

Rev. Nicholas Glisson, Pastor
The Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ, Bishop of Oakland



Letter from Dr. Claire Broome

A Message from Our Own Epidemiologist

Dear Saint Mary Magdalen Parish Community,

A recent 11:00 am outdoor Mass in our beautiful Dominican Garden reminded me of how blessed we are as a community, even in these difficult Covid times. It was so moving to be present in person for the Mass celebrated by Fr. Ioane: to receive the Eucharist; to hear an inspired homily by Fr. Anthony, beautiful music from Andy, Joan, Catie, and Gregory, readings by Maria and Sally; and to see many of you in person. While the livestream Masses have been wonderful, I'm sure many of you are missing gathering for Mass.

Parishioner Claire Broome Awarded the 2020 Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement

A former U.S. assistant surgeon general and acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Claire received the award for her "outstanding contributions to the understanding of infectious diseases and public health." Since moving to Berkeley, she has become active in our Peace and Justice Committee, sings in the 11:30 am choir, and since 2019 has co-led our Parish Renewal, organizing our ARISE and JustFaith programs.



I spent 28 years as a public health professional (a medical epidemiologist) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), so I have followed closely the information on Covid-19, a highly-transmissible illness which can be severe, and in some cases, fatal. We have also learned that approximately 30 to 40% of infected individuals may be asymptomatic, and that Alameda County has recently experienced an increase in cases.

I'm 71 years old, at increased risk should I acquire the disease. So I thought it might be helpful to describe my decision-making on whether or not to attend the outdoor Mass in the Dominican Garden.

First, we know that wearing a mask is effective in preventing transmission from infected individuals, as well as protecting the wearer of the mask. All persons attending the outdoor Mass were consistently wearing their masks; the celebrants and singers removed masks at certain points, but were distant from other individuals.

Second, the "ventilation system" (i.e., open air) is outstanding—any virus that gets around a mask would be diluted in the volumes of circulating air—and we have learned that disease is most likely following exposures to larger numbers of virus particles. Furthermore, the virus is sensitive to sunlight and desiccation, so it will not survive long in the air.

Third, six feet of distance is maintained between attendees, reducing even further the likelihood of coming in contact with an airborne virus, should an asymptomatic individual be present. One could also sit in an area even farther from other participants, which would further decrease any chance of exposure.

My personal assessment is that the risk of exposure/transmission in this setting is very low, so despite my high-risk age group, I decided to participate in the outdoor Mass. Each individual and family should assess their own underlying health risk profile, and make their own decisions. I'm hoping this information may be helpful to you in making that decision.

And I look forward to 2021, when the vaccines will become widely available, and we can gather together again without such considerations!

"Together we share our Faith in Jesus Christ."

"We live the Gospel, and we care for others."

MASS TIMES

Sunday 9:00 am—Livestream Mass

Sunday 11:00 am—Dominican Garden

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Closed for Lunch: Noon-1:00 pm

Phone: 510-526-4811

WEBSITE

marymagdalen.org



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 pm

(and by appointment)

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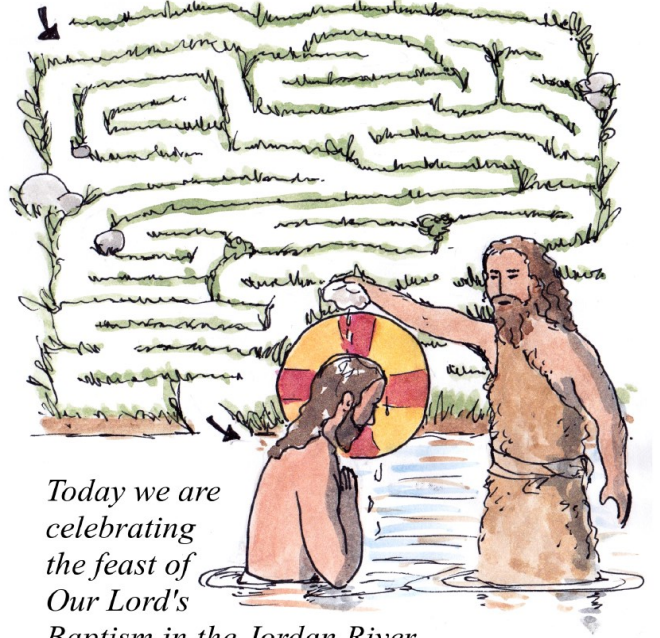
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The Kids' Bulletin



Today we are celebrating the feast of Our Lord's

Baptism in the Jordan River.

See if you can find your way through the maze to where Saint John is baptizing Jesus!

The Servant of God

In today's first reading we hear about God's faithful servant. Who is He?

Use the words from the list to fill in the blanks. Then use the first letter of each word to fill in the blanks at the end!

Behold my servant, whom I ④ _____, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my ⑤ _____ upon him, he will bring forth ① _____ to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it ⑦ _____ in the ⑩ _____; a bruised ⑧ _____ he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not fail or be discouraged till he has established justice ⑨ _____ the ② _____; and the coastlands wait for his law. "I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have ⑪ _____ you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a ⑥ _____ to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who ③ _____ in darkness.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

January 10th, 2021 – The Baptism of the Lord

Week Ending December 27 th + Christmas			
Sunday	Actual	Budget	Difference
12/27/2020	\$6,291.70	\$8,829.00	-\$2,537.30
Year-to-Date	\$422,176.82	\$470,279.00	-\$48,102.18
Christmas YTD	\$18,526.25	\$28,500.00	-\$9,973.75

2020 was a tough year in many ways, but as a result of the generosity of several parishioners, we received donations in the amount of \$32,700 to help reduce our deficit. Thank you for your support. Happy New Year!

Annual Parish Conference: January 30th!

Our "Parish Leadership Conference" is now called the **Annual Parish Conference**, and no matter where in the world we may be this month, the virtual conference will be accessible to anyone with a computer, smart-phone, or even just an old-fashioned telephone.

Save the Date: Saturday, January 30th. The morning session starts at 10:00 am, followed by a long lunch break. "Breakout" and closing sessions will run from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm. Register: parish@marymagdalen.org

Scripture Readings for the Week

- 10th **Feast: Baptism of the Lord**
Isaiah 55:1-11 / 1 John 5:1-9 / Mark 1:7-11
- 11th **Weekday (First Week in Ordinary Time)**
Hebrews 1:1-6 / Mark 1:14-20
- 12th **Weekday**
Hebrews 2:5-12 / Mark 1:21-28
- 13th **Weekday [St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor]**
Hebrews 2:14-18 / Mark 1:29-39
- 14th **Weekday**
Hebrews 3:7-14 / Mark 1:40-45
- 15th **Weekday**
Hebrews 4:1-5, 11 / Mark 2:1-12
- 16th **Weekday [Blessed Virgin Mary]**
Hebrews 4:12-16 / Mark 2:13-17

Mass Intentions

- Saturday 5:30 For the People of the Parish
- Sunday 9:00 Intentions of Mel Santiago
11:00 Intentions of Mary Bucher & Family
- Monday 8:30 Charlie Bucher RIP & Intentions of the Bucher Family
5:30 Sheila Bea RIP
- Tuesday 8:30 Russ Weeks RIP
5:30 Helen (mother of Charlene Moran) RIP
- Wednesday 8:30 Intentions of Thomas O'Shea & Family
5:30 Charlie Bucher RIP
- Thursday 8:30 Charlie Bucher RIP
5:30 Sybil Baughan RIP
- Friday 8:30 Charlie Bucher RIP
5:30 Intentions of José Guerrero
- Saturday 8:30 Cesare & Francesca Gallo RIP

Peace & Justice Notes

Interfaith Prayer Service for Racial Atonement: Sunday, January 24, 6:45-8:30 pm via Zoom. Sponsor: *Peacemakers Ministry of St. Joan of Arc Parish*. All are invited to participate (virtually) in an evening of prayer, reading, story, song, and acknowledgement of "our individual sorrows and shortcomings with regard to racism." Bishop Barber and congregants from multiple parishes will attend. The Zoom link is on page 10 [here](#), or go to marymagdalen.org.

This prayer service is an outgrowth of *St. Joan of Arc's* participation in *JustFaith* programs on racial equity. Multiple parishes, including *St. Mary Magdalen*, have embarked on this critical work, and *our parish will offer the second racial justice program (JustFaith & Racial Healing) beginning in February*. You may sign up now through marymagdalen.org.

Join the National Catholic Pledge To End the Death Penalty: To sign on to the Pledge and/or to register to join the Prayer Vigils for the two men to be executed next week, go to catholicsmobilizing.org.

Virtual Prayer Vigil for Corey Johnson

- ◆ Thursday, Jan. 14 | 11:00 am-Noon, PST

Virtual Prayer Vigil for Dustin Higgs

- ◆ Friday, Jan. 15 | 11:00 am-Noon, PST

(The execution of *Lisa Montgomery* has been put on hold, although it may proceed with little warning post court action.)



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