Pastor’s Corner

My brothers and sisters,

As we enter 2016, I want to wish you a blessed New Year. Recently, Pope Francis offered this prayer to his co-workers in ministry. He cited an Archbishop of Detroit who offered this some years ago; I want to offer it to our parish family as we go about the ministry of Jesus who is mercy. Let this be our horizon for 2016. I want to thank you for all you do for our parish and for what we will do together in 2016!!! We are stewards and care providers. The Catholic Community of Pleasanton belongs to Jesus.

Every now and then it helps us to take a step back and to see things from a distance. The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is also beyond our visions. In our lives, we manage to achieve only a small part of the marvelous plan that is God’s work. Nothing that we do is complete, which is to say that the Kingdom is greater than ourselves. No statement says everything that can be said. No prayer completely expresses the faith.

(Continued on page 2)
No Creed brings perfection.
No pastoral visit solves every problem.
No program fully accomplishes the mission of the Church.
No goal or purpose ever reaches completion.
This is what it is about.
We plant seeds that one day will grow.
We water seeds already planted, knowing that others will watch over them.
We lay the foundations of something that will develop.
We add the yeast which will multiply our possibilities.
We cannot do everything, yet it is liberating to begin.
This gives us the strength to do something and to do it well.
It may remain incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way.

It is an opportunity for the grace of God to enter and to do the rest.
It may be that we will never see its completion, but that is the difference between the master and the laborer.
We are laborers, not master builders, servants, not the Messiah.
We are prophets of a future that does not belong to us.

Gratefully,

Fr. Paul
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<tr>
<th>ST AUSTIN</th>
<th>MASS INTENTIONS</th>
<th>CALENDAR OF EVENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUN Jan 3</td>
<td>8:00 AM For The People</td>
<td>9:00 AM Donut Sunday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:00 AM Sy Unpingco</td>
<td>Rooms 4 &amp; 5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00 PM Begonia De Leon (L)</td>
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<td>MON Jan 4</td>
<td>8:30 AM Jesus Porras</td>
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<td>4:30 PM Children’s Spanish Choir Practice</td>
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<td>7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:30 PM High School Youth Group</td>
<td>Room 8 Rectory Rooms 4, 5, 16 &amp; 17</td>
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<td>TUE Jan 5</td>
<td>8:30 AM Peggy Smith</td>
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<td>12:00 PM Al-Anon Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>7:30 PM AMP Middle School Youth Group</td>
<td>Room 8 Church Hall</td>
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<td>WED Jan 6</td>
<td>8:30 AM George Bertrand</td>
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<td>9:00 AM Donut Sunday</td>
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<td>10:00 AM RCIA Inquiry</td>
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<th>STELZ</th>
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<tr>
<td>SUN Jan 3</td>
<td>9:00 AM Frederick &amp; Evelyn McNulty</td>
<td>10:00 AM Donut Sunday</td>
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<td>11:00 AM Eugene Patrick Jones</td>
<td>Vestibule</td>
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<td>4:00 PM Ramon Iniguez</td>
<td>Room A</td>
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<td>6:30 PM Ivy Cargill &amp; Violet Hinds</td>
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<td>MON Jan 4</td>
<td>12:10 PM Margurite Hamilton</td>
<td>12:10 PM Eucharistic Adoration</td>
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<td>12:45 PM Employment Connections</td>
<td>Chapel</td>
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<td>7:00 PM WINGS Meeting</td>
<td>Room B JP II Center</td>
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<td>7:00 PM RCIA</td>
<td>Room A</td>
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<td>7:15 PM Adult Confirmation</td>
<td>Room A</td>
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<td>TUE Jan 5</td>
<td>12:10 PM Kyongho Joseph Lee</td>
<td>7:00 PM Spiritual Life: Centering Prayer</td>
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<td>7:00 PM MOMS Prayer &amp; Meditation</td>
<td>Chapel</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Room B</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED Jan 6</td>
<td>12:10 PM Audrey Ann Da Costa</td>
<td>12:45 PM Eucharistic Adoration</td>
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<td>12:45 PM Children’s Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>5:00 PM Legion of Mary</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>5:30 PM Teen Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>THU Jan 7</td>
<td>12:10 PM George Fargis</td>
<td>7:30 PM January Adult Formation Series: Week 1</td>
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<td>7:30 PM Mercy Out of Bounds: CCOP Encounters the Redeemer</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>FRI Jan 8</td>
<td>12:10 PM John Gilchrest</td>
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<td>SAT Jan 9</td>
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<td>SUN Jan 10</td>
<td>9:00 AM For The People</td>
<td>10:15 AM RCIA Inquiry</td>
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<td>11:00 AM Ron Silva</td>
<td>Room A Chapel</td>
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<td>4:00 PM Angela Shubic</td>
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<td>6:30 PM Mary Vranesh</td>
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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 at 11:30 AM.

Grief Workshop
Join us bi-monthly at St. Elizabeth Seton at 7:30 PM, on the following dates:

- January 12 and 26
- February 11 and 25
- March 10

No pre-registration is necessary, but if it is your first night attending, please arrive early to check in. These sessions are open to all. Please call Nancy at (925) 846-9543 for more information.

Women In God's Spirit (WINGS)
Monday, January 4, 2016, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Pope John Paul II Activity Center
Women of all ages are invited us for the start of our Winter Season of New Evangelization: Invitation to seek Christ in all. Our speaker, Nancy Jokerst, will talk about Bringing Something of God's Dream to Birth in Our Lives. Please bring a friend to share this faith-filled evening. The remaining dates for the Winter Season are January 25, February 1, February 22, and March 7.

Dress a Girl Around the World
Our next Sew-Fest is Saturday, January 9, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at St. Augustine Hall. Bring your sewing machine or serger, iron and ironing board, scissors, along with your helping hands, and we will put you to work. You can come for as long as you want, an hour or all day. Please bring a bag lunch if you plan to stay all day. We always accept colorful cotton fabric donations. If you cannot make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, please contact us for kits that you can sew from home. If questions, please contact Suzanne Beck at (925) 352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com.

Open Heart Kitchen Benefit Concert
Sunday, January 24, 2016, 7:00 PM
Jim and Jean Strathdee will perform a concert of uplifting music to benefit Open Heart Kitchen on January 24, 7:00 PM, at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Avenue, Pleasanton. This concert celebrates the 50th Anniversary Jubilee Year at the Pleasanton church. Tickets are available at the church office or by calling Mary Ellen Huey at (925) 485-1795, $10 in advance and $15 at the door. All proceeds will go to Open Heart Kitchen.

The Annual Knights of Columbus Crab Feed and Silent Auction
Saturday Evening, February 27, 2016
Tickets will be on sale soon!
For more information, please contact Tim Tuttle at (925) 487-5645 or crabfeedatccop@gmail.com
Rick Aguiar Social Justice Advocate Award
The Social Justice and Outreach Committee annually seeks to identify a member of our local community who is committed to the issue of Social Justice. Nominees should be individuals who are actively working to achieve a more just and compassionate world.

The nominee does not necessarily have to be a member of our parish or a Catholic. The recipients of this award are recognized not just to honor them but to give us all an example of the ways in which each of us can do Christ’s work for the poor and disadvantaged of our world.

Nominations should be submitted to socialjustice@catholicsofpleasanton.org or by dropping them off at either church office. Recipients of this award will designate a charity to receive a $500 grant.

Thank you!
As a community of the faithful, you were generous in purchasing handcrafts valued at $2,912. We are very grateful for your hospitality and support, you helped spread hope for a better future to hundreds of disadvantaged people throughout the world.

Can You Sew?
Our RCIC (RCIA for 7 – 17 year old kids and teens) is in need of seven more baptismal robes for the Easter Vigil. Easter is early this year so it’s important that the robes be completed soon. The design is straightforward and simple. We will supply the pattern and the material.

If you can help by making even one or two of the robes, please contact me as soon as possible at pmorgan@catholicsofpleasanton.org or (925) 474-2773. Thank you! Pat Morgan.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter
February 26–28 or August 5–7
For information contact Ray and Roberta at (916) 806-4601 or Joe and Sue at (925) 680-7767 or go to oaklandwwme.org.
JANUARY ADULT EDUCATION SERIES
ST. ELIZABETH SETON CHURCH
Thursdays at 7:30 PM

MERCY BEYOND BORDERS:
CCOP ENCOUNTERS THE REDEEMER
January 7 and 14
Presented by Fr. Paul Minnihan

CHURCH 2.0: WHO WOULD YOU INVITE?
January 21, 2016
Presented by Church 2.0 Planning Group

THE HEART OF MERCY AND FELLOWSHIP
January 28, 2016
Presented by Small Christian Communities