

SAINT MARY MAGDALEN

DOMINICAN PARISH



TOGETHER WE SHARE OUR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.
WE LIVE THE GOSPEL, AND WE CARE FOR OTHERS.

CHRISTUS SUUS RESURGENS EX MORTUIS IAM NON MORITUR.

2005 Berryman Street ■ Berkeley, California 94709
(510) 526-4811 ■ Fax: (510) 525-3638
www.marymagdalen.org

PARISH STAFF

Father David Farrugia, O.P., Pastor

voicemail ext. 12 ■ email dfarrugia@marymagdalen.org

Father Bruno Gibson, O.P., Associate Pastor

voicemail ext. 14 ■ email bgibson@marymagdalen.org

Ken Willers, Principal, School of the Madeleine

email kwillers@themadeleine.com

Conan Graham, Youth Minister

voicemail ext. 19 ■ email cgraham@themadeleine.com

Heather Skinner, Coordinator of Elementary Catechesis

voicemail ext. 16 ■ email hskinner@themadeleine.com

Andy Canepa, Director of Music

voicemail ext. 18 ■ email acanepa@marymagdalen.org

Barb Gamba, Business Manager & Bulletin Editor

voicemail ext. 11 ■ email bgamba@marymagdalen.org

Margaret Power & Carolyn Tune, Secretaries

voicemail ext. 10 ■ email mpower@marymagdalen.org &
ctune@marymagdalen.org

John & Colleen Knutsen, RCIA & Adult Faith Formation

email faithformation@marymagdalen.org or call (510) 316-0973

Cat Nielsen, Webmaster

email webmaster@marymagdalen.org or call parish office



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 26, 2012

YOUR WAYS, O LORD, MAKE KNOWN TO ME; TEACH ME YOUR PATHS.

■ *TODAY*

Special collection for our parish school.
Fourth Sunday dinner for the poor.*
Youth Group Lenten Retreat,
6:00 p.m., church.*

■ *TUESDAY*

RCIA, 7:00 p.m., Norton Hall.*

■ *WEDNESDAY*

SPRED, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall.
9:30 choir, 7:00 p.m., church.

■ *THURSDAY*

11:00 choir, 7:00 p.m., church.

■ *FRIDAY*

The office is closed every Friday.
SCC, 8:30 a.m., conference room.+
Stations of the Cross and Soup
Supper following the 5:30 p.m.
Mass.*

■ *SUNDAY*

Special collection for our Sunday dinners for the poor.
Letter-writing Group, Coffee Hour.*
First Sunday dinner for the poor.*
Confirmation Preparation, 5:00 p.m., church.

*Additional information inside *Bulletin*
+Small Christian Community

*Please join us for Coffee Hour
downstairs in Norton Hall following
the 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. Masses.*



Clean Sweep

Lent again, we may say with a sigh. What shall we give up this year? If we think only of depriving ourselves, however, we miss the point. Lent is a time for spiritual spring cleaning in preparation for Easter. The Church recommends three things for this season: fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.



The purpose of these practices is to help us simplify our lives, to convert our hearts more closely to God, and to grow and develop as disciples of Jesus. Fasting may not only mean eating less, it could mean eating healthier foods. We can also fast from behaviors that damage others and ourselves, such as gossiping and anger, sexual immorality, misuse of alcohol and drugs, or smoking.

Increasing or deepening our prayer during Lent is not just a matter of saying more prayers. If you are in the habit of prayer, try a different style of prayer: pray a psalm, try a new devotion, or silently sit in God's presence. Add morning and evening prayer to your day, pray with your family, be more mindful during Mass.

Lent has been a traditional time of helping the poor and doing acts of charity and mercy. While we are supposed to be doing this year-round, Lent is a good time to get involved and put ourselves to work. Giving alms can be done in more ways than just giving out money to people on the street. It can be done by helping family, friends, and neighbors out of tight situations or being more generous to employees. If you are able to give money at this time, increase what you give to your parish and to some of the many worthy charities such as the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, Catholic Relief Services, or Catholic Charities.

Copyright © 2011, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

Sunday Dinners for the Poor

Today and next weekend we serve our Sunday dinners to the poor. Please come to the Parish Hall at noon to help prepare, 2:45 p.m. to help serve, or 3:30 p.m. to help clean up. We especially need volunteers between 3:30 and 5:00 p.m. to help clean up! Desserts are always welcome and should be delivered to the Parish Hall by 1:30 p.m.





Operation Rice Bowl

In today's first reading, we hear about God's covenant with Noah, with his descendants and with all living creatures. During Lent, we are called to deepen and strengthen our baptismal and covenantal relationship with God, which includes our responsibility to care for God's creation. This week through Operation Rice Bowl, we **learn** about subsistence farmers in Madagascar, we **pray** for all who struggle to feed their families on depleted land, we **fast** in solidarity with those who hunger, and we **give** so that CRS can help farmers improve their growing methods and act as good stewards of God's creation.

Stations of the Cross/ Soup Suppers

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed in the church each Friday during Lent at the conclusion of the 5:30 p.m. Mass, and will be followed by a soup supper in Norton Hall. We ask that the money you would have spent for your Friday meal, instead be given to Operation Rice Bowl.



Just a Minute, by Fr. Vincent Serpa, OP

When someone asked on our "Ask the Apologist" forum if it is a sin to pray for oneself, I answered that it is far from a sin and it is actually a command. In Matthew 7:7 Jesus said to his disciples, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." He then asked who of us would give a stone to one's son when he asked for bread or a snake when he asked for fish. If we who are sinful know how to give gifts to our children, how much more does God who is our heavenly Father!

We find ourselves feeling guilty for praying for ourselves because it still hasn't sunken in that he really loves us. If hanging for three hours on the cross hasn't convinced us, we need to spend more time looking at a crucifix. In that personal effort to look and behold his suffering, we will see that such love is aimed directly and personally at us.

Fr. Vincent, a Dominican of the Western Province, can be heard at 3:00 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays on Catholic Answers Live's "The Chaplain Is In," (radio 1260 am). "Just a Minute," his book of daily meditations for 2012, is available at Catholic.com.

RCIA

Please continue to pray for the members of our RCIA group, who have been learning about the teachings and life of the Catholic Church:

Those seeking Baptism: Jeff Johnston, Pui Yee Law, Mac Lingo, and Bill Wambach

Those already baptized in other Christian churches: Edie Bazjanac, Caleb Brown, Patty Brown, and Melissa Dang

Baptized Catholic seeking Confirmation: David Basile

For more information about becoming Catholic, contact John & Colleen Knutsen at (510) 316-0973 or faithformation@marymagdalen.org.

Jeannine M. Kennings

October 29, 1912-February 4, 2012

Jeannine Kennings died at age 99 in her sleep next to her husband of 71 years, Albert Kennings, in their Berkeley home. The second of six daughters, she arrived two months premature. Only 2-½ pounds and 8 inches long, she was not expected to survive.

A dedicated nurse kept her alive, feeding her with an eye-dropper. Jeannine completed her nurse's training at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Walla Walla, Washington, becoming an RN herself in 1934. Early jobs included running the First Aid Tent at the Pendleton Roundup, as well as private duty nursing. Compassion, service, and love for humanity were her lifelong virtues. A full-time mother, she was an officer in The Madeleine Mother's Club for nine years starting in 1955. She served breakfast after Friday Student Body Mass, sewed for the Christmas Bazaar, and dressed the altar with flowers grown by Albert, who also created the church's rose garden. She is survived by her beloved husband; her older sister; her three children — Larry, Gary and Janine Miftah — and their spouses; six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren, whom she cherished. She will be interred in Pendleton, Oregon. If you wish to remember Jeannine's tenacious faith and Catholic charity, consider a memorial donation to the Kensington Nuns, 68 Rincon Rd., Kensington, 94707.



Thirty-five FAQs About Eternity, by Peter Kreeft

In this essay, reprinted here in 14 parts, philosopher Peter Kreeft addresses (often whimsically) 35 frequently asked questions about Heaven.

1. How do we know anything about Heaven, anyway?

If we had no "inside information," we could only speculate. Fortunately, we have some solid data to build on: divine revelation. I think God wants us to use our reason and also our imagination (for why should we neglect any God-given faculty) to explore the treasure of tantalizing hints in Scripture. To be indifferent to it is to be like the unprofitable servant who hid his master's talent in the ground.

In having this data, we are in a position very different from that of the unbeliever (or rather, the difference lies in our *believing* the data, for the whole human race *has* it; it is public). We are like the sighted compared to the blind, who can only speculate about things visible. We can do more than speculate about things invisible.

"What do you know about Heaven, anyway? Have you ever been there?" We can answer this challenge: "No, but I have a very good Friend who has. He came here and told us about it and showed it to us. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

2. Why won't we be bored in Heaven?

I suspect this question subconsciously bothers most of us more than we like to admit. I can remember having something of a crisis of faith as a child: I thought I didn't want to go to Heaven since the popular pictures of it seemed pretty boring to me.

Freud, who occasionally comes up with nuggets of wisdom sandwiched between mountains of nonsense, says that everyone needs two things to make life worth living: love and work. The two are really one, for love is a work and work is a love. Love is a work, for it is something you do, not something you just feel or fall into. And work must be a love, for if not, it is threatening and boring. What love-work will we do in Heaven, then?

We will complete the very love-works we are meant to do on Earth. There are only six things that never get boring on Earth, six things that never come to an end: knowing and loving yourself, your neighbor, and God. Since persons are subjects and not objects, they are not exhaustible; they are like magic cows that give fresh milk forever.

The two great commandments that are our job description for life, in both this world and the next, express this plan: We must love God wholly and we must love our neighbor as ourself. And in order to love we must know, get to know, as endlessly as we love endlessly. This never gets boring, even on Earth: getting to know and love more and more someone we already know and love. It is our clue and our preparation for our eternal destiny of infinite fascination.

[Next week: part 2 of 14]

This article first appeared in the 6/1/2003 issue of *Christianity Today*. Used by permission of Christianity Today International, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist



What does it mean that Jesus Christ is present in the Eucharist, under the appearances of bread and wine? How does this happen? These and other fundamental questions about the mystery and gift of the Eucharist are answered by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in a 6-part series of inserts that will be included in your *Bulletins* during Lent, beginning today.

Natural Family Planning

Natural Family Planning (NFP) has proven itself to be good "marriage insurance." Couples who consistently practice NFP typically report improved communication, greater marital satisfaction, and extremely low divorce rates. One multiyear study of NFP teachers in California showed only 15 divorces out of 1100 couples in over 20 years, a rate of less than 2%. For more information, contact Ed Hopfner at the Diocese of Oakland Family Life Office, 510-267-8392, or visit eastbaynfp.net.

Fear Not, by *Walter J. Ciszek, SJ (1904-1984)*

Facing a firing squad is a pretty good test, I guess, of your theology of death. I didn't exactly pass the test with flying colors. Perhaps it all just happened too quickly, without any warning. There had been a revolt of the prisoners at Camp 5 in Norilsk, and when troops were called in to put down the revolt they divided the prisoners up into small groups and marched them off. I was rounded up in a group of thirty, one of the first groups herded out of the camp and led down to a sandpit about a mile away. We had no idea what disciplinary measures would be taken against us, but we never for a moment thought we would see the soldiers line up five yards in front of us with rifles ready, waiting only for the command to shoot. The command was given, the rifles raised, cocked on another command, and leveled at our heads. For a moment, as if in a dream, none of us really understood what was happening. Then the realization that we were actually looking into gun barrels awaiting only the command to fire came crashing into my consciousness with a force that stopped everything. My stomach turned once and went numb; my heart stopped; I'm sure I forgot to breathe; I couldn't move a muscle in my body; my mind went blank.

The first thought I actually remember thinking was a question: "Is this the end, Lord?" I know I started the act of contrition, but I remember the sensation of realizing that another part of me could not understand the words I was mumbling. The other part of me focused on the fact that in a fraction of a second I would stand before God, dumbfounded and unprepared, unable in the suddenness of my confusion and total terror to feel sorry for my sins, numbed into absolute inactivity, unable so much as to elicit a simple act of faith in the God I had learned to trust implicitly in every action of every day, let alone think with anticipation of meeting him face to face at last.

[Next week: part 2 of 3]

Walter Ciszek, SJ, is a Polish-American Jesuit known for his clandestine missionary work in the Soviet Union between 1939 and 1963. Fifteen of these years were spent in confinement and hard labor. After his release and return to the United States, he wrote two books, including *He Leadeth Me* (with Daniel Flaherty, 1973), from which this 3-part excerpt is taken.



PEACE &
SOCIAL JUSTICE
NOTES



It's Time for Operation Rice Bowl

Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl program offers Catholics in the United States a way to connect with our brothers and sisters in need around the world through the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Thousands of faith communities across the country participate in this program each Lent.

Want to go more deeply into the Lenten experience? Operation Rice Bowl invites us to "carve out a tiny retreat" for ourselves this Lent by means of weekly reflections. To sign up, go to orb.crs.org.

Torture in Your Backyard

All are invited to watch a video from the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT), "Solitary Confinement: Torture in your Backyard," with special guest Sarah Shourd.

Tuesday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.
First Congregational Church of Berkeley
2345 Channing Way, Berkeley
Free and open to the public

Sarah Shourd is one of three American hikers arrested in Iran and held in solitary confinement for 14 months.

NRCAT points out that prolonged solitary confinement is torture, causing severe emotional pain and permanent mental harm. It violates the God-given dignity and worth of every person. Solitary confinement is not just something that happens in distant countries. It is happening right now in prisons on U.S. soil. This 20-minute film was created by NRCAT to give a voice to thousands of prisoners held in solitary confinement cells across the country.

The Letter-writing Group will meet next Sunday, March 4, during the Coffee Hour after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Join us!

Upcoming event (not to be missed!): Friday, March 9: talk by Fr. Greg Boyle, author of *Tattoos on the Heart*. Details next week.

MASS INTENTIONS

- **Today** 5:30 - Jeannine Kennings
8:00 - Int. William Silloway
9:30 - For the people of the parish
11:00 - Victor Espejo
- **Monday** 5:30 - Robert Hartman
- **Wednesday** 5:30 - Edwin Moran
- **Friday** 8:00 - Jose Luis Guzman
- **Saturday** 8:00 - Teresa Novoa
5:30 - Nicole Cooper
- **Sunday** 11:00 - Int. Alexandra Jacob



Christ suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God.

Is he prompting you to suffer with him, bringing others to God as a priest, deacon, or in the consecrated life? Please contact Fr. Kenneth Nobrega, Diocesan Director of Vocations, at 510-267-8345 or knobrega@oakdiocese.org.

Send your prayer requests to the Mission San Jose Dominican Sisters: requestprayers@msjdominicans.org.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

- Today** *First Sunday of Lent*
Gn 9:8-15 / 1 Pt 3:18-22 / Mk 1:12-15
- Monday** Lv 19:1-2,11-18 / Mt 25:31-46
- Tuesday** Is 55:10-11 / Mt 6:7-15
- Wednesday** Jon 3:1-10 / Lk 11:29-32
- Thursday** Est C: 12,14-16,23-25 / Mt 7:7-12
- Friday** Ez 18:21-28 / Mt 5:20-26
- Saturday** Dt 26:16-19 / Mt 5:43-48
- Sunday** *Second Sunday of Lent*
Gn 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18 / Rom 8:31b-34 / Mk 9:2-10

FEBRUARY 19 COLLECTION

PLATE — \$5006

Thank you!



Religious Life Discernment Retreats

The Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose have monthly Discernment Days for single, Catholic women ages 18-40 who want to learn about religious life and reflect on their life's vocation. Contact Sr. Frances Mary Pierson at vocations@mjdminicans.org or 510-933-6335 with questions and to request a list of the retreats.



DOMINICAN FRIARS IN RESIDENCE

- Father Chris Renz, O.P.**
voicemail ext. 24
- Father Michael Dodds, O.P.**
voicemail ext. 23
email mdodds@dspt.edu
- Father Michael Sweeney, O.P.**
voicemail ext. 25
email msweeney@dspt.edu
- Father Albert Paretsky, O.P.**
voicemail ext. 26
email aparetsky@dspt.edu

DOMINICAN SISTERS
2004 Eunice Street, Berkeley, CA 94709
(510) 527-4817

SCHOOL OF THE MADELEINE
1225 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94709
(510) 526-4744 Fax (510) 526-5152
Extended Care (ECP) (510) 526-3856
www.themadeleine.com

LITURGY

Eucharist

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Monday - Saturday: 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Other times by appointment with a priest.

Liturgy of the Hours (Monday - Friday)

Morning Prayer: 7:40 a.m.
Evening Prayer: 5:10 p.m.

Sacraments of Initiation

Infant Baptism, Initiation of Adults, Confirmation
Call office for interview.

Sacrament of Marriage

Call office at least six months before marriage to begin preparation.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

If you know of anyone who is sick, or who would appreciate a visit, Communion or Anointing, please call the office.

ST. DOMINIC ✦ ST. PETER OF VERONA ✦ ST. HYACINTH ✦ ST. MARGARET OF HUNGARY ✦ ST. THOMAS AQUINAS ✦ ST. RAYMOND OF PENAFORT ✦ ST. ALBERT THE GREAT ✦ ST. AGNES OF MONTEPULCIANO ✦ ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA ✦ ST. VINCENT FERRER ✦ ST. ANTONINUS OF FLORENCE ✦ ST. PIUS V ✦ ST. JOHN OF COLOGNE ✦ ST. LOUIS BERTRAND ✦ ST. CATHERINE DE RICCI ✦ ST. LOUIS DE MONTFORT ✦ MARTYRS OF JAPAN ✦ MARTYRS OF VIETNAM ✦ MARTYRS OF CHINA ✦ ST. ZEDISLAVA BERKIANA ✦ ST. ROSE OF LIMA ✦ ST. FRANCIS COLL Y GUITART ✦ ST. MARTIN DE PORRES ✦ ST. JOHN MACIAS *pray for us*