Notes from Fr. Kwame

Love is the Fulfillment of the Law

Our nation is facing a lot of challenges these days. Hurricane Harvey has killed many displaced families and destroyed property in Houston. Now Hurricane Irma is looming and threatening to hit Florida and the Southeast coastal region. Our national leaders are on the edge considering the situation with North Korea. Our government just announced that it will stop protecting people brought to our country as minors – vulnerable immigrants, simply because it is “Law”. These are some of our challenges, the mishandling of which would cause immense human suffering. What should a Christian do?

Among the readings this weekend, we are told by Saint Paul, that “Love is the fulfillment of the Law.” This statement is deeply instructive for every Christian who lives in our challenging times. The Law here specifically refers to the (Ten) Commandments in the Old Testament. So, the teaching of Saint Paul (and of Christ) is that, if you want to keep the Laws, you must use love. We should not keep the Law, or any Law for that matter, that has no love in it. In other words, we must not observe laws for the sake of the laws; for that means we are robots! Keeping laws and constitutions for their own sake would lead to a society

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and an environment of wickedness, immorality, abuse, hostility, and inhumanity! We would be at odds with other nations, live selfishly, deport vulnerable “strangers”, build a wall around ourselves, respond to violence with violence, and in time, destroy ourselves.

It is in this light that Jesus says, “treat him as a tax collector.” Some might think Jesus means we must give up on them or even treat them in a wicked way if our offender refuses to repent. However, we only need to ask ourselves, how did Jesus treat tax collectors and sinners in his own life? Ah, there is the answer! With greater love, with kindness, with much more breathing space and time for the offenders to get it right. Legally, if you follow the laws, you must abandon the unrepentant; but in the Christian way, in the way of love, if someone or a situation goes rogue, that means that much more of your love is required!

Friends in Christ, let us not be confused about how we are to live in our currently challenging times. The way of Christ is hard, sacrificial, passionate, but it is clear. It is the way of love. Hence, let us pray for the courage to stand for love over and above laws, partisan politics, selfish nationalism, etc. For at the end of the day only LOVE remains!

Fr. Kwame
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MASS INTENTIONS</th>
<th>CALENDAR OF EVENTS</th>
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<td><strong>SUN</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep. 10&lt;br&gt;8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 PM&lt;br&gt;Jose &amp; Pacencia Lapitan &amp; Children&lt;br&gt;For the People&lt;br&gt;Alfred Mayer</td>
<td><strong>10:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Children's Liturgy of the Word&lt;br&gt;<strong>3:00 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Confirmation Year 1 Parent/Teen&lt;br&gt;<strong>4:30 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Confirmation Year 2 Parent/Teen&lt;br&gt;<strong>6:30 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Baptism Preparation Class 1</td>
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<td><strong>MON</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep. 11&lt;br&gt;8:30 AM&lt;br&gt;Maria DeSouza</td>
<td><strong>8:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Rosary&lt;br&gt;<strong>6:30 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Confirmation Year 1 Parent/Teen&lt;br&gt;<strong>8:00 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Confirmation Year 2 Parent/Teen</td>
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<td><strong>TUE</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep. 12&lt;br&gt;8:30 AM&lt;br&gt;Dr. Carlo and Laura Vecchiarelli</td>
<td><strong>8:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Rosary&lt;br&gt;<strong>10:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Toddler Playgroup&lt;br&gt;<strong>12:00 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Al-Anon Meeting&lt;br&gt;<strong>7:00 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Adult Choir Rehearsal&lt;br&gt;<strong>7:30 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;All My Children (AMP)</td>
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<td><strong>WED</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep. 13&lt;br&gt;8:30 AM&lt;br&gt;Maurillo Garcia</td>
<td><strong>8:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Rosary</td>
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<td><strong>THU</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep. 14&lt;br&gt;8:30 AM&lt;br&gt;Agnes Mayer</td>
<td><strong>8:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Rosary&lt;br&gt;<strong>6:30 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Knights of Columbus Business Mtg.&lt;br&gt;<strong>7:00 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Cantor Rehearsal&lt;br&gt;<strong>7:30 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Bible Study</td>
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<td><strong>FRI</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep. 15&lt;br&gt;8:30 AM&lt;br&gt;Silvestre Pantig</td>
<td><strong>8:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Rosary&lt;br&gt;<strong>9:30 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Bible Study&lt;br&gt;<strong>11:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Al-Anon Meeting&lt;br&gt;<strong>6:00 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;AA Word of Wisdom&lt;br&gt;<strong>6:00 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hispanic Prayer Group</td>
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<td><strong>SAT</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep. 16&lt;br&gt;8:30 AM 5:00 PM&lt;br&gt;Elena Go&lt;br&gt;Albert Vonstockhauser</td>
<td><strong>8:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Rosary&lt;br&gt;<strong>8:45 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Al-Anon&lt;br&gt;<strong>3:00 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Reconciliation&lt;br&gt;<strong>7:00 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;High School Youth Ministry Social</td>
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<td><strong>SUN</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sep. 17&lt;br&gt;8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 PM&lt;br&gt;Judith Merk&lt;br&gt;Charles A. Berger&lt;br&gt;Tom Northam</td>
<td><strong>10:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Children’s Liturgy of the Word&lt;br&gt;<strong>10:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Baptism Rite of Welcome&lt;br&gt;<strong>4:00 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Confirmation Year 2 Class&lt;br&gt;<strong>6:30 PM</strong>&lt;br&gt;Preparation Class 2</td>
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**MASS INTENTIONS**

| **SUN**<br>Sep. 10<br>9:00 AM 11:00 AM 4:00 PM 6:30 PM<br>Randy Csongor<br>Antonio Medina<br>Keith Rodricks<br>David Pulanco (L) | **9:00 AM**<br>Children’s Liturgy of The Word<br>**10:15 AM**<br>RCIA—Inquiry<br>**10:15 AM**<br>M.O.M.S. Bible Study<br>**11:00 AM**<br>Children’s Liturgy of The Word |
| **MON**<br>Sep. 11<br>12:10 PM<br>Mateo Matel | **11:30 AM**<br>Rosary & Angelus<br>**12:45 PM**<br>Eucharistic Adoration<br>**7:15 PM**<br>RCIA |
| **TUE**<br>Sep. 12<br>12:10 PM<br>Henry & Edna Tinges | **11:30 AM**<br>Rosary & Angelus |
| **WED**<br>Sep. 13<br>12:10 PM<br>Augusto Belisario | **11:30 AM**<br>Rosary & Angelus<br>**12:45 PM**<br>Eucharistic Adoration<br>**5:00 PM**<br>Children’s Choir Rehearsal<br>**5:30 PM**<br>Legion of Mary<br>**7:00 PM**<br>Teen Choir Rehearsal |
| **THU**<br>Sep. 14<br>12:10 PM<br>Joseph & Evangeline Leitch | **11:30 AM**<br>Rosary & Angelus<br>**7:00 PM**<br>Prayer Shawl Ministry<br>**7:30 PM**<br>Fall Grief Workshop |
| **FRI**<br>Sep. 15<br>12:10 PM<br>Brian Bouvier | **11:30 AM**<br>Rosary & Angelus |
| **SAT**<br>Sep. 16<br>9:00 AM 11:00 AM 4:00 PM 6:30 PM<br>For the People<br>Ron Silva<br>Dionisio & Amor Natividad<br>Michael Kane | **9:00 AM**<br>Children’s Liturgy of The Word<br>**10:15 AM**<br>RCIA—Inquiry<br>**10:15 AM**<br>M.O.M.S. Bible Study<br>**11:00 AM**<br>Children’s Liturgy of The Word |
Scripture Readings
September 17
Sirach 27:30-28:7
Romans 14:7-9
Matthew 18:21-35

1st Friday Eucharistic Adoration
Brothers and sisters in Christ, join us on the first Friday of the month at St Augustine from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Drop in for an hour or whatever time you have available. Eucharistic Adoration is a personal way of developing a deeper relationship with the Lord. Have a quiet time for prayers and meditations. Benediction follows Eucharistic Adoration.

Picnic Raffle Donations Needed
Do you own a business or have a company that could donate goods, services, gift cards or certificates for raffle prizes for the Parish Picnic? Raffle prize baskets will be given out at the parish picnic this year and this is a great way to spread the word about your business! Does your company give donations to organizations? We could turn that into great prizes too. If your business would like to donate, contact Nicole Browne, High School Coordinator, nbrowne@catholicsofpleasanton.org, or Lien-Thi de la Pena, Middle School and Intergenerational Coordinator, at Ldelapena@catholicsofpleasanton.org to arrange pick up or drop off. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Red Cross Blood Drive
Saturday, September 23
8:00 AM – 2:00 PM
St Elizabeth Seton Church
Red Cross Donation Bus
Please consider giving "THE GIFT OF LIFE". Every single donation will help, and potentially save the life of up to three patients, in local community hospitals. Sign up early at www.redcrossblood.org. Enter your zip code / sponsor code “CCOP” or call 1(800) 733-2767.

Sponsored by The Knights of Columbus

Ministry Sign-Ups
Ministry sign-ups for ALL CCOP ministries will take place during the month of September.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to serve our community! Signup forms can be downloaded from the parish website.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Linda Adams
Paul Miller
Steven Holt
Joe Holt
Precious Domingo
Paul Anderson
John Williams
Lydia C. Fuentes
Jeffrey Timms
Michelina Tringali
Jack Greene
Agnes Fuentes
Ginger Creeley
Baby Caleb Reyes
Nancy Silva
Patti Ross
Judy Jensen
Virginia Budesa
Helen Martin
Mary Paradiso
Louis (Rusty) Hewitson
Jean Boutte
Genevieve Giordano
Dean Discher

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Jet Vitasa
Francisco Perez
Maria DeSouza
Anna D’Ambrosio
Maria F. Goncalves
Susan Weir
Chris Misuraca
Alois Kaslin
Rodrigo Tinio
Nemesio Go
Angel Ped Suratos
Frances Phegioocca
Nancy Fogg
Francis C. Eacker
Charisssie M. Farrell
Mary Joan Blair
Howard Payne
Reme F. Pick

Save the Date!
CCOP Parish Picnic
Date: September 24, 2017
Time: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Fun for the entire family!
Need MedShare Volunteers
Please join us at MedShare on Saturday, September 16 from 9:00 AM until Noon. A group of CCOP volunteers will be sorting medical supplies at MedShare in San Leandro. MedShare provides free medical supplies to hospitals and free clinics around the world where there is great need. We're looking for 20 volunteers. For information or to volunteer, please contact Mark at menevi@sbcglobal.net or at (925) 846-1014. Thank you.
This volunteer activity is organized by the Social Justice and Outreach Committee.

Prayer Shawl Ministry
Come meet our wonderful group of women who create and donate shawls to parishioners in need. We meet the second Thursday of every month, at St Elizabeth Seton, 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Contact Gwen Foster at (925) 398-8514 or Gwenfoster34@comcast.net and/or Cleo Foster (925) 918-2986 or itzcleo@comcast.net.

Building A Bridge
How often do you get the chance to listen to and ask questions of one of today’s most prolific Catholic authors?
Thursday, September 28 at 5:00 PM in the St. Joan of Arc Multi-Purpose Room, everyone is invited to hear, and converse with Fr. James Martin S.J., Jesuit priest, world renowned author and editor at large at America Media, the national Catholic review, and a consultor to the Vatican’s Secretariat for Communication, as he talks about his most recent book, Building A Bridge, live via teleconference from New York City.
As an expansion of his acceptance speech for the News Ways Ministry’s Bridge Building Award, Fr. Martin S.J. shares how both the Church and the LGBTQ community need to treat each other with “respect, compassion and sensitivity.”
The event is sponsored by the PRISM Ministry and the Gospel Justice Group. Please send any questions for Fr. Martin S.J. or for the event to sja.lgbtq@gmail.com. A free-will offering will be taken for the benefit of the Jesuit Refugee Service.

WELCOME TO THE PARISH
Roy & Emily Alojado
Dennis & Michele Bautugan
John & Rosabel Basmadjian
Roberto Bautista & Angelica Oropeza
Ronald & Valerie Bio Helen Boyle
Val & Cheryll Cabrera
Arturo & Maria Domagas
Michael & Felicci Esteban
Daniel Flores & Irais Tellez
Jon & Veronica Fuentes
Jose Manuel & Lany Galliguez
Todd Gurney & Melinda Garcia
Jesse & Jessica Hutto
Arica Johnson
Gregg Kurek & Anna Michalak-Kurek
Martin Luevano & Maria Cruz
Gustavo Martinez & Teresa Morales
Nael A & Margie Martinez
You can put the power of faith into action and help save a life!

Parish Blood Drive
St. Elizabeth Seton Church
American Red Cross Bus
4001 Stoneridge Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94588

Saturday, September 23rd, 2017
8:00am—2:00pm

To schedule your appointment or for more information, visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: CCOP or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting redcrossblood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Identification is required.

Redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-3272 | facebook.com/redcrossblood | twitter @RedCross

Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental permission in some states), meet weight and height requirements (110 pounds or more, depending on their height) and are in generally good health may be eligible to give blood. Please bring your Red Cross blood donor card or other form of positive ID when you come to donate.