



St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Parish

Rev. Nicholas Glisson, Pastor. His Excellency, Michael Barber, SJ, Bishop – Diocese of Oakland

Notes from Fr. Nick

My Homily for Mothers' Day

A number of people have asked for a copy of the homily that I delivered on Mothers' Day, so here it is:

Throughout the Easter season, the readings chosen from Saint John's Gospel are at pains to emphasize that Jesus and the Father are one, and it is through Jesus that we have access to His Father in heaven, God the Creator. In the light of Mothers' Day, I'd like to explore the nature of that same Father who is one with Jesus. Rather than concentrate on John's Gospel, I'll focus on the words to the Lord's Prayer. On the day we honor mothers this may seem like an odd choice. How can fatherhood in this prayer and motherhood which we celebrate be equated?

Our recitation of the Lord's Prayer can become rote until we're confronted with new insight into its meaning. A colleague shared with me a reinterpretation of the prayer that allows us to hear it afresh. A scholar of Semitic languages, Dr. Neil Douglas-Klotz may employ a good dose of artistic license, but his version brings new meaning to its words:

O cosmic Birther, from whom the breath of life comes,

Who fills all realms of sound, light and vibration.

May Your light be experienced in my utmost holiest.

Your Heavenly Domain approaches.

Let Your will come true in the universe just as on earth.

Give us wisdom for our daily need.

Detach the fetters of faults that bind us,

like we let go the guilt of others.

Let us not be lost in superficial things

but let us be freed from that what keeps us off from our true purpose.

From You comes the all-working will, the lively strength to act,

the song that beautifies all and renews itself from age to age.

Amên. Sealed in trust, faith and truth.

This reinterpretation through the Aramaic point of view opens us to broader, more creative, meanings of the prayer. It opens up the word *Father* as understood by the people of Jesus' time, with a more inclusive appreciation of the nature of the Godhead.

What about Motherhood and the Lord's Prayer? The Hebrew notion of God is more fluid than we may think. *Elohim*, one of the most frequently used names for God in the Old Testament, is actually the feminine plural for God. This is hard to square with the Jewish sense of the radical oneness of God, but that may be our imposing our own thought patterns on Judaism and the Hebrew language.

The opening line in this 'Aramaic version' of the Lord's Prayer is far less clear in meaning than the *Our Father*, yet it reveals the feminine side of the Godhead. Further down, the prayer to "let us not be lost in superficial things, but let us be freed from that which keeps us off from our true purpose" suggests either a mother or father gently pushing us to lose that which keeps us from maturing into adulthood. The conclusion is a far cry from "lead us not into temptation" — a phrase, by the way, that Pope Francis would like to see reformulated in English.

Is our traditional English version of the Lord's Prayer bad? I think not. It gives us a succinct account of how we are to pray, and its commonness allows us to recite it at will. But hearing a different translation often renders the beauty of a prayer we've taken for granted more vividly. It exposes us to other ways of saying the same thing, but with fresh insight.

As we celebrate Mother's Day, we are aware of the true nature of the Godhead that Saint John tries to explain in his Gospel: *The Father and Jesus are one. Our access to God the Creator is through Jesus. If we know Jesus, we know God.* This different rendering of the Lord's Prayer enables us to see deeper into God — one in which our 'parent in heaven' is more dynamic than can be contained in the word 'Father', one in which the Creator is the pattern for womanhood as well as man. We thus give thanks to God our Mother who nurtures, as do our own mothers, and is the ideal of motherhood.

The Parish Office is Open!

Please call or drop by
(observing social distancing):

Monday – Friday

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Closed for Lunch: Noon-1:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 pm

(and by appointment)

Parish & School Staff

Fr. Nicholas Glisson, Pastor

pastor@marymagdalen.org (ext. 112)

Norah Hippolyte, Business Manager

nhippolyte@marymagdalen.org (ext. 111)

Andy Canepa, Music Director

acanepa@marymagdalen.org (ext. 122)

Heather Skinner, Director of Religious Education & VP School of the Madeleine

hskinner@themadeleine.com

Deacon Jeff Burns, Parish Renewal

jburns@marymagdalen.org

Deacon Stanley Goh, S.J., RCIA

yguh@scu.edu

Cat Nielsen, Parish Technologist

website@marymagdalen.org (ext. 113)

Carolyn Tune, Office Assistant

ctune@marymagdalen.org (ext. 110)

Oscar Guillen, Facilities Supervisor

Ana Guillen, Housekeeper

Fr. Ioane Patita Ono, In Residence

ioaneono@marymagdalen.org (ext. 124)

Fr. Laurent Okitakatshi, In Residence

lokitakatshi@marymagdalen.org (ext. 125)

Parish Pastoral Council

Dennis Smith, Convener

ppc@marymagdalen.org

Parish Finance Council

Ann Flemer, Chair

theflemer@aol.com

Laura Morland

Volunteer Bulletin Editor

bulletin@marymagdalen.org (ext. 118)

St. Vincent de Paul Conference (ext. 787)

School of the Madeleine

1225 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94709

(510) 526-4744

Joseph Nagel, Principal

jnagel@themadeleine.com

Jennifer Walwark, Vice-Principal

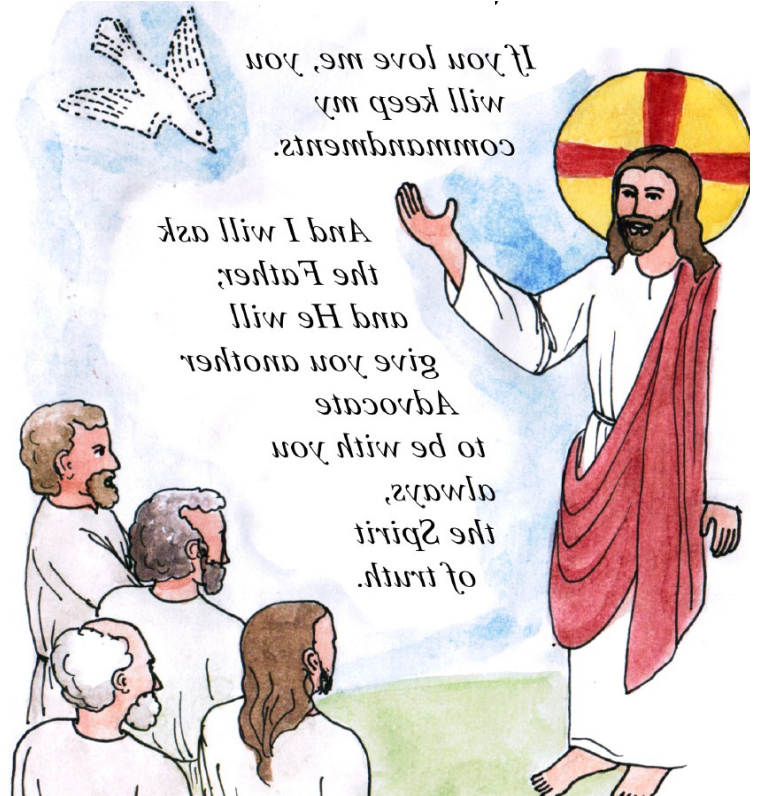
jwalwark@themadeleine.com

Mary Schweska, Secretary

mschweska@themadeleine.com

CFCS Funeral Services 510-223-2165

The Kids' Bulletin



thekidsbulletin.com

An Acts of the Apostles Word Find

P H I L I P E T E R
R H S A M A R I A E
E N A M E O C W H J
A L Y M S S O O A O
C H R I S T M R N I
H O P R A Y E D D C
E L T A G O D P S I
D Y H C E I J O H N
O W E L C O M I N G
W R E C E I V E D
N I E S P I R I T T

Today's first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. See if you can find all the words from the reading that are in CAPITALS in the puzzle. Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end!

PHILIP went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the

CHRIST to them. The people united in WELCOMING the MESSAGE Philip PREACHED, either because they had heard of the MIRACLES he worked or because they saw them for themselves. THERE was great REJOICING in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that SAMARIA had accepted the WORD of GOD, they sent PETER and JOHN to them, and they went DOWN there, and PRAYED for the Samaritans to receive the HOLY SPIRIT, for as yet he had not COME down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the NAME of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid HANDS on them, and they RECEIVED the

ST. JOSEPH

CEMETERY & FUNERAL CENTER FD1960

Start planning today:

Funeral | Cremation | Cemetery | Family Estates

(855) 894-6540 | cfcsoakland.org

Call to inquire about available discounts.
Serving all faiths throughout the Bay Area!

cfcs

Living Our Mission

CATHOLIC FUNERAL & CEMETERY SERVICES
A MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND



Take your
FAITH
ON A
JOURNEY.

Catholic Cruises and Tours (CST 2117990-70)

Catholic Cruises and Tours
and The Apostleship of the Sea
of the United States of America

Catholic Cruises/Tours to Worldwide Destinations

Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email

eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com

www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com



SOLD FOR OVER \$2 MILLION WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS.
1411 Holly Street – I represented the sellers



GRACE HARBO BISHOP

REALTOR® – TOP PRODUCER – MADELEINE PARENT & ALUMNA

A dedicated, experienced professional giving North Berkeley residents and parishioners superb client service with integrity.



510.872.4512
gracebishop.com

REALTOR® - #1245471
1891 SOLANO AVENUE, BERKELEY 94707

**RED
OAK
REALTY**



FLOOR DIMENSIONS, INC.

CARPET - VINYL - HARDWOOD - TILE
LINOLEUM - LAMINATE

10% OFF WITH THIS AD
Family Operated since 1986

1081 Eastshore Hwy
Albany, CA, 94710
Between Gilman and Buchanan
510-525-5656

info@floordimensions.com

ONE PARISH

Grow in your faith,
find a Mass, and
connect with your
Catholic Community
with OneParish!



Download Our Free App or Visit
MY.ONEPARISH.COM

ONE NAME TO REMEMBER
WHEN IT'S TIME TO
REMEMBER



EXCELLENT, AFFORDABLE
SERVICES SINCE 1908

**SUNSET
VIEW**

CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
CEMETERY • CREMATORY • MORTUARY

101 Colusa Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530
F.D. LIC #1079

CALL US ABOUT
PRE-NEED ARRANGEMENTS

SUNSETVIEWMORTUARY.COM • 510.525.5111

FINDaPARISH.com

Check It Out Today!

The Most Complete

Online National

Directory of

Catholic Parishes

MATT BOWMAN

**COMPLETE
TREE CARE**

FREE ESTIMATES

• Trimming / Removal

• Aesthetic Tree

Maintenance

• Disease and Pest

Diagnosis

• 20 Years Experience

• Fully Insured

P.L. & P.D.

510-883-1748



Get this weekly bulletin delivered by email - for FREE!

Sign up here:

<https://www.jspaluch.com/BulletinSubscribe.aspx>

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.



Protecting **Seniors**
Nationwide



Medical Alert System

\$29.95/MO. billed quarterly

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation



Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

catholicmatch®
California



CatholicMatch.com/myCA

6th Sunday of Easter, Year A

Collection for May 10th, 2020

Sunday	Actual	Budget	Difference
05/10/2020	\$12,976.64	\$8,829.00	\$4,147.64
Year-to-Date	\$165,086.59	\$178,922.00	-\$13,835.41

"On the first day of the week each of you should set aside and save, whatever he can afford, so that collections will not be going on when I come." - 1 Corinthians 16:2



LAUDATO SI'
WEEK 2020

Join Pope Francis and Catholics worldwide in working to protect our planet and its people. Sign up at laudatosiweek.org to respond to our Holy Father's call.

Scripture Readings for the Week

17th 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 8:5-17 / 1 Peter 3:15-18 / John 14:15-21

18th Easter Weekday [St. John I, Pope & Martyrs]

Acts 16:11-15 / John 15:26-16:4

19th Easter Weekday

Acts 16:22-34 / John 16:5-11

20th Easter Weekday [Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest]

Acts 17:15, 22—18:1 / John 16:12-15

21st Easter Weekday [The Ascension of Lord]

Acts 1:1-11 / Eph 1:17-23 / Mt 28:16-20

22nd Easter Weekday [Saint Rita of Cascia, Religious]

Acts 18:9-18 / John 16:20-23

23rd Easter Weekday

Acts 18:23-28 / Jn 16:23-28

Mass Intentions

Saturday	5:30	Intentions of Addis O'Connell
Sunday	8:00	Intentions of the Henthorn-Iwane Family
	9:30	For the People of the Parish
	11:30	Intentions of Br. Victor Taglianetti, OFM Cap.
Monday	8:30	Justine Hume RIP
	5:30	Steve Haggmark RIP
Tuesday	8:30	Intentions of Fr. Etienne Siffert, SM
	5:30	Fr. Conrad Antonsen, OP RIP
Wednesday	8:30	Holy Souls
Thursday	8:30	Intentions of Leila F. Lukban
Friday	8:30	Intentions of the Manocchio Family
	5:30	Intentions of Emily Onglatco

Peace & Justice Notes

Our Work Force: Did you know that one in six U.S. workers is an immigrant? The greatest number of immigrants work in the health care and social service industry, which employs *over 4 million immigrants*. Immigrants also comprise *38% of the total workers* in farming, fishing and forestry, and *31% of the total workers* in building and grounds cleaning/maintenance. **We rely on immigrants every day;** let's ensure they – and all of our workers – are paid well, provided paid sick leave, and kept safe!

Immigrant Workers and COVID-19: The *United States Conference of Catholic Bishops'* leadership on migrant pastoral care has made these policy recommendations to government leaders:

- Recognize that all workers need access to free testing and care related to the COVID-19 virus;
- Ensure that all housing and transportation for farmworkers complies with current CDC guidelines;
- Provide information on proper health and hygiene that is easily accessible in multiple languages and info-graphics for illiterate workers;
- Ensure access to proper hygiene and safety protections at work sites, including hand washing facilities/stations, and masks and/or other PPE;
- Have an emergency health plan in place to ensure care and protocols when a worker contracts the COVID-19 virus; and
- Honor the dignity of the work of farmworkers and make sure that they are paid a living wage as well as be eligible for other benefits to help protect their and their families' health and safety at this time.

While these provisions are advisable for **all** workers, migrant farm workers do not have the political or industry clout that leads to better working conditions. Thank you, Catholic Bishops, for taking this on! For more information, visit USCCB.org.

LAUDATO SI' WEEK: May 16-24, 2020

Pope Francis has declared next week to be one where we will all work to **Build a Better World Together** in caring for our common home.

Take an online training and put preparation into action for the **Season of Creation** in September.

Join the Worldwide Day of Prayer on May 24th!

Info & registration website: laudatosiweek.org