

His mercy
endures forever.

Psalm 118:4

Divine Mercy Sunday



April 23, 2017

April 23, 2017 – Called to believe without seeing

The Gospels tell us that Jesus appeared to the disciples on several occasions after they discovered that his tomb was empty. Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that he appeared to his disciples not as a spirit but in bodily form. The bodily form was not one that the disciples recognized though. In John's Gospel, Mary of Magdala does not recognize that the figure standing before her is Jesus until he speaks to her. In Luke's Gospel, the disciples who meet Jesus on the road to Emmaus do not recognize him until he breaks bread with them. The resurrected Jesus had a physical presence, but the disciples couldn't recognize Jesus unless he allowed them to. His resurrected body, nonetheless, showed the marks of his crucifixion.

From readings such as today's Gospel, we also see that in his resurrected body, Jesus seems to be free of physical constraints. He appears to the disciples despite the fact that the doors were locked.

Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit. In doing so, Jesus commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." During the meeting, Jesus also shows the integral connection between forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The story of Thomas illustrates our Christian experience today: We are called to believe without seeing. In fact, all Christians after the first witnesses have been called to believe without seeing. Thomas's doubt is hardly surprising; the news of Jesus' appearance was incredible to the disciples who had seen him crucified and buried. Thomas's human nature compelled him to want hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to the disciples after his death was indeed the same Jesus who had been crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to act on that desire. He is our witness that Jesus is really risen.

Our faith is based on the witness of the Church that has preceded us, beginning with Thomas and the first disciples. Through Baptism we receive the same Holy Spirit that Jesus brought to the first disciples. We are among those who are "blessed" because we believe without having seen.

CHAPEL OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST



Perpetual Adoration
GREAT NEED FOR ADORERS:
Sunday: 4 - 5am, 6 - 7am, 10 - 11am,
5 - 6pm, 6 - 7pm, 7 - 8pm
Monday: 5 - 6pm
Wednesday: 3 - 4am
Friday: 4 - 5pm, 5 - 6pm
Saturday: 3 - 4am, 9 - 10am, 1 - 2pm,
3 - 4pm, 4 - 5pm

If you would like to be in the Real Presence of Jesus and visit with Him for one or more of the above hours, or any Hour, or be a substitute, please call Marge at 967-0641 or Chris at 966-3266. God is "thirsting" for you to satiate "His thirst".

Daily Masses and Mass Intentions

Sunday 4/23/2017

8:00 AM (R) Bruce Pringle by Claire & Roelof Van Ark
8:00 AM (R) Judith Perez by Teresita Lopez
10:00 AM (R) Sheila Hamblin by William Kellerman
4:30 PM (R) Terry & Joie Collins by Prayer Family

Monday 4/24/2017

8:30 AM (R) Jim Fox by Patti Fox

Tuesday 4/25/2017 *MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

*8:30 AM (R) Yvonne Savarino by Gaulke Family
*8:30 AM (R) Aurelia by Susan Gerardo

Wednesday 4/26/2017

8:30 AM (R) Mary Friedrich by Gaulke Family
8:30 AM (R) Frank Franzago by Franzago Family

Thursday 4/27/2017

8:30 AM (R) Joseph Ngai Hoang by Tai Nguyen
8:30 AM (R) Matthew Prayerter by Carol Thorne

Friday 4/28/2017

8:30 AM (I) Anne Pringle by Claire & Roelof Van Ark
8:30 AM (I) Louise Petrusich by Jack & Victoria Sapunor

Saturday 4/29/2017

8:30 AM (R) Yvonne Reiter Savarino by James Joyce Family
4:30 PM (R) Anna Slater by Family

Sunday 4/30/2017

8:00 AM (R) Rita Samcoff by Family
10:00 AM (I) Joseph & Sandra Langdon by Rosemary Easter
10:00 AM (I) Joseph McClane
by Men's Day of Faith Committee
4:30 PM (R) Rachel Faires
by St. Mel School Faculty & Staff

Commentator & Music Leaders & Altar Servers April 29th & 30th

Mass Times	Commentator Altar Servers	Music Leader
SAT 4:30PM	Nagel / Wagner G Josephine, Janelle & Jason	Men's Choir
SUN 8:00AM	Phillips J / Phillips L Aaron, John Paul & Abbie	Cantor
SUN 10:00AM	Lehman / Cantrell Gavin, Greta & Amaya	Contemporary Choir
SUN 4:30 PM	Allison / Ricaforte Fred, Augustine & Carson	Youth Choir

Dear Parishioners,

It is with a heart full of gratitude that I express my thanks to all groups and individuals who helped to prepare for our Holy Week and Easter celebrations. From Palm Sunday to glorious Easter Sunday, the church was filled with joy and beauty, which surely helped those who participated to fully experience the wonder of this Holy Season.

I am truly grateful for the trust you place in me to lead and serve the wonderful community of St. Mel Parish.

A blessed Easter Season to all of you.

Father Adrian



5th ANNUAL MEN'S DAY OF FAITH RENEWAL

For the Glory of God! The 5th Annual Men's Day of Faith Renewal will be Saturday April 29th from 8:00AM to 3:30PM in the St. Mel Parish Center. This year's featured guest speaker, Joe McClane, affectionately known as the Catholic Hack, (www.catholichack.com) will speak on:

1. **Call to Heroic Leadership**, as illustrated through the life of St. Maximilian Kolbe
2. **Leave no Man Behind**, and how Christ frees from the slavery of pornography
3. **Be a Man After God's Own Heart**, or how to take up your cross and follow Him.

The day includes the recitation of the Holy Rosary, celebration of the Holy Mass, breakfast, three talks by Joe, opportunities for Confession, a catered BBQ lunch and great take-away ideas on how to live closer to Christ as a Catholic man. Register today at www.SMPCEvents.org or call Chuck, 635-7791. Don't miss this great spiritual faith building day with men seeking to better love and serve God. Cost is \$40, but no man will be turned away for financial reasons.

ST. MEL SCHOOL FUNDRAISER AT DAD'S KITCHEN

On Wednesday, April 26th help support St. Mel School while enjoying a delicious dinner at Dad's Kitchen! From 4PM to closing, St. Mel School will receive 10% of all sales. No flyer is needed. Dad's Kitchen in Fair Oaks is located at the corner of Sunset and Hazel.

BRING A LOVED ONE CLOSER TO CHRIST!

St. Mel RCIA will host an Evening of Testimony on Saturday, May 6th at 5:30PM in the Parish Center. We will have food, music and testimonies from some of our St. Mel parishioners. People often draw closer to Christ when hearing the experiences of others. Bring a loved one. Bring yourself! Questions? Call Michael Faber, 719-5565.

LEGION OF MARY ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Legion of Mary members are given an assignment each week to visit parishioners in their homes and bring Communion to residents in care facilities. Members lead the Rosary and Divine Mercy weekly at Eskaton. Statistics for 2016 are as follows:

House calls 206 *Sick call visits 906* *Communion 651*
Rosary 588 *Divine Mercy 576*

The Legion of Mary meets on Thursday mornings at 9:00AM in the Baptismal room. Stop in if you feel Mary's call. New members always welcome. Questions? Call Joyce, 342-6179.

Let us pray for all those in our community who have passed away.

Michael J. Castori

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

CFF classes resume this week, Monday, April 24th and Tuesday, April 25th.

NEW SCRIPTURE STUDY

An eight-part Bible Study, *Follow Me: Meeting Jesus In the Gospel of John*, featuring Dr. Edward Sri, begins Tuesday, April 25th at 9:00AM in the St. John Paul II room. Following Christ takes more than believing in him or doing what he asks of us. This study is a guide to a personal encounter with Christ. *Follow Me* invites you to experience the joy of a renewed friendship with Christ. Join us. Call Frank, 337-9171, or Cheryl, 966-1830, or Karen, 966-0184 to register.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #6066 2017 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Knights of Columbus Council #6066 has established two scholarships for graduating eighth grade students who will attend a Catholic high school. The first provides \$4,500 over four years and the second is \$1,000 for one year. The scholarships are available to eighth grade students whose families are registered members of St. Mel Parish or whose father is a member in good-standing of Council #6066. Interested students and families may pick up application forms, including more detailed information, from either the school or the Parish Office. Completed applications must be returned no later than May 1, 2017.

PLEASE NOTE!

*** SCHEDULE FOR BULLETIN ARTICLES ***
Please send your typed articles, in MS Word - Times New Roman, font 10, via email to stmeloffice@yahoo.com, no later than **NOON ON FRIDAY** to be included in the next bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bulletin Weekend Dates 2017	Articles DUE Prior To FRIDAY
April 29 - 30 May 6 - 7	April 21 April 28
May 13 - 14 May 20 - 21	May 5 May 12

**THE CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS
APPEAL COLLECTION**

Next week we will have second collection for The Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Your generosity will provide catechesis, seminarian, education, lay ministry training and other pastoral programs in needy dioceses across the United States. To learn more about Catholic Home Missions funding and current grantees, please visit www.usccb.org/home-missions.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
The Knights of Columbus are holding their Monthly Food Collection for the needy NEXT weekend, April 29th & 30th.

NEW WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Beginning Monday, April 17th our weekday Mass will be at 8:30AM. The 7:00AM Mass will no longer be offered. This modification was recommended to Father Basarte by the Liturgy Committee and the Pastoral Council as we thoughtfully respond to life with one priest at our parish. Pray for religious life vocations. On Wednesday mornings following Mass, we offer a mid-week fellowship opportunity, "Cup of Joe" coffee, baked goods and conversation. Please join us.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



RCIA is about to begin. Being part of the Church established through Jesus Christ, and entrusted to the leadership of the apostle Peter, is a gift. This gift might just be for you. Join us *any Sunday beginning May 7th in the St. Jude Room* (top of the


back stairs) at **8:00AM** to discover how you might become Roman Catholic; and participate in the greatest adventure of your life. Please contact Michael Faber, 686-7020 or rcia-stmelfairoaks@gmail.com for more information.

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS



Please join the **Legion of Mary** in praying daily the intentions of Pope Francis for April. Please place special emphasis this month on... *young people*.

Let us pray...that young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves to God in the priesthood or consecrated life. Amen.



At dawn on the first day of the week... there was a violent earthquake. -Mt 28:1-2a

Reflection: In the Old Testament, earthquakes are a sign of the coming of God, the breaking in of the new age in which God's kingdom will flourish.

That is what happens, of course, at the Resurrection. A new chapter of history now begins in which the risen life of Christ is accepted by believers and overcomes humanity's slavery to death.

Prayer: Father, in the light of the Resurrection, may we continue to extend Your victory over death!

Excerpt reproduced with permission from *Pro-Life Reflection for Every Day* © 2009
Catholic Book Publishing Corp., NJ. All rights reserved.
<http://www.catholicbookpublishing.com>

REMINDER

Please do not leave valuables in your cars when you are at Mass. There have been several break-ins in the parking lot.

Please Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Al Volmer | George Kim | Keith Sprenkle |
| Alan Cheuse | Gianna Atilano | King David Chico |
| Alex Quiroz | Grace Barrios | Latasha Rodriguez |
| Amanda Barron | Gregory David | Linda Ramsey |
| Anthony Caillou | James A. Martinez | Lydia Melendez |
| Arthur Morton | Jean Crupi | Margaret Anderson |
| Audrey Holden | Jeanette Barron | Margaret Valley |
| Bob Ahern, Sr. | Jerry Esparza | Mary Alyce Gisla |
| Candy Barrios | Jerry Smith | Mary Spain |
| Charles Joseph Ortner | Jim Maher | Michael Elorduy |
| Cheryl Richardson | Joanne Kim | Michael English |
| Chris Stabile | Jody & Ron Martinez | Michael J. Martinez |
| Christian Dimitri | Johanna Ross | Michelle Atwood |
| Daniel Schwartz, III | John & Judy English | Mollie Dear |
| Dave Kangas | John Forrest | Nellie Henson |
| Deana Ladingham | John Langland | Nick Tenaglia |
| Delfina Rodriguez | John Wise, Jr. | Owen Bricker |
| Diane Castonguay | Jose Mascoro | P. J. Spain |
| Donald Wise | Joseph Dimitri | Patty Arcenequx- Conti |
| Dora V. Marczak | Joseph Jacin | Pilo DeLeon |
| Dora Palpallatoc | Joseph McCormick | Ray Willey |
| Eduardo Murallon | Judy Spinelli | Rendtor Ramirez |
| Elizabeth McMahan | Karen Petersen | Richard Robinson |
| Evelyn Dimitri | Katie Grant | Robert Atkinson |
| Garvin Arnett | Katie Henson | Robin Dunton |
| | Katie Spain | Rodney Wise |

We welcome all new parishioners and ask that you complete this registration form and place it in the collection basket at Mass, or return it to the Parish Office.

Quick Registration St. Mel Catholic Church		Envelopes?	Yes	No
Last Name _____		First Name(s) _____		
Mailing Name (i.e. Mr. & Mrs. John Doe) _____				
Address: _____				
Street _____	City _____	Zip Code _____		
Phone # _____				
E-mail _____		CONTACT ME BY: <input type="checkbox"/> PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> EMAIL		
Do you have any special request: _____				

St. Mel Parish Ministries & Social Groups (REV. January 10, 2016)

PARISH COUNCILS		
Parish Pastoral Council	Bob Mayer	342-2139
Parish Finance Council	Jim Joyce	967-1229
PARISH SCHOOL		
St. Mel School:	Janet Nagel (Principal)	967-2814
St. Mel School Parents Club:	Contact the School Office	967-2814
St. Mel Youth Ministry:	Dominick Romano	Call Parish Office
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION		
R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):	Michael Faber	686-7020
Lighthouse Catholic Media	Mary Schaefer	988-3171
Marian Movement of Priests:		
Catholics Return Home:	Karen Fitts	966-0184
Catholic Faith Formation (CFF):	Sara Donnelly	966-4314
Scripture & Religious Study:	Cheryl Hoffmann / or Karen Fitts	966-1830 / 966-0184
Parish Library open after weekend Masses:	Joanne Wagner	967-0190
LITURGICAL SERVICES		
Altar Servers:	Dave Murray	338-5011
Music Ministry Director		
Commentators:	Patrick Wagner	961-8652
Eucharistic Ministers:	Deacon Anthony Pescetti	704-0057
Ushers	Patrick Wagner	961-8652
PRAYER ADVOCACY		
Charismatic Prayer Group	Karen Juten / Chris Juten	712-3706 / 715-1162
Fiat Rosary Group	Peggy Grass (Wed)/Marge Young (Tues)	962-9244 / 967-2540
Eucharistic Adoration Chapel:	Marge Della Villa / Chris Guzman	967-0641 / 966-3266
"D. J. M." Disciples of Jesus and Mary	Joanne Hammett	765-4007
Divine Mercy:	Amy Lasat	342-2088
Legion of Mary (Day):	Joyce Savage	342-6179
Society of Our Lady of Guadalupe:	Dolores Leon	337-1800
Prayer Chain:	Dolores Moniz	962-0571
Fraternity of Fatherhood:	Mike Allison	834-6226
Men's Cursillo Group:	Chuck Friedrich	635-7791
SOCIAL CONCERNS		
Annettes (St. Mel's funeral luncheon providers):	Parish Office	967-1229
Loaves and Fishes Volunteers:	Kathy Yanez	967-1229
Knights of Columbus #6066:	Jim Carlson	801-9373
St. Mel "Sip & Sup" Fellowship Dinner Program	Roelof & Claire Van Ark	802-1089
St. Vincent de Paul Society:	Bill Savage	967-1229
Sacramento Life Center: Pro-Life Pregnancy Support:	Joanne Hammett	451-4357
St. Mel Pro-Life Group:		
Gabriel Project (crisis pregnancy assistance):	Kathy Knutson	967-1229
Fr. Richard Doheny Religious Education Fund:	Walt Schaff	961-4698
Bishop-Gallegos Maternity Home:	Mary Schaefer / or June Schott	988-3171 / 967-9158
PARISH ORGANIZATIONS		
Altar Society:	Parish Office	967-1229
Marriage Encounter:	John & Regina Ruport	987-5616
Boy Scouts #217:	Chris Herne / Bob Mayer	798-8493 / 342-2139
Cub Scouts	Chuck Brasfield	214-5730
Girl Scouts:	Jill Dutra	217-3990
KKIS:	Laura Lumenta	718-2718
OPUS DEI:	Deidra Chapman	944-1356 or 425-4904
Children's Liturgy	Sara Lebeck / Serena Carleton	967-1229
Clara's House	Martha Rusnak	448-3976
Religious Articles:	Brenda McCollum / Dorothy Wagner	967-1229
Vocations Ministry:	Jeanne Condon	349-6936
Wedding Coordinator:	Karen Fitts	966-0184
Parish Center Coordinators:	Yolanda & Jim Carlson	966-3803
For Any Changes to Ministry List	Parish Office	967-1229