Pastor’s Corner

My brothers and sisters,

Happy Pentecost!!! The gifts of the Holy Spirit are ours. Enlivened and emboldened by those gifts, we are sent... but to do what? There’s a lot of talk today about New Evangelization. What is New Evangelization? It is taking a fresh look at the same gifts of the Holy Spirit that have been born in every age.

Millions of people are Christian in name, come from Christian backgrounds, are familiar with Christianity, believe that they know and understand Christianity, but no longer practice that faith in a meaningful way. They’ve heard of Christ and the Gospel, even though they may not actually know and understand as much as they think they do. No matter. Whatever their lack of an understanding of a faith they no longer practice, they believe that they’ve already been evangelized and that their non-practice is an examined decision.

It is incumbent upon us to ask this gem of a question – How do we try to Christianize someone who is already Christian? How do we make the Gospel fresh for those for whom it has become stale? How do we help people to look at the familiar until it looks unfamiliar again?

There are no simple answers. It’s not as if we haven’t already been trying to do that for more than a generation. Life seems to get busier and busier, creating anxiety around faith. Not sure what to do, we might be wringing our hands. Anxious parents have been trying to share faith

(Continued on page 2)
with their children. Anxious parish leaders have been trying to do that with fellow parishioners. I ponder this question regularly as your Pastor. What more might we be doing?

At the Catholic Community of Pleasanton, each and every one of us should reflect on how we attract others to the faith. Because of Pentecost, we are sent out with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Faith can no longer be a private affair. At the parish, we will be launching our new ministry later in the year to gather those who want to mature in their faith development. It is intended, in part, for the seekers and the uncertain. In addition, we will be looking at the current ways in which we evangelize, such as small Christian Communities and Returning Catholics. Adult education will also take on new life as we look at expanding opportunities in 2017.

For now, as we celebrate Pentecost, let us use the gifts of the Holy Spirit toward the following: First, we are sent. Go out to the whole world and make disciples. Second, we need to preach in action and words. Third, we need to live joy and sacrifice, not convenience. Fourth, we need to witness respect, charity, graciousness and - - most notably today - - mercy. This might seem to be a tall order and if left to our own designs, this would be impossible. But remember... the same Spirit and the same Lord is inspiring you and me to do this. Because of Pentecost, we can engage in a new evangelization.

Blessings in the Spirit,

Fr. Paul
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<th>Mass Intentions</th>
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<td>8:00 AM Aron Perry</td>
<td>12:00 PM Flores de Mayo Procession</td>
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<td>10:00 AM Charlotte Champlin</td>
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<td>12:00 PM Maria Helena Pinheiro</td>
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<td>8:30 AM Alfredo Vita</td>
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Visitation of Our Lady of Fatima

The statue of the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady of Fatima will visit CCOP on Tuesday, May 24th and will be available for silent veneration from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM in St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel.

The statue is an image of the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady of Fatima as she appeared in 1929 to Sister Lucia in Tuy, Spain. It was during this apparition that Our Lady asked for the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart. The Statue was blessed by Pope Francis at the Vatican on October 23, 2013 and has since been visiting parishes all over the U.S.

20 Volunteers Needed

Please join us at MedShare on Saturday, May 21st from 9:00 am until noon to sort 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. For information or to volunteer, please contact Mark at menevi@sbcglobal.net or at 846-1014. Thank you.

Organized by Social Justice and Outreach
Co-sponsoring a Refugee Family!

Recently we wrote about the plight of refugees and Pope Francis’ call for us to alleviate their situation. CCOP has agreed to co-sponsor a refugee family with Catholic Charities of the East Bay (CCEB). We are second on the list to receive a family, which may be as early as the end of May. CCEB will provide certain support. We will assist in many ways, including setting up an apartment, stocking the pantry, raising funds for expenses, etc. We need many hands and hearts to properly welcome and support the family. If you wish to be involved, please contact Mark Kotch at (925)989-1581 or Dan Hughes at (925)462-0481. For more information, please see the parish website, Living tab.

A Note Regarding Housing – We prefer to place our refugee family as close to us as possible. If you can assist with access to affordable housing in the Tri-valley, please contact Mark or Dan.

Cemetery Spring Promotion

Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services is offering a discount on Pre-need cemetery and funeral packages now thru June 30.

This promotion applies to the cemeteries at St. Augustine, St. Michael and the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland. For more information, please call Frank Draschner at (925) 784-6666.
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Natalie Aires
Marcos Aldaz
Alexis Armendariz
Aliyah Armendariz
Andre Armendariz
Anthony Armendariz
Nicole Armstrong
Karina Badger
Rachel Beranek
Adam Bernhard
Rylan Betker
Juanse Blanco
Tyler Bodensteiner
Daniel Borsody
Drew Boyer
Lauren Brockett
Jonathan Brooks
Anna Brown
Lucas Bryant
Justin Buress
Lauryn Burguillos
Jonathan Cannon
Eliana Caro
Luke Carter
Christiana Cook
Rylee Costello
Lucia Cruz
Danny DeMattei
Daryl Dimazana
Derek Dimazana
Aimee DuBos
Alex Enriquez
Katelyn Espino
Aidan Foley
Jack Fowler
Marinna Gagnon
Aimee Girod
Ava Glafkides
Elijah Graham
Jason Gutierrez
Olivia Halim
Philippa Haney
Sophia Hansen
Brandon Hanson
Peyton Hasty
Isabella Hermann
Miriana Hernandez
Grant Hoenninger
Kaitlyn Huff
Santiago Jeri
Tanya Johnson
Victor Kardasz
Penelope Keenan
Gianna Kim-Paik
Colin Kirschner
Natalie Knosp
Joseph Krill
Audrey Ku
Claire Kunich
Ashley Lane
Christina Lee
Anson Liptak
Olivia Lopez
Eoin MacGearailt
Pedro Magalhaes
Vincent Maiorana
Jayne Masucci
Lily McCoy
Rachael McGlynn
Avery McHugh
Angela Micco
Collin Miller
Vivian Miller
Matteo Minnite
Malakai Mollat
Christian Morales
Alex Morgan
Mateo Murphy
Ethan Nguyen
Y-thien Nguyen
Eli Pangelinan
Samantha Nissen
Veronica Pascual
Devon Price
Sean Puzder
Alexander Raj
Elizabeth Ralston
Sophia Rodriguez
Tyler Rogers
Thomas Sanchez
Emma Saroukhankoff
Edward Seeger
Tyler Senner
Carys Shannon
Sophia Simone
Natasha So
Sam Souza
Ashley Srouji
Christopher Temple
Celicia Thendean
Tessa Thomas
Trevor Thomas
Josh Thompson
E.J. Thomsen
Kurtis Thomsen
Kristine Tiamzon
Breelyn Tong
Kirsten Tumpalan
Kylie Van Horn
Nicolas Vargas
Caleigh Venzon
Jeri Venzon
Grace Villaneuve
Adam Vincent
Callie Wheeler
Lexie Windsor
Roma Witowski
Ashlyn Wittmer