Pastor’s Corner

My brothers and sisters,

Over these last weeks, Luke’s Gospel has focused upon self-knowledge and self-awareness – to move from narrow interest in self into service (I mentioned this in my homily at the end of July). This weekend, the scripture continues down the pathway as we focus on right service and responsible stewardship. The scripture turns to an active responsibility on our part for what is essentially God’s. We need to act accordingly. Yet oftentimes we get stuck in looking at our service in comparison to another’s.

This point of focus reminds me of a conversation I had with a parishioner one day at one of the many coffee haunts in town. He prefaced his question this way – “I’m a generous guy and I lead a good life. I’ve devoted my life to service. Then I look at those who are uncaring, cranky, angry, aloof and doing just enough to get by”. Without saying it, this gentleman believed himself superior to “cranky”, and could only discuss his service by using “cranky” as the tape measure. Even if he did not mention “cranky”, like many of us he was making that comparison on some level.

And yet we believe that in God’s eyes we are equal. Really? So I wonder – Is our belief that we are no better than others, often times, just a veiled screen? Maybe this doesn’t stand the full test of honesty. We can’t say out loud that we are better than others. After all, who wants to be seen as proud or described as arrogant? And, is

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it possible to be humble without that, too, becoming a pride-filled boast?

Maybe we need to stop comparing ourselves to each other. Because here is where we get into trouble. Relationships are severed by comparisons; trite judgments are made; the gossip begins. Instead, when we act with true humility and see ourselves as no better or worse than another, we are looking deep within... very deeply within. We can be truly humble because we know “who” and “whose” we are (I mentioned this a few weeks ago in the Sunday homily). Who are we? We are reliant and not self-sufficient. We are fearful and not too sure of ourselves. We are insecure and really not that secure; we do not want to be ridiculed but appreciated. “Whose” are we? We equally belong to God and God’s mercy.

Why mercy? Well, we are no better than another although the behavior does not always correspond. I know that Paul Minnihan needs God’s mercy as much as the greatest sinner on earth and vice-versa. However we don’t come to this by comparing ourselves to others, but by recognizing how truly lost we are when we all stand outside of God’s mercy.

It’s good to remember that we do not give life to ourselves, sustain our lives alone or redeem ourselves. The Gospel proclamation on Sunday reminds us, “For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be”. We need to place our treasure in the bank of real humble service. As servants of the Lord, we need to know how to invest properly in the Lord. Perhaps such an investment begins with humble stewardship. It’s not about being prideful or living the “pretend pious” humility. It really is at heart knowing “who” and “whose” we are. And as each of our lives paths in this life are unique, you and I are like everyone else!

Fr. Paul

(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
WEDDINGS
BAPtISMS

(Masses at St. Elizabeth Seton)
Sunday: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 4:00 PM, 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
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Telephone: (925) 846-4489 — Fax: (925) 426-5061

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Deacon Joseph Gourley Director of Christian Living
Olga Morineau Office Manager
Kathleen Works Secretary
Henry Correa Director of Life Long Learning
Nancy Schlachte Coordinator, Middle School and Intergenerational Ministries
Nicole Browne (Vacant) Youth Minister & Confirmation Coordinator
Sharon Hanson Sacramental Preparation Coordinator
Ira Stein Director, Music Ministries
Matt Gray Director, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (ROIA)

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
Alejandra Fonseca Finance Manager
Marilu Radcliff Secretary
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Mass Intentions</th>
<th>Calendar of Events</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sun Aug 7</td>
<td>Paul Schandel: For the Souls in Purgatory, For the People</td>
<td>9:00 AM Donut Sunday, 10:00 AM Baptism Preparation Class 1, Rms 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Aug 8</td>
<td>Jacob “Jack” Riccio</td>
<td>10:00 AM Confirmation Yr. 2 Parent/Teen Orientation, 7:00 PM High School Leadership Training, 7:00 PM Confirmation Yr. 1 Parent/Teen Orientation, Rms 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<td>Tue Aug 9</td>
<td>Clare &amp; Wally Scanlon</td>
<td>12:00 PM Al-Anon Meeting, 7:30 PM Finance Council Meeting, Rms 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<td>Wed Aug 10</td>
<td>Jack Wells</td>
<td>10:00 AM Confirmation Yr. 1 Parent/Teen Orientation, 7:00 PM Confirmation Yr. 2 Parent/Teen Orientation, Rms 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<td>Thu Aug 11</td>
<td>Matthew Merrigan</td>
<td>7:00 PM Knights of Columbus Business Mtg., Rms 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<td>Fri Aug 12</td>
<td>Robert Gundermann</td>
<td>11:00 AM Al-Anon Meeting, 6:00 PM AA Meeting, 6:30 PM Hispanic Prayer Group, Rms 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<td>Sat Aug 13</td>
<td>Bob Promes &amp; Francine Vitale</td>
<td>8:45 AM Al-Anon Meeting, 3:00 PM Private Reconciliation, 7:00 PM High School Social, Rms 8 Church Hall</td>
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<td>Sun Aug 14</td>
<td>Jane Cook, Charles A. Berger, Fernando Garcia</td>
<td>10:00 AM Baptism Rite of Welcome, 11:15 AM Baptism Preparation Class 2, Rms 4 &amp; 5</td>
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Scripture Readings

- August 14
  - Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10
  - Hebrews 12:1-4

Toddler Playgroup

A group of pre-kindergarten mothers are exploring the formation of a Toddler Playgroup and possibly a Catholic Story Time/Catholic Craft Activity here at CCOP. An interest list is forming. Call or text Rachelle Harmon at (408) 420-4090 or email at harmon.rachelle@gmail.com.

Military Peer Support Group

Veterans share life challenges and opportunities with other veterans the 3rd Wednesday of each month at St Augustine’s Rectory conference room from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Contact Dom Pietro for additional information at (925) 462-4665 or e-mail pietr11@comcast.net. All ages welcome.

Grief Support Ministry

Join us bi-monthly and let us accompany you on your healing journey. We meet at St. Elizabeth Seton Church the second and fourth Thursday evenings at 7:30 PM, August 11 and 25. These sessions are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. No pre-registration is necessary. For more information, please call Eleanor Flatley at (925) 846-8708.

RCIA: Come and See

Do you feel that you want to experience full initiation into the Catholic Faith? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process that adults complete to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Now is the time! Please contact Matt Gray, (925) 202-5425 or mgray@catholicsofpleasanton.org.

Save the Date - Parish Picnic

The Annual Family Picnic will be here before we know it! Save Sunday, September 25, for a fun-filled family day. The festivities will be held at the St. Augustine Hall grounds from 11:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

Stay tuned here for more details in the coming weeks! If you have questions or would like to help on the day of the picnic with set-up, tear-down and/or activities, please contact Roxanne at (925) 462-0750.

Adult Confirmation

Adults interested in preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation please contact Matt Gray at (925) 202-5425.
Giving Made Easy (GME)
Make your Arise & Build, Sunday and Special offerings via Credit Card or Checking Account.
1. Go to the CCOP website.
2. Click on Giving/Giving Made Easy.
3. Click on “Enroll and Update Account” and set up your account.

If your credit card changes, please remember to update your account information using the same login. Thank you!

Shop at Amazon.com
If you shop at Amazon.com, a percentage of your spending on almost everything you purchase can go to supporting CCOP. Simply click on the CCOP website link or bookmark it to use it every time you shop. Please see the link on the home page of the website for more information. It is a simple and easy way to support your Parish!

Faith Formation Registration
August 29, 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM
St. Augustine Parish Hall
3999 Bernal Avenue
Pleasanton, CA 94566

For more information, please visit www.catholicsofpleasanton.org and click on Learning.

Meals on Wheels
We need drivers to deliver meals to our seniors. Weekly and bi-weekly schedules are available.
For more information, please call Poonam or Victoria at (925) 931-5385.

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 ask to use the Diocese of Oakland Parishioners KM Club Account 605-DI4711.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK
Medardo Enriquez
Bertha Martin
Debra Day
Letty Jorge
Norma Jean Sjoberg
Marilyn Perotti
Lorraine Hanna
Larry Norwood
Alfred Mitchell
Camille Chabot
Tosh Sandoval
Laiken Matteson
Ana Silva
Maria Silva
Michael Gonzales
Rosemary Gerecke
Gladys Murray
Jose Alfano
Romeo Herse
Eric Martin
Patty Wiesner
Genaro Rios
Joe Holt
John Condon
Jim Barbaccia
Enzo Buscema
Grayson Blew
Priscilla Torrez

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED
Jack Wells
Patricia Hamilton Downie
Virginia Brandt
John Murray O’Neil
Fr. Michael Morris
Hernan Alvarez
Chelsea Pham
Juan Manuel Estrada Sr.

Juan Manuel Estrada Jr.
Richard McMullen
Shirley Hale
Barry Weiss
Norma Quitariano
Jose Texeira
June Gothard
Jerica Alaine Harris