Jesus Lives... I can face Tomorrow!

On September 1, 2005 in the late afternoon hours, I was on one of hundreds of buses evacuating people out of New Orleans. We were stranded-and-rescued Hurricane Katrina survivors. As the buses went across the bridge over the Mississippi River, I took a final glance at the flooded city and I felt my entire life and work in New Orleans buried, under water – dead! The sense of loss of my church community felt as though I had lost everything: Katrina felt like death for me. But, since 2007, here I am once again with a Catholic Christian community, and feeling I have never been busier in a parish since Katrina: I am alive! I am out of my grave, Alleluia! So, what’s the secret that brought this change? I’d say, it is the Easter Hope that brings; it is the Hope that Christ is Risen and lives! And because he lives, I can face tomorrow.

Theologians tell us that hope is an anticipation or expectation that God will act in the future. By “active hope,” we expect that God will raise us up again. Hope is that strong expectation of God’s action, which then moves us to prepare the way for the divine. Hope is manifested in what we do to bring God’s action into reality. If God will bring me out of my grave, then this hope must show in the kind of life I now live. Jesus’s resurrection from the dead is meant to trigger hope in our living now.

Indeed, we have been prepared for the Good News of Jesus’s resurrection when, a couple
of weeks ago, we read that Jesus raised his own friend Lazarus from his grave. In that incident Jesus demanded from Martha and the people to “roll the stone away” – that was their hope! They did roll the stone, and Jesus went to work; Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. Hope in Jesus indeed is the secret of surviving any kind of loss including the biggest – the loss of life. Again and again, God has inspired hope among people of Israel. Through the prophet Ezekiel God promised, “I will open your graves and have you rise from them”. Here then, we have sufficient reason to hope in this God to raise us up from any grave, and from any losses in our lives! Like Peter in Acts of the Apostles, John, Mary Magdalene, and others, we too are witnesses of God’s power over death and all losses.

You may have lost your job, spouse to death or to divorce, family, church, personal dignity, social status, wealth, house or home, friends or loved ones, you name it. Like Lazarus you, too, are a friend of Jesus because you are baptized into Christ Jesus. And your hope that your friend Jesus will work on your behalf will result in your rising again – your restoration!

Hope in Jesus is a gift to our newly baptized, those who have joined our Christian community through initiation. They are now one with us in this hope that comes from Easter; it is the hope that Jesus lives, and so, we can face the future.

Happy Easter!

Fr. Kwame
# Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

### Mass Intentions

#### Sundat April 16
- 8:00 AM: For the People
- 10:00 AM: For the People
- 10:15 AM: For the People
- 12:00 PM: For the People

#### Monday April 17
- 8:30 AM: Leon Nacino

#### Tuesday April 18
- 8:30 AM: Ed McCracy

#### Wednesday April 19
- 8:30 AM: George Taylor

#### Thursday April 20
- 8:30 AM: James Zuchelli

#### Friday April 21
- 8:30 AM: Margaret Nwankwo (L)

#### Saturday April 22
- 8:30 AM: Alison Won

#### Sunday April 23
- 8:00 AM: Bill McCammom
- 10:00 AM: Alfonso & Louie Lopez
- 12:00 PM: Michael Wolski

### Calendar of Events

#### Sundat April 16
- Happy Easter

#### Monday April 17
- 7:00 PM: St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
- 7:00 PM: First Eucharist Parent Child Gathering
- 7:30 PM: High School Youth Group

#### Tuesday April 18
- 12:00 PM: Al-Anon Meeting
- 4:00 PM: First Eucharist Parent Child Gathering
- 7:30 PM: AMP

#### Wednesday April 19
- 7:00 PM: Military Peer Support Group Meeting

#### Thursday April 20
- 7:30 PM: Bible Study

#### Friday April 21
- 9:30 AM: Bible Study
- 11:00 AM: Al-Anon Meeting
- 6:00 PM: AA Meeting

#### Saturday April 22
- 8:45 AM: Al-Anon Meeting
- 9:00 AM: Dress a Girl Around the World
- 3:00 PM: Reconciliation
- 7:00 PM: High School Social

#### Sunday April 23
- 2:00 PM: Feast of the Divine Mercy Prayer Service & Reception

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### Mass Intentions

#### Sundat April 16
- 9:00 AM: For the People
- 11:00 AM: For the People

#### Monday April 17
- 12:10 PM: Patricia Fitzgerald

#### Tuesday April 18
- 12:10 PM: Alexander Kitchen

#### Wednesday April 19
- 12:10 PM: Amy Kennedy

#### Thursday April 20
- 12:10 PM: Vincent Fragomeli

#### Friday April 21
- 12:10 PM: Antonio Correia

#### Saturday April 22
- 9:00 AM: Richard & Elsie Palin
- 11:00 AM: Isaura Pereira
- 4:00 PM: Johnny Alcazar
- 6:30 PM: Ivy Cargill & Violet Hinds

#### Sunday April 23
- 10:15 AM: RCIA Inquiry
- 11:00 AM: Baptism Rite of Welcome
- 12:15 PM: Baptism Preparation Class 2

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**www.catholicsofpleasanton.org**  
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Scripture Readings

April 23
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

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 rivallyyam@gmail.com.

Please RSVP at: https://trivalleycatholicyoungadults.eventbrite.com.

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 signup visit www.catholicsofpleasanton.org/moms.

Dress a Girl Around the World

Saturday, April 22 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
St. Augustine Parish Hall
For information, please call Suzanne Beck at (925) 352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com.

Computer Help Needed

The Catholic Detention Ministry is seeking help to produce weekly liturgy guides in use at Santa Rita Jail in Dublin and Glenn Dyer Detention Facility in Oakland. The guides are then sent electronically to the church for printing. The work involves the use of Microsoft Publisher and Adobe Acrobat, can be done from home and averages 1-2 hours of work per month. Training will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Richard Denoix at (925) 367-5833.
VBS Needs Your Help!
Please pray about how you can be involved in VBS this year. It takes over 100 volunteers to put on our Vacation Bible School. We need adults to be crew leaders, lead the song, game and bible adventure stations. Please visit our website at www.catholicsofpleasanton.org and go to the Vacation Bible School Page for description of each of these positions or to sign up. We can’t do it without you!

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.

VBS Registration
Registration is now open for our 2017 Vacation Bible School, which will take place from 9:00 AM-12:30PM on June 19 – 23. This year’s theme is Maker Fun Factory: Created by God, Built for a Purpose. Enter a world where curious kids become hands-on inventors who discover they’re lovingly crafted by God thru Bible Discovery, Game Makers, Imagination Station, Sound Wave Sing and Play, Snack Factory, Kid Vid Cinema and a lot of other amazing stuff! VBS is open to children from age 4 through 5 grade (2016/2017 school year). Preschool spaces are limited. All registrations must be postmarked by May 13. For more information and to download a registration form, please go to www.catholicsofpleasanton.org and click on “Vacation Bible School”. Forms are also available in the Faith Formation Office.

Did you mean: Happiness With God?

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.

SPRING FAITH FORMATION SERIES: The Search for Happiness

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 Assenyoh & Henry Correa
Is there something bigger out there?  
Feel like something is missing?  
What is God’s dream for you?

We invite you to join us for refreshments and discussion about these and other big questions in a warm, safe environment.

Wednesdays, 7:30 – 9:00 PM  
April 19th – May 24th, 2017

St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel  
4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, CA  
Please RSVP to inviteyou2.0@gmail.com  
Please visit our website: invite2.org