“To know Christ better, live as He calls us to live, and make Him better known.”

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF PLEASANTON

NOVEMBER 17, 2019

THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A Note from Fr. Mark

If you were around the St. Augustine campus this week, you likely heard bolts being driven into the hall. In September, a section of the eaves on the hall fell. It fell not because of water damage, or termites, or dry rot. The nails simply let go and it fell. Upon further investigation, it was discovered all the eaves on the hall were of the same construction and could fall as well. To prevent that from happening, not only are we replacing the section that fell, but securing all the eaves. This should take about three weeks and will cost us around $60,000.00.

Next year, we will need to replace the entire skylight in the church at St. Elizabeth Seton. There is obviously a story as to why the skylight is failing after only 20 years, but the bottom line is it needs replacing. We expect the cost to accomplish this to fall between $300,000.00 and $500,000.00.

Whenever questions about our facilities come up, invariably I am asked about the “Arise and Build” capital campaign. Indeed, it’s possible I have been asked more times about “Arise and Build” than I have anything else since arriving here as pastor!

Last week, I met with the “Arise and Build” capital campaign committee. “Arise and Build” is the most recent in a series of capital campaigns the parish has held over the last two decades. Begun in 2015, “Arise and Build” was promoted as “Our campaign to Revitalize St. Augustine and St. Elizabeth Seton, Complete St. John Paul II Activity Center, and Support the Diocesan Campaign.” Its goal was to raise 10 million dollars.

I am happy to report that the third goal of the campaign, to support the Diocesan capital campaign, has been accomplished.

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As of September 30, 2019, we have $4,852,950.00 available in our “Arise and Build” accounts.

If all outstanding pledges are met, and promised gifts received, we estimate that by the end of 2020 we will have a total of $6,211,296.00.

Thank you to everyone who has been so generous and given so faithfully to the “Arise and Build” campaign.

As a community, we now have some interesting questions to consider. As time has gone by, the cost of construction and materials has continued to climb. Objectively speaking, it is not likely we can revitalize both the St. Augustine and St. Elizabeth Seton campuses, and complete the St. John Paul II Activity Center (even in its scaled back form) for $6.2 million.

Once we make it past the busyness of the holidays, the Pastoral Council and Capital Campaign Committee will start to wrestle with how we can best use the money you have entrusted to our care. We will need to consider carefully, with a decreasing active Catholic population, does the vision set out for the parish years ago still fit the parish today? Do we need the same resources we once thought we would? With buildings literally falling down around us, what “revitalizing” takes priority? With a weekly Mass attendance lower than when Seton opened in 2000, do we need, and how can we afford to maintain, two large and aging sites? We need to discern where God is leading us and what we need to do to accomplish His plan.

As I expressed to the Capital Campaign Committee, I have no answers at this time. Nothing is set in stone. What I want is to determine what will best serve, renew and revitalize our community. Obviously, this process will take a lot of prayer, imagination and listening. As the parish leadership bodies put together visions and ideas, we will have town hall meetings to solicit your thoughts and feedback. However, in the meantime, if you have some initial ideas you would like to share, please feel free to email the Pastoral Council at pastoralcouncil@catholicsofpleasanton.org.

Have a blessed week. Let us keep each other in prayer.

Fr. Mark
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass Intentions</th>
<th>Calendar of Events</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUNDAY</strong> November 17</td>
<td>8:00 AM Mike Elliott 10:00 AM Joao Caldeira 12:00 PM James Reding</td>
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<td><strong>MONDAY</strong> November 18</td>
<td>8:30 AM John &amp; Louise Kengor</td>
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<td><strong>TUESDAY</strong> November 19</td>
<td>8:30 AM Diane Allard</td>
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<td><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong> November 20</td>
<td>8:30 AM Roy Mangabay</td>
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<td><strong>THURSDAY</strong> November 21</td>
<td>8:30 AM Alls Souls</td>
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<td><strong>FRIDAY</strong> November 22</td>
<td>8:30 AM Peggy Masini</td>
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<td><strong>SATURDAY</strong> November 23</td>
<td>8:30 AM 5:00 PM Tony Costello Christian Ruge</td>
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<td><strong>SUNDAY</strong> November 24</td>
<td>8:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 PM Jane Cook For the People Maria Dolores Negrete</td>
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<td><strong>SUNDAY</strong> November 17</td>
<td>9:00 AM Demetrio &amp; Elizabeth Pulanco 11:00 AM Lancy &amp; Leah Pinto 4:00 PM For the People 6:30 PM Maria del Carmen Gutierrez</td>
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<td><strong>MONDAY</strong> November 18</td>
<td>12:10 PM Ignacio Gutierrez (L)</td>
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<td><strong>TUESDAY</strong> November 19</td>
<td>12:10 PM John Dexheimer (L)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong> November 20</td>
<td>12:10 PM Clay &amp; Katie Stromgen-Kitchel (L)</td>
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<td><strong>THURSDAY</strong> November 21</td>
<td>12:10 PM Robert Federigi</td>
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<td>9:00 AM 11:00 AM 4:00 PM 6:30 PM John Theodore Janie Roland (L) Emma &amp; Sherna Canlas Salvatore Medica</td>
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Scripture Readings
November 24
2 Samuel 5:1-3
Colossians 1:12-20

WINGS
Ministering to the Poor and Homeless
All women are invited to the next WINGS (Women in God’s Spirit) meeting Monday, November 18, to learn about Ministries to the Poor and Homeless in the Tri-Valley. Two CCOP parishioners, Roxanne Rasmussen and Chuck Deckert, will discuss their volunteer work in our community. Both Roxanne and Chuck volunteer at the Livermore Homeless Refuge. Chuck also serves the poor through St. Vincent de Paul.

WINGS meets on the first and third Mondays from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM in the Chapel at St. Elizabeth Seton Church. No registration is necessary. Just drop in. For more information, call Sandra Ryan at (925) 487-3289.

Christmas Nativity Displays
St Elizabeth Seton Chapel
Sunday, December 9, 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Participate and celebrate in the wonder of Jesus' birth started by St Francis of Assisi. Share your family traditions by bringing your Nativities Sets - simple or unique. Set up will be Saturday, December 8 from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Please contact Nancy Navarini before December 3 at (925) 640-6334 or na.navarini@gmail.com. Please pick up your nativity set by Sunday night from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Detention Ministry Toy Drive
The Catholic Detention Ministry is collecting toys for the children of parents incarcerated at Santa Rita Jail. The toys are for children ages 0-12 and need to be NEW and UNWRAPPED. There will be bins in the vestibules of both churches. The bins will be picked up on Wednesday, December 18 (last day for donations) and brought to the jail. The children will be getting the toys the weekend of December 21 and 22. For more information, please contact Matt Gray at (925) 202-5425. Thank you for your generosity.

Pilgrimage With Fr. Fili
Fr. Fili is leading a pilgrimage to Mexico, visiting the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Plaza of the 3 Cultures, Metropolitan Cathedral, Tulpetlac, San Juan de Teotihuacán and many other locations. For more information, please see the website or email Fr. Filiberto at fbarrera@catholicsofpleasanton.org.

Prayers for the Sick
Evie Graziadei
Maria Theresa Matias
Cris Annen
Tracy Hart
Hileo Pavia
Octavio Martinez
Rev. Ray Zielezienski
Kyle Maas
Leticia Sarcia-Pascual
Mike Murtagh
Pete San Juan
Zachary Yu
Juliet Blake
Kaden Koopmann

Prayers for the Deceased
Frank Shenave
Juanita Flores
Joseph DiGiallonardo
Larry O’Neill
Marco Ortega
Jose Hizon, Sr.
John Benson
Edward Gonzales
Peggy Hansen
Veronica Layer-Keefe
Richard Dupre
Winifred Fesler
William Higgins
Rusty Hewitson

Our Lady of Guadalupe
December 12
The Hispanic Ministry invites you to celebrate an important day honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe! Celebrations will take place at St. Augustine & St. Elizabeth Seton Church
• 6:00AM: Serenade to Our Lady of Guadalupe
  St. Augustine Church
• 6:00PM: Bilingual Mass with Mariachi
  St. Elizabeth Seton
• 7:00PM - 8:30PM: Light refreshments at
  John Paul II Activity Center
There are more ways to help!

76 families left
We have 76 Giving Tree families left to be adopted. We have split some of the larger families. If you are part of a group, please consider adopting a larger family.

Wish list specialty items
Take a look at the items on the parish website homepage and consider selecting an item that adopted family members have on their wish lists. Deliver the purchased (or very gently used) item to the Rectory garage during the posted collection hours. It will be matched to someone who has requested that item, and has not received it. Deadline is Saturday, December 7th.

Return all (wrapped & bagged) gifts to the Rectory garage
- Between Saturday, November 30th - Saturday, December 7.
- Read the date on your envelope and instructions carefully.

Delivery day volunteers needed!
- Sunday, December 8th
- Help us pack-up and send off gifts for the 400 families CCOP serves! Drivers are needed!

If you are interested in helping with any of these activities, please contact Roxanne Rasmussen at roxanneras@gmail.com.

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference is collecting non-expired, non-perishable food for its Annual Thanksgiving Food Baskets for the needy in Pleasanton. Please leave your donations in the food bins located in the vestibules of each church any time until Saturday, November 23. Items such as packaged food mixes and dried goods (rice, pasta, beans) are appreciated. Also welcome are cereals, sandwich spreads, and other pantry staples (such as flour, cooking oil, condiments and broth). St. Vincent de Paul will purchase turkeys or hams and fresh fruit for our client families. The Knights of Columbus will deliver the food baskets. Volunteers are also needed to pack the Thanksgiving baskets on Sunday, November 24 at 8:00 AM at St. Augustine Hall. This is a fun, family friendly packing event. Thank you for your generosity!
The Fog City Singers present barbershop, folk, and choral music at our Fall Concert on November 23, exploring the human tendency to look into the heavens and wonder, "What's up?"

From Georgian chants in the 9th century to Catholic chants in the 12th, from Hindu mysticism in the East to Galilean skepticism in the West, from lunar jazz on the air to starry poetry on the page—this concert joins Sacred with Secular in a flight to the death, and beyond.

WHERE: St. Augustine Church
3999 Bernal Avenue
Pleasanton

DATE: Saturday, November 23

TIME: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets are $10 - $20 and are available through Eventbrite and at the door. Please visit www.fogcitysinglers.com for tickets.