



No one has ever seen
God and yet if we love
one another, God
dwells in us.

Jesus the Lord has told
us "I am with you always,
even to the end of
the world!"

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The Ascension of the Lord or Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 16, 2010

May we follow Christ with love!

Thank God for Our Advocate, the Holy Spirit

Friends,

In the liturgy today, we remember that Jesus left for heaven: the Ascension. However, Jesus did not leave us orphans. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to lead and guide the church and to develop our understanding of God. Jesus called the Holy Spirit our "ADVOCATE," or attorney, who pleads our cause in spite of our sins. And this advocate is still at work in each one of us and especially in our church. Our church really needs a lawyer/advocate in this era of child abuse, abused victims, litigations and tons of money. It is painful to read about both old and new allegations. "Holy Spirit, Advocate, we need you to guide us."

Another point: I got a wonderful email from Fr. Emmanuel, and he sends his love and prayers. He enjoyed his ministry here in our parish and he grew as a priest. ... He mentioned that as he re-inculturated himself, he found that he must build his mother a home. Now, Fr. Emmanuel has a vow of poverty and has no money. He said that his uncles, aunts, nephews and nieces all considered his mother their mother also. He would ask them to help build the home, which cost \$1,000. If you would like to help him, make a check out to St. John's and put Fr. Emmanuel's name in the line at the bottom. We will get your love offerings to him and report back to you.

Peace,
Fr. John

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column and all of Father John's previous columns are available on our parish Web site. Just go to www.SaintJohnTheBaptistChurch.org and click on the picture of the church.

Mass  *for the*
Intentions *Week*

May 15 – 22, 2010

		Intention	Requested By
Saturday, May 15	5 p.m.	Jesus Juntilla Sr. †	Juntilla & Paz Family
Sunday, May 16	8 a.m.	Della Walsh †	Sisters of Mercy
	9:30 a.m.	Fr. Denis Araujo †	John Arouge
	11 a.m.	Helen Stubbs – Birthday	Kathy Klatt
	12:30 p.m.	Nnamdi Uche †	Uche Family
	6 p.m.	St. John's Parishioners	Brazilian Community
Monday, May 17	8 a.m.	Alma "Jackie" Mueller †	Joe & Mary Asuncion Family
Tuesday, May 18	8 a.m.	Leonor F. Tionsgon †	Mom & Dad
Wednesday, May 19	8 a.m.	Alma "Jackie" Mueller †	Menci Ferreros
Thursday, May 20	8 a.m.	Honrado Tengsico †	Carmen Ferreros
Friday, May 21	8 a.m.	Maria Fatima Gregorio †	Mom & Dad
Saturday, May 22	8 a.m.	Shelly Ryan †	Noreen Shaughnessy
	5 p.m.	Jacquelyn Bradfield †	Evelyn Miche

Stewardship

Envelopes & EFT (177)	\$5,392
Loose Donations	<u>1,846</u>
Total Regular Collection	\$7,238
Mother's Day	\$2,063

Next Weekend: Vacation Bible Camp

Please remember your parish in your will.

Vacation Bible Camp

Our second collection next weekend will be for the Vacation Bible Camp – our parish's annual program to provide our children with fun and religious inspiration during the summer. Many volunteers contribute their time, but we also need your financial support.



Natali Cox

Let Us Pray for the Sick:

Josephine Abbissinio, Dorothy Alexander, Serafin Allam, Evelyn Baker, Barbara Brendlinger, Elizabeth Brown, Josephine Canepa, Jeffrey Chavez, Isabella Kristine Cruz, Deloris Davis, Narte Estrellas, Michael Fleming, Emilio Gallegos, Ann Gerletti, Teresa Grant, Domingos Gregorio, Joe Gressel, Betty Harrell, Frances Haynes, Steve Jeffre, Adie Kasari, Marsha Lightfoot, Maria Impang Lozada, Eric Lubrano, Fr. John Maxwell, Evelyn Miché, Lolita Parafina, Stephen Pellingra, Evelyn Phillips, Dina Pieroni, Leola Richardson, Sr. Mary Soong, Amy Stymer and Marilyn Sutton.

Please call the rectory to add or remove names.

Message of Stewardship

The second reading today contains the somber warning that Jesus is coming soon and will bring to each person the reward that his or her conduct deserves. Has my stewardship of the blessings entrusted to me been such that I could respond joyfully, "Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!"?

Wear Red for Pentecost

Next weekend, we celebrate Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. In honor of the occasion and as a greeting to the Holy Spirit, please wear red to church.

1st Communion This Weekend

The following students have completed their preparation and will celebrate the Sacrament of First Communion with us this weekend.

Thanks to Pam Vincent, our director of children's religious education, and the following teachers: Rosa Walle, Camille Herrera with the help of Ana



Prindle for the Children's Religious Education Sunday School Program, and Marilyn Taylor from St. John's School for their hard work and dedication to this important sacrament.

We sincerely appreciate the help and support of Fr. John Maxwell, Fr. Bart and Fr. Ray, along with Acting Principal Bill Walton.

We welcome these children to the "Table of the Lord."

5 p.m. Mass Saturday

Julian Curtis	David Damian Sandoval
Jesus Manuel Herrera	Tayjon Smith
Erika Johnson	Zachary Szerlip
Eugene Mwangi	Maiya Stokowski
Sarai Orozco	Jordan Tecson
Anjelou Parafina	Ronnie Tecson
Hailey Ponchione	Sedonia Thierry
Nygel Sanders	Jeremy Williams

12:30 Mass Sunday

Anna Alberto-Amador	Tiana Hardin
Karla Barba	Julia Hill
Kirsten Bautista	Kahlilah Jordan
Niklas Datta	Sagan Kuroki
Joel de la Cruz	Zachary Orozco
Ryan Duncan	Makayla Perez
Lauren Epperson	Gabriel Sterret
Simone Epperson	Jacob Sterret
Tristan Friet	Daniel Torres
Faustino Galbis	Arianna Zaragoza

School Enrollment Open

Enrollment applications for new students at St. John's are available in the school office. If you know of a family interested in sending their children to St. John's, please have them call 234-2244 or come by the office for an appointment.

Rosary in Konkani

The Goan (from India) Catholic Community of the Bay Area cordially invites all parishioners to join them in reciting the Rosary in their native language of Konkani from 2 to 2:45 p.m. this Sunday, May 16, in the church.

The rosary will be followed by a procession and a small reception in the Conference Room.

Feed the Hungry at GRIP

St. John's parishioners are dedicated to providing dinners at the GRIP homeless shelter on the third Saturday of each month this year.

In April, Eddie DeLima and other members of the Brazilian community prepared and served a dinner for 60 at the shelter. St. John's Confirmation class also prepared a special Good Friday dinner at the shelter as part of their preparation for full participation in the Church.

We still need volunteers to prepare and serve dinners on July 17 and Oct. 16 of this year. Cash donations for food are also needed to help the volunteer cooks and servers provide excellent dinners at GRIP.

Please contact the rectory or Joe Orr, 237-5568, to give of your time, talent and treasure to help feed the poor at GRIP.

Festive Brazilian Pentecost



The Brazilian Community would like to invite you to a very special Mass of Pentecost at 6 p.m. Sunday, May 23, at St. John's Church.

This will be a very festive Mass, where all the choir members from the four different Bay Area Brazilian communities will be singing and playing together.

Light refreshments will follow.

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'Egypt' Summer Camp Will Take Kids Back into History

St. John the Baptist Church invites all kids to "Egypt: Joseph's Journey From Prison to Palace," our ninth annual Vacation Bible Day Camp.

This summer event will be hosted at St. John's School & Church the last week of June, from June 21-25. Campers will step back in time to Egypt, exploring the life of Joseph. Kids will participate in a memorable Bible-times marketplace, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, dig into Egyptian eats, visit Joseph in prison and then in his palace home, and collect Bible Memory Makers to remind them of God's Word.

Plus, everyone will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each morning program will conclude at Celebration – a time of upbeat worship that gets everyone involved. The afternoon day camp will offer additional special guests and ac-



tivities.

Kids at "Egypt" will join nearly a million participants blanketing Africa and Haiti with God's love through a hands-on mission project in association with an organization called Operation Kid-to-Kid. With Operation Kid-to-Kid, families will create soft blankets that will be sent to orphans and vulnerable children.

"Egypt" will run from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for morning campers, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for all-day campers each day. For more infor-

mation, call 233-6486.

Registration fee for morning campers is \$60, all-day campers \$160 (for sibling discounts, see registration form). There is a 10% early bird discount until May 31.

Registration forms are available at church and school offices, plus the EGYPT link on the parish Web site, saintjohnthebaptistchurch.org.

Parish Blood Drive, June 6

Please plan to give blood at St. John's Parish Blood Drive on Sunday, June 6, from 9:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. in the Community Center at 6500 Gladys Ave.

We had a good turnout in December, and the Blood Centers of the Pacific is depending upon us to help restock their blood reserves again this spring, when supplies run low.

A Spanish-speaking nurse and Spanish language forms will be available. For more information, please contact Joe Orr at 237-5568.

Is God Calling You?

A vocation discernment weekend for single Catholic women from 18 to 40 will be conducted next weekend, May 21-22, by the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose, 43326 Mission Blvd. in Fremont.

For further information, see [blessings@msjdominicans.org](mailto: blessings@msjdominicans.org) or call 933-6335.

Please RSVP by Monday, May 17.

Preparing for English Tea

St. John's will be hosting its popular seventh annual English Tea on Saturday, Oct. 2. Tickets will go on sale in September.

Due to the increased popularity of the tea, we continue to accept donations of cups and saucers, tea pots and silver serving trays. If you have any of these items and would like to see them used and enjoyed, you can drop them off at the church office or call Susan Bitner at 236-1250 for a pickup.

St. John's Seniors

St. John the Baptist Community Center
6500 Gladys St., corner of Lexington

Director: Jan Duckart 527-2850

Telephone 237-3808 on Tuesdays

12:45 p.m. Tuesday, May 18:

Janet Abelson, League of Women Voters:

Pros and cons of state propositions

on June 8 primary election ballot

Is Marriage for You?

The Vocations Office of the Oakland Diocese invites men and women 18-35 years of age to the Cathedral of Christ the Light for an evening of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and vocations discernment.

John and Colleen Knutsen, master catechists and graduates of the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology, will be the speakers at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 19. They have given many workshops on the vocation of marriage.

For more information, please visit www.oaklandvocations.org/docs/DiscoverMission0310.pdf

Catholic Voice Is Online

The Catholic Voice is now available online at www.catholicvoiceoakland.org

In this issue you'll find . . .

- A young mother tells a story of a miraculous healing.
 - Catholic Charities of the East Bay helps refugees become employees.
 - Pope Benedict XVI asked world leaders to control the spread of nuclear weapons.
 - New president named for Holy Names University of Oakland.
 - "Why us, Lord?": Oil disaster tests faith of Louisiana Catholics.
 - Vatican approves new English translation of Roman Missal.
 - More than 200 immigration reform advocates gather at Oakland's Cathedral of Christ the Light.
- . . . these, your favorite features, and much more.

Film Depicts Corporate Greed

The Pax Christi Social Justice Group at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley is sponsoring a screening of the movie, "Capitalism: A Love Story," at 7 p.m. Friday, May 21.

The showing will be in the Augustine Center behind the church at 3433 Somerset Ave.

This film by Michael Moore documents how America's financial system got overheated by deregulation and predatory loan practices that have struck at the heart of the poor and middle class.

Celebrating Restored Mission

Mission San Jose in Fremont is the East Bay's only California Mission. All are welcome to come and celebrate the 25th anniversary of the restoration of this historic site, as well as acknowledge the beginning of Christianity in the East Bay some 213 years ago.

Bishop Emeritus John Cummins will preside at the celebration of Mass at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 5, followed by a Eucharistic procession.

The festivities will conclude with a multicultural reception in the parish hall.

Bring your family and celebrate where it all began. For more information, call 656-1055 or 755-6783, or see www.saintjosephmsj.org.

Immaculate Heart Radio

Immaculate Heart Radio's (1260 AM) on-air pledge drive will be Tuesday, May 18, through Friday, May 21, in its live studio, located at St. Bede Parish, 26950 Patrick Ave. in Hayward.

Join the Immaculate Heart Radio staff, meet Catholic radio personalities, be interviewed live on the air, pray the Rosary with their staff, participate in adoration, enjoy fellowship with Catholics, talk with listeners and witness their testimonies.

Spaces are limited. Sign up for a time between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. during the pledge drive. Call Edie at 866-774-3278 ext. 236 or e-mail her at volunteers@ihradio.org.

Visit their Web site at www.ihradio.org.

Bible Camp Requests Support

Dear Parishioners:

Next weekend's second collection is for our Vacation Bible Day Camp.

We are self-supporting; we do not take monies from the general fund or the catechism program.

Our very important ministry exists due to the generous donations of St. John's parishioners and money collected from registrations. Whenever possible, we like to offer scholarships to those children who otherwise would not be able to attend, pay for special afternoon guests, T-shirts for volunteers, plus costumes and props.

Thank you for any support you can give.

— Pam Vincent, director