

RECTOR'S THOUGHTS...

TRINITY...THE "NOW AND ALWAYS" NORMAL



In a recent TV interview, Robin Roberts host of Good Morning America, asked Kevin Johnson, CEO of Starbucks Coffee Company, about the planned reopening of the company's stores. She asked Mr. Johnson to talk about the "new" normal. Mr. Johnson preferred to characterize the event as the "now" normal, emphasizing hope and expectation in the rapidly changing world of COVID-19.

For the first half of the Church Year...from Advent Sunday until Ascension Day...we experience through the Liturgy the specific events surrounding the life of Jesus. We try to place ourselves in those events...as participants...not as spectators. On Pentecost...we were empowered by the Holy Spirit to spread the Good News about Jesus to the World.

We're now entering the "now" normal Trinity Season that takes up the second half of the Church Year. The Liturgical Color of the Trinity Season is green...symbolizing Spiritual growth. From now until Advent Sunday 2020 when we start the Church Year all over again...we take what we have learned and apply it to our daily lives.

While we remain sheltered-in-place...our faith which sustains us during these trying times is dynamic...not static. We will have many opportunities over the next few months for introspection...to reflect on how the Trinity is active in our daily lives:

- God the Father created us and loves us
- God the Son died for us and redeemed us
- God the Holy Spirit empowers and enables us to believe and take action

We don't need to understand...indeed we can't fully understand during this lifetime...the mystery of the Holy Trinity. What we do know is we are caught up in the love that exists between the three persons of the Trinity...and our dynamic faith compels us to share that love with others in whatever circumstances we find ourselves.

The Greek word *Agape* is the word Jesus himself uses to describe Christian love when he answers the question

"What is the Greatest Commandment?"...which we hear summarized at the beginning of every Mass.

Agape is the highest form of love...the love of God for man and the love of man for God. Christian love must be universal and transcend emotions. *Agape*...Christian love...is defined by ACTION. Christian love must always be selfless, active and outward reaching...especially in these "now" times.

Jesus exemplifies the most perfect example of *Agape*...Love. He shared his love with those who walked with him 2000 years ago. He continues to bless us with his love today.

It's Trinity Season...let God's love for us and our love for him translate into our love for others...let's make that the "now and always" normal as we continue to navigate this season of personal and Spiritual growth.

Father Craig Looney+

SUNDAY IN PERSON MASS RESUMES 14 JUNE

SAN MATEO COUNTY ORDER NO. C19-5E APPENDIX C-1 (REVISED) PERMITS CHURCHES TO REOPEN FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES EFFECTIVE 1 JUNE 2020. SAINT JOSEPH PARISH WILL RESUME IN-PERSON MASS AT 9:00 AM ON SUNDAY, 14 JUNE, WITH PROTOCOLS IN PLACE COMPLIANT WITH STATE AND COUNTY ORDERS.

LIVE STREAMING SUNDAY MASS...



We've have been live-streaming the Sunday Mass from Saint Joseph Parish. The Mass is available for viewing at 10:00 AM PST on the Parish's Facebook page. Below is the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/saintjosephparishacc/>

The Sunday Mass will be live streamed on Sunday, 7 June, after which live streaming will be discontinued in anticipation of re-opening the parish for in-person Mass on Sunday, 14 June.

MANDY GRACE GOES TO MASS...



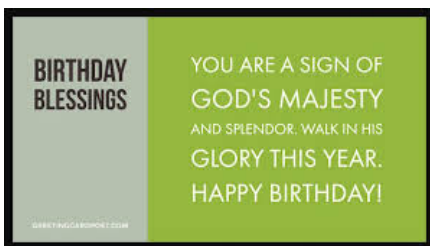
We do love our pets...and for cat lovers the photos above are priceless. Mary Fleck and her cat Mandy Grace "go to Mass" on the First Sunday after Easter...virtually. They are participating in the live stream Mass from Saint Mary Magdalene ACC in Orange CA. The Rector, Father Neil Edlin, is visible on screen in the background. Thank you Mary for sharing these photos and thank you Father Neil for your excellent Mass and instructional videos.

NEW RED SUPER- FRONTAL...



The beautiful red super-frontal that decorated our High Altar for the first time on Pentecost is a gift to the Parish from Rebekah Shapiro. Thank you Rebekah.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS...



Saint Joseph Parish has a long-time tradition of giving birthday blessings on the first Sunday of the month. We will transfer June birthday blessings to Sunday, 14 June, when we will resume in-person Masses.

VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS...



A Virtual Vestry Meeting (Zoom) was held at 11:00 AM on Sunday 31 October. Prior to the meeting we enjoyed a Virtual Coffee Hour.

Clerk of the Vestry, Marcia Rayher, presented the Minutes of the January and March Vestry meetings. They were approved as presented.

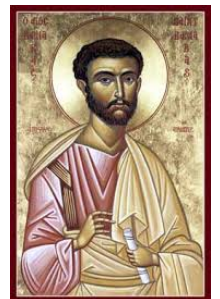
Treasurer, Candyce Francis, presented the financial reports. She reported Pledge Income is on target. Father Looney noted parishioners continued to send in contributions in spite of temporary suspension of in-person Masses. Candyce reported Plate Income and Gifts and Memorials are also above budgeted amounts. Total Income YTD is about 10% over budgeted amount and Total Expenses YTD is slightly below budgeted amount.

Father Looney reported there has been positive response to the Facebook Mass in spite of the occasional "technical glitch". He said he forgot to turn on the camera for Mass on Pentecost. Viewers were able to participate from the reading of the Gospel.

The focus of the second half of the meeting was the re-opening of the Parish to in-person Masses. Rebekah Shapiro gave recommendations and there was extensive discussion about protocols that must be adhered to when Sunday Mass resumes. A letter will be mailed to all parishioners so they will know what to expect.

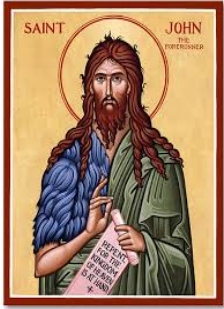
JUNE AND JULY HOLY DAYS...

Saint Barnabas, born Joseph, is identified in Acts 4.36 as a Cypriot Jew. Named an Apostle in Acts 14.14, he was given the name Barnabas, a patronymic meaning "son of consolation", by the other disciples. He may have been a cousin of Mark the Evangelist. When Saint Paul arrived at Jerusalem after his conversion, the disciples were afraid of him...it was Barnabas who mediated. Barnabas accompanied Paul on two of his missionary journeys, parting company with him on the second journey over a disagreement about including Mark in the mission. They later reconciled. Barnabas went to Cyprus where he was martyred. Barnabas is the Patron Saint of Cyprus and invoked as a peacemaker. His feast day is 11 June.



JUNE AND JULY HOLY DAYS

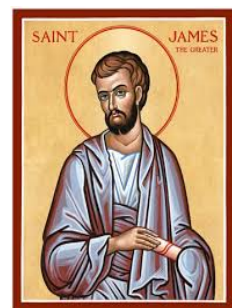
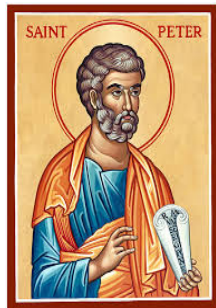
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John the Baptist was the son of Zechariah, a Temple priest, and Elizabeth, a cousin of Mary the mother of Jesus. John probably knew about Jesus from childhood and it is likely they spent some time together growing up. John began his mission in about 24 AD preaching repentance and baptizing people in the Jordan River. John's passionate

preaching is reminiscent of the great Old Testament Prophets Isaiah and Malachi. He is called John the Forerunner in Eastern Christianity, since he announces the arrival of the Messiah. In Matthew 17.11-14, Jesus says John fulfills the prophecy Elijah would precede the coming of Messiah. John plays a pivotal role in pointing to Jesus as the promised Messiah. In Saint John 1.29, he calls Jesus the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world". John the Baptist was murdered by Herod Antipas in about 26 AD. The Nativity of John the Baptist is observed on 24 June.

Simon Peter was one of the privileged inner-circle of Jesus' disciples. He was born Simon bar-Jonah (Simon, son of John) in Bethsaida and was a fisherman by trade. He and his brother, Andrew, worked for James and John and their father, Zebedee. He was largely illiterate. In the dialogue in Matthew 16.13-19, Jesus asks Simon bar-Jonah what he thinks of him. Simon replied, "You are the Christ." Jesus tells him this truth was revealed to him by God and calls him Cephas (Petros) (Peter), and said "upon this rock, I will build my Church, and the gates of Hell will not overcome it." After Jesus' death, Peter becomes the leader of the Jerusalem Church. In the Gospels and Acts he is always first in the list of Apostles. According to tradition, Peter was martyred in Rome circa 64-67 AD, crucified upside-down at his request. His feast day is 29 June.



Saint James (the Great) was the son of Zebedee and Salome and brother to Saint John. They were partners in the fishing business with Peter and his brother Andrew. Like Peter, James belonged to the privileged inner-circle of Jesus' closest friends. They were witnesses to the raising of Jairus' daughter and the Transfiguration. They were in the

Garden of Gethsemane with Jesus when he was arrested. Jesus called James and his brother John "Boanerges"... "Sons of Thunder"...because of their fiery tempers. Legend holds he preached for a time in Spain and

he is the Patron Saint of Spain. According to Acts 12.1-2, Herod Agrippa had James arrested and executed by the sword. He was the first of the Apostles to die for the Faith. His feast day is 25 July.

INDEPENDENCE DAY...



We will observe Independence Day, Saturday, 4 July, with a Service of Morning Prayer and brief Homily at 10:00 AM in the Church. Please join us as we thank God for the liberties we cherish which our forefathers won for us.

BACKYARD BARBECUE...



We're having a backyard BBQ! Mark your calendars for Saturday 25 July and join us for an all-parish BBQ in the Saint Francis Garden...commencing at 12:00 Noon. Wear a hat and sunscreen is highly recommended.

The parish will supply hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs and all the condiments. Please sign up and bring snacks, chips, salads or desserts. And...bring a friend or neighbor.

CALL PRIMROSE...



We are still not collecting non-perishable food or other items for CALL Primrose at this time. CALL Primrose also states on their website they are not accepting contributions of non-perishable food or other items until further notice. They are, however, accepting financial donations, so they may continue to support community members in need. If you wish to make a financial contribution to CALL Primrose...please send your check directly to them:

CALL Primrose
139 Primrose Rd
Burlingame CA 94010

BOOK REVIEW

BY FATHER CRAIG LOONEY...

Thorlak of Iceland: Who Rose Above Autism to Become Patron Saint of His People chronicles the life of the boy who would become the Sixth Bishop of Skalholt, the southernmost of Iceland's two dioceses at the time. On 14 January 1984 he was canonized by Pope John Paul II and declared the Patron Saint of Iceland.



The author, Aimee O'Connell, is a wife, mother, certified school psychologist, and a person with Autism. The book and her work are directed primarily to help those with Autism. She sees her specialized ministry as reaching out to others..."for all hearts who hunger to be known for who they are (...that is to say, all hearts)."

Thorlak Thorhallsson was born in 1133 to an impoverished agrarian family. The author describes him as "a child prodigy treated as an adult by those around him, a sorrowful boy from a broken home, a scholar of the emerging theology of merciful love, an innovator in pastoral leadership, and a man who understood the fundamental need to love and be loved."

The economy of 12th Century Iceland was based on farming and fishing. Families were organized around clan lords and chieftains who wielded immense power over politics and the Church. Parish churches were built on land they owned. In many cases, parish priests were installed only after agreeing to arranged marriages with their patrons' daughters. Most clergy in Iceland at this time were married.

Unable to provide for his family, Thorlak's father, arranged for his wife and two daughters to work as servants of a distant relative with considerable land, in exchange for allowing Thorlak to enter the school run by the priests at Oddi. The priests were known as holy and devout men.

During his time at Oddi, Thorlak developed an intense spirituality and personal austerity far beyond his youth. His wisdom and common sense impressed his mentors. He was ordained a deacon at age 14 and a priest at age 18. These disciplines of Throlak's formative years would carry him throughout his life.

Thorlak furthered his studies at the Augustinian Abbey School of Saint Victor in Paris, France. Thorlak was deeply affected by the spirituality of the community. He brought this spirituality back with him to Iceland.

In 1178, Thorlak was consecrated the Sixth Bishop of Skalholt. He set about to reform the Church in Iceland along Augustinian lines and established a Priory of Canons Regular. He sought through gentle persuasion and use of reason to shift the Church in Iceland away from the lay patronage of clan leaders. His efforts were only partially successful.

Thorlak's spiritual self-discipline and austerity had a profound affect on his health. He slept and ate little, spending many hours each day in prayer and fasting. Thorlak died the day before Christmas Eve, 23 December 1193, at age 60.

This book is the true story of a gifted boy who overcame enormous physical challenges. While the life of Thorlak of Iceland will inspire those with Autism to overcome obstacles and be who they are, it is a compelling story for anyone seeking hope and redemption and spiritual renewal in challenging times.

Thorlak of Iceland: Who Rose Above Autism to Become Patron Saint of His People is available through Amazon.com.

(Ed...Look for Rebekah Shapiro's Book Review column to return in a future issue of *The Parish Times*. She has been busy working from home, hosted the Zoom Coffee Hour and Vestry Meeting on Pentecost, and has been instrumental in guiding the Rector and preparing the Parish for reopening to in-person Masses.)



Our long-time tenant, Gazelle Creative Learning School (CLS), continues to hold on-line classes on Zoom. School Administrator, JP Barkhurst, told the Rector they are preparing to reopen the school in September, although no exact date has been established. Please continue to include the teachers and children of CLS in your daily prayers

For the Children

Almighty God, heavenly Father, who hast blessed us with the joy and care of children; Give us light and strength so to train them, that they may love whatsoever things are true and pure and lovely and of good report, following the example of their Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Book of Common Prayer, Page 596)

ALTAR GUILD...



Our Altar Guild Chair, Cora-Jean Kleppe, is retiring after years of faithful service. We need additional volunteers to help in this important service. The Saint Joseph Altar Guild works quietly in the background preparing the priests' vestments for Sunday Mass and other liturgies, and maintaining the various linens for such services. No experience is required...only a willing heart and reverent approach to the tasks. Training will be provided at a later date...for the time being only one person is permitted in the Sacristy at any given time. For more information, please speak to the Rector or a member of the Altar Guild.

SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS – 9:00 AM PARISH MASS & SERMON

WEEKDAYS/HOLY DAYS AS ANNOUNCED

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE BY APPOINTMENT

THE REVEREND FATHER CRAIG LOONEY, RECTOR

THE CONTINUATION OF ANGLICANISM: We affirm that the Church of our fathers, sustained by the most Holy Trinity, lives yet...are determined to continue in the Catholic Faith, Apostolic Order, Orthodox Worship and Evangelical Witness of the traditional Anglican Church.



www.saintjosephparish.net

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