper way at their own pace, in their own way. We provide a safe, warm environment with experienced facilitators and an open heart. We start the 6-week program on Wednesday, April 19 at 7:30 PM at the St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK
Fe Oliver
Maria da Silva
Ricky Bunúan
Len Stout
Genevieve Giordano
Precious Domingo
Michael Foster
Espie Sorongon
Michael Meneses
Alfredo Meneses
Paul Zarcone
Kassie Lumague
Annette Langer
Danny Mitlo
Alma Anderson
Zea Hamam
Betty Bowen
Kristen Reed

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED
Isabel B. Loyola
Jerome Dow
Antonio Gamboa
Rolando NG
Benjamin Perez
Wilhelmina Perez
Cathleen Ann Miick
Celia Navarreta
Nenita Mendoza
Christine M. Andreski
Donna Copinskey
Tom Northam
Donatila Ramos
Joan O’Connor
Dominic Hy
Francisca Verderrain
Tony Lopez
Kelly Moore Paint
Parishioners, families, employees and members of the Catholic Diocese of Oakland who purchase paint through the Kelly Moore Paint Company can receive a KM Club Discount and have a portion of the purchase gifted back to the Diocese. This year Kelly Moore donated back $1,000. Please use the Diocese of Oakland Parishioners KM Club Account 605-DI4711.

Young Adult Ministry
Friday, April 21 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM
St. Elizabeth Seton Church
The Tri-Valley Catholic Young Adult Ministry is hosting a talk by The Culture Project to bring our culture to a civilization that respects life and embraces the dignity of the human person. Join us for some light refreshments afterwards.

For information contact rivalleyyam@gmail.com.
Please RSVP at: https://trivalleycatholicyoungadults.eventbrite.com.

SPRING FAITH FORMATION SERIES: The Search for Happiness

We were created for happiness. Every person yearns for happiness and the search captivates our being. We have an innate desire to be happy, and our actions are controlled by this desire. At times, we recognize and act upon that which brings us happiness. Other times the right path to happiness is in front of us but we don’t spot the signs. Join us as we discuss God’s desire and design for our happiness and the signs he places in our lives.

All Sessions At 7:00 pm
St. Elizabeth Seton Church

Week 1 - Tuesday April 18th: The Human Quest for Happiness
Week 2 - Tuesday April 25th: God’s Happiness: Is it Relative?
Week 3 - Tuesday May 2nd: Happiness through Jesus’s Teachings
Week 4 - Tuesday May 9th: Happiness / The Church & the Meaning Of Our Lives

Series Leaders: Rev. Kwame Assenyo & Henry Correa
Our Fair Trade Easter Sale is on April 1 & 2
and the products we offer comply with
Ten Principles of Fair Trade

The World Fair Trade organization has outlined ten key principles that Fair Trade Organizations must follow in their day-to-day work and carries out monitoring to ensure these principles are upheld:

Creating opportunities for economically disadvantaged producers – Fair Trade is a strategy for poverty alleviation and sustainable development. Its purpose is to create opportunities for producers who have been economically disadvantaged or marginalized by the conventional trading system.

Transparency and Accountability – Fair Trade involves transparent management and commercial relationships that deal fairly with trading partners.

Capacity Building – Fair Trade is a means to develop producers’ independence. Fair Trade relationships provide continuity, allowing producers can improve their management skills and access to new markets.

Promoting Fair Trade – Fair Trade Organizations raise awareness of Fair Trade and the possibility of greater justice in world trade.

Payment of a Fair Price – A fair price is one that has been agreed to dialogue and participation. It covers not only the cost of production but enables production that is socially just and environmentally sound.

Gender Equality – Fair Trade means that women’s work is properly valued and rewarded according to the principle of equal pay for equal work by women and men.

Working Conditions – Fair Trade means a safe and healthy working environment for producers.

Child Labor – Fair Trade Organizations respect the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as local laws and social norms to ensure that the participation of children (if any) in production processes does not adversely affect their well-being, security, educational requirements and need for play.

The Environment – Fair Trade actively encourages better environmental practices and the application of responsible methods of production.

Trade Relations – Fair Trade Organizations trade with concern for the social, economic and environmental well-being of marginalized small producers and do not maximize profit at their expense. They maintain long-term relationships based on solidarity, trust and mutual respect.

Look for these Fair Trade logos on products at Trader Joe's and Whole Foods Markets.