

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



Notes from Fr. Nick

Labor Day

With more people out of work than at any time since the Great Depression, Labor Day is both pertinent and a conundrum. Can we honestly celebrate this year? Is this a time of hope or despair?

On the positive side, the present peril causes us to appreciate the place work has in our lives. The notion of ‘working for the weekend’ – the idea that work is a necessary evil in order to fund one’s free time – may finally be on its way out, and that is good. Granted, work requires discipline that isn’t always pleasant. But it’s also an activity that forms and confirms our identity.

A study from about 20 years ago concluded that Americans work more hours than most other cultures because *we like to work*. Work provides a stable environment where there are rules and defined rewards. Those of you who are working from home during the pandemic can identify with how much more slippery family dynamics are than those in the workplace. You can’t take a sick day from your children, and they have no boundaries regarding your personal needs. At work these things are spelled out.

How many of you make prayer part of your work? Obviously, my work is directly connected to prayer, but often my prayer is about mundane administrative matters – the sort of thing that might provide discernment in the corporate or academic world as well. Maybe this is a place where the parish can help.

Many of us are facing uncertainty these days about our work futures: we already may have been let go, maybe our hours or pay have been cut, perhaps major cutbacks loom in our business’ future. How can we cope with this uncertainty?

Once again, prayer is a valuable resource, but I would be very remiss if I were to leave it at that. Saint James in his letter states, “If one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?” (James 2:16) As a Christian and a Catholic, you have the right to expect more from your church than that. Both personal and group counseling are available here at the parish to help cope with the emotional stress many of us are feeling about our work. Beyond this, our **Saint Vincent de Paul Conference** is charged with helping families within our parish in emergencies. I’m sure there is more we can do as a parish if we address this topic creatively and collectively.

Should we celebrate Labor Day? This year the holiday may not be an occasion to relax with an extra day off but, on account of the pandemic, the very notion of the value and sacredness of labor are more apparent than ever. That gives us cause to celebrate and ponder.



Felicitations to longtime parishioner and Sunday Dinners volunteer (and former Madeleine Mom), Jane Taylor, who has become **Jane Theresa Taylor**. Her [confirmation](#) – delayed from the Easter Vigil – took place during a beautiful ‘private Mass’ (observing all Covid-19 protocols) last Thursday. Antoinette Betschart is her sponsor.

Photo by Clif Taylor

*“Together we share our
Faith in Jesus Christ.*

*We live the Gospel,
and we care for others.”*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
9:00 am – 5:00 pm
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Phone: 510-526-4811

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marymagdalen.org



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 pm
(and by appointment)

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The Kids' Bulletin

thekidsbulletin.com



What did Jesus say that the people would have to do to be His disciples? Find your way through the maze and then use the letters from that path to fill in the blanks.

"Take up Your Cross" Match-up

Jesus began to tell the disciples that He would have to suffer and be killed. How did the disciples react? What did Jesus say then?

Connect the phrases on the left with the ones that follow on the right.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Peter said, "God forbid, Lord!" † | A. will find it. |
| 2. Jesus said, "Get behind me, Satan!" † | B. must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me." |
| 3. You are not thinking as God does † | C. You are an obstacle to me. |
| 4. Whoever wishes to come after me † | D. No such thing shall ever happen to You!" |
| 5. Whoever wishes to save his life † | E. but as human beings do." |
| 6. and whoever loses his life for my sake † | F. for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? |
| 7. For what profit would there be † | G. will lose it |



August 30th, 2020 — 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Collections for the week ending August 23 rd , 2020			
Sunday	Actual	Budget	Difference
08 / 23 / 2020	\$7,659.46	\$8,829.00	-\$1,169.54
Year-to-Date	\$283,047.72	\$311,357.00	-\$28,309.28
Welcome back to School Families!			

How to speak God's love to a neighbor over the phone? Take on a week with our chapter of St. Vincent de Paul!

Our parish has a voice mailbox where neighbors in need leave messages. During 'my' week, I check the voicemail, say a short prayer, and call: "Hello, I'm Troy from St. Vincent de Paul calling you back. Please tell me your name, address and some details, and describe your need." Conversation follows. I record their request on a database. If they need food assistance, I call up the parish office and tell Norah how many Safeway cards to disburse. If they need help with utilities or rent, another SVdP member and I make a home visit. We have helped many neighbors recently with rent and utilities, as well as Safeway cards. Our youngest conference member, **Jennifer Reid**, died in June. Please consider joining us and helping our neighbors in a meaningful way.

Please donate to the '5th-Sunday' collection for SVdP — send a check to the parish office or go to marymagdalen.com/donate.

Scripture Readings for the Week

30 th	22 ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Jeremiah 20:7-9 / Romans 12:1-2 / Matthew 16:21-27
31 st	Weekday 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 / Luke 4:16-30
1 st	Weekday 1 Corinthians 2:10-16 / Luke 4:31-37
2 nd	Weekday 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 / Luke 4:38-44
3 rd	Memorial [St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor] 1 Corinthians 3:18-23 / Luke 5:1-11
4 th	Weekday 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 / Luke 5:33-39
5 th	Weekday [Blessed Virgin Mary] 1 Corinthians 4:6-15 / Luke 6:1-5

Mass Intentions

Saturday	5:30	For the People of the Parish
Sunday	9:30	Intentions of Br. John Winkowitsch, OP
Monday	8:30	Mickey Smith RIP
	5:30	Patricia Senica RIP
Tuesday	8:30	Intentions of Zach Lukban
	5:30	John Dalton RIP
Wednesday	8:30	Meriel & Paul Burhans RIP
	5:30	Intentions of Dorothy Portner
Thursday	8:30	Intentions of Mary & Charlie Bucher
	5:30	Intentions of Pamela Stafford
Friday	5:30	Intentions of Jolie Ayco
Saturday	8:30	Intentions of Adrienne Jacob

Just Faith and Racial Equity is Starting!

Since the murder of George Floyd and the increasing community concern about racial injustice, you may have wondered, "What does our Faith call me to do? In this time of isolation, how can our community gather for discussion?"

JustFaith's Faith and Racial Equity program at St. Mary Magdalen is an opportunity to *join virtually with your fellow parishioners in small groups* to discuss our Faith, and how it calls our community to consider racial equity. Everyone is welcome and invited to participate.

Scheduled groups are on **Tuesday** and **Thursday afternoons** (2:00-3:30 pm), **Wednesday evening** (7:00-8:30 pm) and **Thursday evening** (7:00-8:30 pm) beginning the week of September 7th; additional groups may be offered. A **virtual retreat** for all participants introduces the program; you may choose between this **Sunday afternoon, August 30th**, or **Saturday morning, September 5th**.

See the parish website for complete details, and to hear parishioner **Joan Bell** speak about the program. Please RSVP the parish office at rsvp@marymagdalen.org, providing your first choice day/time and a second choice, if possible. As well, please choose 1 of the 2 retreat dates.

Have you completed your Census Information?

The Census data determines funding for vital services, such as **fire departments** and **disaster response, health clinics, highways, and education programs** such as Head Start and tuition assistance. Undercounted communities lose vital funds for these and other services, and potentially lose political representation in Congress as well. **During pandemic and California fires, can we afford fewer resources because some California residents did not complete the 2020 Census?**

What can all of us do?

- ◆ **Challenge friends and family to complete the Census** – ask if they've done it, and help them visit the website or complete their paper form.
- ◆ **Tell others to respond** - yes, become a PSA!
- ◆ **Set the record straight** – assure others that census data is private and confidential (*you don't even have to give your name; it won't be shared with law enforcement*).
- ◆ **Stay informed** – visit 2020census.gov to learn more.

As of August 20, the completion rate in Alameda County was 72.6%, and in Contra Costa County, 74.2%. Kudos to El Cerrito (81.4%), and a nudge to Berkeley (69.6%)! Remember: robust completion of the Census is a crucially important way to fund the services and safety nets that keep our communities safe and healthy.

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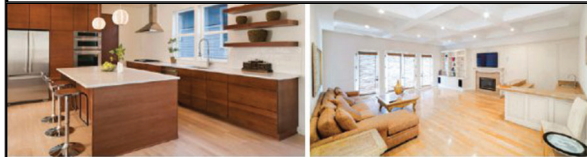
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