Pastor’s Corner

My brothers and sisters,

Last week, I made mention of getting back to the “Ordinary” things of life. Today, I’d like to consider another obvious yet not so obvious aspect of what should be ordinary. Wouldn’t it be amazing if generosity was something ordinary? It is, after all, part of our nature as we come from God. When I look at my lifetime, I have seen this generosity in action. From my youngest days to today, what always amazes me is the joy that I can see in the generous giver.

I witness that generosity at the Catholic Community of Pleasanton. In so many ways, I am amazed at the quiet giving that is characteristic of so many of you. What also gives me grateful pause is the motivation. It’s not just the “giving, even when that “giving” can provide you or me with benefit. There are fundamental reasons behind the generosity that reflect Christian stewardship. I want to commend you for that kind of thoughtfulness and free giving.

In my life, there are times when I am not as thoughtful and when I need to ask myself if I need to assess my giving. Oftentimes, what stalls my generosity is fear. Will I have enough

(Continued on page 2)
or what do I give up in order to give? Because of this, whether I am poor or not, I tend to work out of a sense of scarcity, fearing always that I don’t have enough, that there isn’t enough, that I can’t afford to be too generous and that I need to be careful in what I give away.

God invites us to consider reality as He made it. God is prodigal, abundant, generous and wasteful beyond our small fears and imaginations. I have never met a truly generous man or woman who didn’t say that they received more in return than they gave out. And I have never met a truly big-hearted person who lived out of a sense of scarcity. To be generous and big-hearted, we have to trust first in God’s abundance and generosity. From there, we act accordingly...

You may have noticed over the last months that the landscape at St. Augustine Church received an overhaul. There are new indigenous plantings, additional benches to create an atmosphere of welcome, drip irrigation to water appropriately and prudently. There is some statuary to come as well as we work with artists. All that was done is because of a family’s generosity. Parishioners approached me wanting to give back to the parish for all that they receive from the parish. This is a visible sign of how so many in our community exercise stewardship and generous giving. There are countless others.

You will be hearing about other families as we go forward who give quietly and with a large heart. My brothers and sisters, it’s not the amount of the gift; it’s the attitude that motivates the giver to give the gift. As we are in these “Ordinary” weeks, consider your own patterns of giving and generosity. It’s in our nature to be rather ordinary. It is in our nature to be generous and giving.

God blesses the cheerful giver...

Fr. Paul
| SUNDAY | January 21 | 8:00 AM | Raymond Cook  
         | 10:00 AM | Tina Farisato  
         | 12:00 PM | Edwin Espiritu  
         | 10:00 AM | Children’s Liturgy of the Word  
         | 4:00 PM | Confirmation Year 1 Class  
         | Room 17 | Hall |
|--------|------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|
| MONDAY | January 22 | 8:30 AM | Cynthia Irene Gibson  
         | 8:00 AM | St. Vincent de Paul  
         | 7:00 PM | Confirmation Year 1 Class  
         | Church  
         | Rectory  
         | Hall |
| TUESDAY| January 23 | 8:30 AM | Teofilo Rielo  
         | 8:00 AM | Rosary  
         | 10:00 AM | Toddler Playgroup  
         | 12:00 PM | Al-Anon Meeting  
         | 7:00 PM | Adult Choir Rehearsal  
         | Church  
         | Room 13  
         | Room 8  
         | Church |
| WEDNESDAY| January 24 | 8:30 AM | Erica Schuetz  
         | 8:00 AM | Rosary  
         | Church |
| THURSDAY| January 25 | 8:30 AM | John Palet  
         | 8:00 AM | Rosary  
         | 7:00 PM | Cantor Rehearsal  
         | Church  
         | Church |
| FRIDAY | January 26 | 8:30 AM | Joseph Banchero  
         | 8:00 AM | Rosary  
         | 11:00 AM | Al-Anon Meeting  
         | 6:00 PM | AA - Word of Wisdom  
         | 6:00 PM | Hispanic Prayer Group  
         | 6:30 PM | Spanish Eucharistic Adoration  
         | 7:00 PM | Rosary Prayer - Indian Community  
         | Church  
         | Room 8  
         | Rooms 4&5  
         | Church  
         | Church  
         | Room 17 |
| SATURDAY| January 27 | 8:30 AM | Augustine Family (L) Tony Costello  
         | 8:00 AM | Rosary  
         | 8:45 AM | Al-Anon  
         | 3:00 PM | Individual Reconciliation  
         | Church  
         | Room 8  
         | Church |
| SUNDAY | January 28 | 8:00 AM | Vincent DiPietro  
         | 10:00 AM | For the People  
         | 12:00 PM | Children’s Liturgy of the Word  
         | 10:00 AM | Confirmation Year 2 Class  
         | 4:00 PM | Room 17  
         | Hall |

| SUNDAY | January 21 | 9:00 AM | Kruthi Gannavarapu (L)  
         | 11:00 AM | For the People  
         | 4:00 PM | Garduno Galan Family  
         | 6:30 PM | John Cartago (L)  
         | 9:00 AM | Children’s Liturgy of the Word  
         | 10:15 AM | RCIA—Inquiry  
         | 11:00 AM | Children’s Liturgy of the Word  
         | Chapel  
         | Room A  
         | Chapel |
| MONDAY | January 22 | 12:10 PM | Margurite Hamilton  
         | 11:30 AM | Rosary and Angelus  
         | 12:45 PM | Eucharistic Adoration  
         | 7:00 PM | WINGS  
         | 7:15 PM | RCIA  
         | Chapel  
         | Chapel  
         | Chapel  
         | Room A  
         | Chapel |
| TUESDAY| January 23 | 12:10 PM | Arthur & Mary Theodore  
         | 11:30 AM | Rosary and Angelus  
         | 7:30PM | Bi-Monthly Grief Support  
         | Chapel  
         | Chapel  
         | Chapel  
         | Chapel |
| WEDNESDAY| January 24 | 12:10 PM | The Family of Joseph Nguyen (L)  
         | 11:30AM | Rosary and Angelus  
         | 12:45 PM | Eucharistic Adoration  
         | 5:00 PM | Children’s Choir Rehearsal  
         | 5:30 PM | Legion of Mary  
         | 7:00 PM | Teen Choir Rehearsal  
         | 7:30 PM | Invite 2.0  
         | Chapel  
         | Chapel  
         | Church  
         | Room B  
         | Church  
         | Chapel |
| THURSDAY| January 25 | 12:10 PM | Daniel N. Pereira (L)  
         | 11:30AM | Rosary and Angelus  
         | 7:30PM | Adult Education Series  
         | Chapel  
         | Chapel  
         | Church  
         | Room B  
         | Church  
         | Chapel |
| FRIDAY | January 26 | 12:10 PM | Charles Family (L)  
         | 11:30AM | Rosary and Angelus  
         | Chapel |
| SATURDAY| January 27 | 9:00 AM | Rick Delucchi  
         | 11:00 AM | Ariel & Cristina Dimakiling (L)  
         | 4:00 PM | The Family of Thao Tran (L)  
         | 6:30 PM | Liam Toscano  
         | 9:00 AM | Children’s Liturgy of the Word  
         | 10:15 AM | RCIA—Inquiry  
         | 11:00 AM | Children’s Liturgy of the Word  
         | Chapel  
         | Room A  
         | Chapel |
Scripture Readings
January 28
Deuteronomy 18:15-20
1 Corinthians 7:32-35
Mark 1:21-28

RCIA: Come and See
The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process that adults complete to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Please contact Matt Gray, (925) 202-5425 or mgray@catholicsofpleasanton.org.

Adult Confirmation
Adults interested in preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation please contact Matt Gray at (925) 202-5425, for more information.

Grief Workshop
The death of a loved one is a shattering experience. It leaves us in a state of shock, confusion, pain and sadness. You do not have to suffer alone. We invite you to participate in our Grief Support Ministry where you can heal in a safe and caring environment. Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 23, 2018, at 7:30 pm at St. Elizabeth Seton. Please call Eleanor at 846-8708 for more information. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation.

Bible Study
We resume our sessions on Thursday, February 8 at 7:30 PM and Friday, February 9 at 9:30 AM, at Saint Augustine Hall. This year, 2018, we will study The Prophets aka The Prophetic Books/Writings or simply Prophecy In The Bible. Participants and all those who would like to join us are required to purchase and read the book Introduction to the Bible: A Catholic Guide to Studying Scripture by Stephen J. Binz. This book can be purchase at a subsidized price of $7 at both offices (a limited amount is available).

Stewardship Of Treasure
December Sunday Plate Budget: $116,586
December Sunday Plate Actual: $141,267
% via On-line Giving: 25%

YTD Sunday Plate Budget: $1,630,000
YTD Sunday Plate Actual: $1,611,144
% of Budget: 99%

December A&B Receipts: $131,539.80
Total A&B Campaign Receipts: $2,580,339
Total Receipts % of $3.6M Pledge: 72%

Thank you for your Stewardship!
Click on the Giving tab of the CCOP Website to review the 2016 / 2017 Parish Financial Report

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aurea Hernandez</th>
<th>Kayla Dixon</th>
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<tr>
<td>Marilu Radcliff</td>
<td>Grace Rojas</td>
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<td>Jack Greene</td>
<td>Joe Jones</td>
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<td>Len Stout</td>
<td>Rose Salgado</td>
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<td>Ronald Shinn</td>
<td>Juliet Blake</td>
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<td>Zenaida Shinn</td>
<td>Amy Narciso</td>
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PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

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<th>John Jordan Boright</th>
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<td>Juanita D. Melejor</td>
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<td>Adriano D. Melejor</td>
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<td>Linda McDonald</td>
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<td>Toni Lynne Baptista</td>
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<td>Cynthia Gibson</td>
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Crab Feed & Silent Auction
The Knights of Columbus will be hosting the 49th Annual Crab Feed on Saturday, February 10 at St. Augustine Parish Hall. The cost will be $50 per person. Doors will open at 5:00 PM for the Silent Auction Preview and dinner will start at 7:00 PM. For tickets, please contact Tim Tuttle at (925) 487-5645 after 6:00 PM or crabfeedatCCOP@gmail.com.

14th Annual Walk For Life
This event is truly changing hearts and minds and has helped revivify the pro-life movement on the West Coast. We call for all people of good will to affirm human life and to change the perception of a society that thinks abortion is an answer. Let us stand up for life and participate in this walk.

Date: Saturday, January 27, 2018
Time: 10:45 AM - 1:30 PM
Location: Civic Center, San Francisco

The actual walk begins at 1:30pm. Please see the website for more details or contact Lou Santero at (925) 846-5124 or email lpsantero@yahoo.com.

January Adult Education
Breaking the Barrier, Building the Bridge Being Missionary Being A Christian In The Tri-Valley.

January 25: Real Joy
February 1: Bridge Building at Home, in our Parish and Around the World

Sessions are held on Thursdays at 7:30 PM at St. Elizabeth Seton Church

Invite 2.0
Is there something bigger our 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
January 24, 31
February 7, 21 and March 7
St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel
4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588
Please RSVP to inviteyou2.0@gmail.com or visit our website at invite2.org.
LENTEN SMALL GROUPS
Sharing Faith, Fellowship & Fun

Would you like to enrich your Easter experience?

Join a small group for reading and discussion during the 6 weeks of Lent.

Meetings are held in group members’ homes once a week between mid-February and late March.

Materials will be provided.

Participants reflect on readings and share how passages relate to our everyday lives. Sign-ups will be after all the Masses on Saturday and Sunday January 27 and 28.

Forms are also available at http://www.catholicsofpleasanton.org/.

For questions, please contact Rosemary at (925) 462-0867 or Sharon at (925) 462-8625.