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A Franciscan Center of Evangelization

In response to God's call to love, we are a faith community that strives to live the gospel in prayer, formation, evangelization, outreach and stewardship in the Franciscan tradition.

APRIL 28, 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Jesus said to his disciples: *“Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit.”*

John 15:1-5

STAFF

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SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

-SATURDAYS FROM 2:30 TO 3:30 P.M.-

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held in the confessionals at the back of the church every Saturday from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Access to the church is through the side door near the iron gate.

Reconciliation is also available by appointment. Call (805) 682-4151, ext. 101 to schedule.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Charlie Bogue	Kerry Parker
Zandra Cholmondeley	Daniel Thomas
William Espinosa	Majalisa Van Thyne
Scott Maier	(Chair)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday: CLOSED

If you wish to visit the parish office in person, please make an appointment by emailing parishoffice@saintbarbaraparish.org or calling (805) 682-4151.

MASS SCHEDULE

All Masses take place in the Mission church.

SATURDAY VIGIL – 4:00 P.M.

SUNDAY — 7:30 A.M.

SUNDAY — 9:00 A.M.

*Live Stream and public Mass
(Live stream may be accessed on our website
or YouTube channel.)*

SUNDAY – 11:00 A.M.

(Family-Focused Mass)

WEEKDAY MASS- 8:00 A.M.

Monday-Friday

Cover Photo:

*“Christ the True Vine,” 15th century
(photo: The Temple Gallery/Public Domain)*

FRANCISCAN SCHOOL OF
THEOLOGY ZOOM LECTURE SERIES

Dear Friend,



In his marvelous little book “The Depth of God’s Reach,” theologian Michael Downey writes that when his beloved teacher, David Noel Power OMI, was diagnosed with terminal cancer, he wrote out a reflection that began with a Mary Oliver poem. These are the closing lines: ...

To live in this world // you must be able / to do three things: / to love what is mortal; / to hold it // against your bones knowing / your own life depends on it; / and, when the time comes to let it go, / to let it go.

Our scripture readings this weekend for the Fifth Sunday of Easter focus on what it means to truly live. And for the Christian – and so too it seems for Ms. Oliver – abundant living is bound up in a sacred intersection of life and death and love, namely, the Paschal Mystery. The Gospel for this Sunday from John happens to be taken from Jesus’s farewell discourse where we receive the instruction not simply to remain with Jesus, but rather, like a branch to a vine, to remain in him (emphasis mine). I think Ms. Oliver has it right: to live we *must be able* to hold what is mortal “against our bones...” knowing our life *depends* on love, meaning (literally) that it “hangs down” in the way of the vine, branch, and fruit which are at the center of the Gospel text.

As we hear in the first reading, Saint Paul’s life (as Saul) was hanging by a thread - a dead branch - and he didn’t even know it. But on the way to Damascus he found out, big-time. He had some “letting go” to do for sure and later on so did his terrified listeners!

Gratefully,
Father Dan ofm

***Mercy and Compassion in Francis of Assisi***
by Stephen J. McMichael, OFM, Conv.

Thursday, May 16 – 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Via Zoom

This presentation will focus on the theme of mercy and compassion in the writings of Francis of Assisi, especially his Testament, Earlier Rule (1221), and Letter to the Minister. Mercy/compassion is the lens through which to interpret Francis’ entire life and is the epicenter of Franciscan spirituality as revealed by Pietro Maranesi, Pietro Messa, and other Italian scholars. To register for this FREE Zoom lecture, click below or visit fst.edu/events

Steven J. McMichael, OFM Conv., is an Associate Professor in the Theology Department at the University of Saint Thomas (Saint Paul, Minnesota) and has published three recent books.

REGISTER



For much more information on upcoming liturgies and events, subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter by clicking [HERE](#) or visiting saintbarbaraparish.org and scrolling to the bottom of the page.



CARDINAL MCINTYRE FUND FOR CHARITY SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

May 4-5

In 1951 Cardinal James Francis McIntyre established the Archbishop's Fund for Charity in service of "the neediest of the needy" in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles – children, individuals and families in crisis for whom no other resources exist. The fund is not a replacement or supplement for welfare or other forms of public assistance.

Rather, it provides emergency assistance to solve immediate, pressing problems for the most vulnerable in our community, including one-time help with food, utilities, transportation, medical, housing or funeral expenses. Persons in need simply seek help from a parish priest -- who provides assistance using parish funds, which are then reimbursed from the Fund for Charity.

Donation envelopes will be available in the pews at all Masses on May 4-5.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



On Caring for Our Common Home Tip of the Week

During the warmer days of spring and summer, try to use air conditioning sparingly on particularly warm days. AC uses more energy and contributes to the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, and it also has been demonstrated to have negative health effects, particularly for respiratory and some chronic conditions.



SACRED SAUNTER

Saturday, May 11 – 10:00 a.m.

Celebrate Mother's Day and join the parish Green Team for a "Sacred Saunter" at the San Marcos Foothills Preserve. Discover the natural beauty of this area on a docent-led hike, which will last about an hour or more. All are welcome!

Directions: From Foothill Road going west, turn right on Via Chaparral (after San Marcos Pass) and climb the hill. Turn right on Salvar Road and cross the bridge. Turn left to reach the Preserve and park along the road.

Address for GPS map is: 1155 Via Gaitero.

For more information, go to: sanmarcosfoothills.org or call Suzanne at 805-698-6787.

SANTA BÁRBARA MISSION ARCHIVE-LIBRARY PHOTO CONSERVATION

Did you know that the Santa Bárbara Mission Archive-Library has a collection of thousands of photographs ranging all the way back to the 1860s? Most are stored in a large freezer which keeps the temperature low, close to zero degrees. This is known as "cold storage" and is how many archives, libraries, and museums make sure their objects are as safe as possible. The lower temperatures slow the aging process, especially when considering that a lot of photography created before the invention of "safety" film tends to deteriorate exponentially and with extreme variance. Materials used to create film, including the solutions & emulsions, become increasingly unstable as they age.

Pictured Below: Seminarians in prayer at Camp Drake, 1940. Collection of the Santa Bárbara Mission Archive-Library.





MINUTE MEDITATION

A Heart Conformed to Christ

It is true that St. Francis, with his whole heart, wanted to imitate his Lord and Master. One can easily point to outward similarities, particularly in the way he lived poverty and practiced humility. Yet what is more important is to penetrate Francis' spirit.

Above all he wished to conform his heart to Christ, something he realized most clearly in gazing upon the Crucified Savior. In this way Francis sought to take into his heart, into his inner spirit, the poverty, humility, and charity so evident in Christ. Conformity for Francis meant a lifelong process of interior transformation. Conformity for Francis meant a heart that was humble. It meant poverty of spirit. It meant a compassion that reached everyone.

- from the book *In the Footsteps of Francis and Clare*
by Roch Niemier, OFM

Reprinted courtesy of Franciscan Media

POPE FRANCIS UP CLOSE!



Jim Balsitis (Old Mission Santa Barbara Facilities Director) and Dawn Williams Docherty (Director of Finance and Human Resources) are currently on pilgrimage in Italy with Fr. Joe Schwab and Fr. Henri Djojo. Last Wednesday they attended the daily audience with Pope Francis, who drove by only a few feet from where they were standing, enabling Jim to capture the wonderful photo above!

FEAST OF ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

Monday, April 29

St. Catherine calls us to be on the lookout for God. Each person will discover God in a unique way -- an experience of beauty, love, forgiveness, generous sacrifice -- the smile of a child, the first glimpse of the Grand Canyon, a donated organ, betrayal, persecution. In such circumstances, we stand in awe and feel infinitesimally small and unworthy. Life then truly becomes gift. Such experiences give access to Catherine's theology. For her, God is great not simply because of God's unimaginable goodness, but because God has chosen in love to share that goodness with creation and the human race. God pours out Godself in creation, incarnation, and Eucharist. God gifts us with every breath in every fiber of our being.

--- from *Accidental Theologians: Four Women Who Shaped Christianity*

by Elizabeth Dreyer

Reprinted courtesy of Franciscan Media



BECOMING A LAUDATO SI' PARISH

HOW THE U.S. CATHOLIC CHURCH DOES SOCIAL JUSTICE: PART 2

The witness of the Catholic Church to human dignity can be categorized under the headings of service, advocacy, and education. I offer one inspiring example of a parish serving the basic needs of its neighbors in one of the poorest areas in Omaha. We were members of this vibrant, diverse parish for about a decade.

In response to requests from neighbors seeking food, clothing, shelter, and financial assistance, the Sacred Heart Church Human Needs Door Ministry was started in 1982. For 15 years, the ministry worked to meet the needs of families with children enrolled at Sacred Heart School (featured in a future column). In 1997, a newly titled Heart Ministry Center occupied a nearby house and increased its assistance to people facing hardship. Eight years later, the Heart Ministry Center Campus opened a 9,600 square foot, debt-free building.

In 2006 the Center formed a board of directors and the Heart Ministry Center became a fully independent 501(c)3 organization. The Fresh Start Job Training Program and Fresh Start Laundromat soon differentiated Heart Ministry Center from other social service agencies in Omaha. The parish can be proud of a Door Ministry that became a major institution with 50 employees. See <https://heartministrycenter.org/>.

~Roger Bergman (rbjps@creighton.edu)

MASS INTENTIONS

To schedule a Mass intention, contact parishoffice@saintbarbaraparish.org

- April 27 Pro Populo – People of the Parish
- April 28 Rimas and Viki Siliunas (7:30 a.m.)
- April 28 † Maria Morilla (9:00 a.m.)
- April 28 † Carmelo Tasca (11:00 a.m.)
- April 29 † Pat Lisowski
- April 30 Joanna Guevarra
- May 1 Debbie Sharbak
- May 2 Carol McGuane
- May 3 † Jane Leighman
- May 4 † Mickey Gilbert
- May 5 Pro Populo – People of the Parish (7:30 a.m.)
- May 5 Arlyce Siebert (9:00 a.m.)
- May 5 † William Cabell Brand (11:00 a.m.)

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Healing Gardens for victims-survivors in the Archdiocese's five pastoral regions

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles has created gardens of healing in each of the Archdiocese's pastoral regions, dedicated to those harmed by sexual abuse, in their family, church or community. Located at St. Camillus Pastoral Center in Los Angeles (Our Lady of Los Angeles Pastoral Region), Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Ventura (Santa Barbara Pastoral Region) St. Francis de Sales Parish, Sherman Oaks (San Fernando Pastoral Region), and St. Bernadette Parish, Los Angeles (San Gabriel Pastoral Region), these gardens offer a sacred space for all those impacted by abuse to seek comfort and solace. A fifth garden will be built in the San Pedro Pastoral Region. In each garden there is a weeping wall and a plaque with a reflection by Archbishop Gomez, which starts with this paragraph: "Dedicated to all those impacted by sexual abuse in the Church, their communities, their families – may all who visit find some measure of renewal, peace and comfort in doing so." For more information, visit <https://lacatholics.org/healing-gardens/>.

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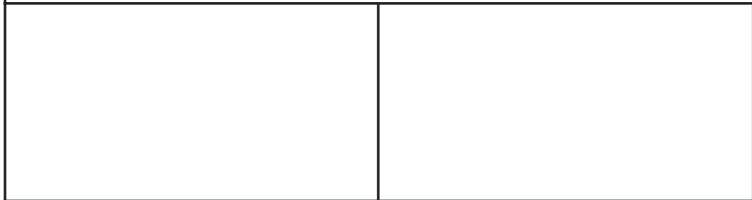
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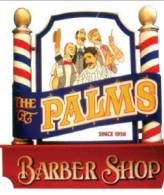


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