

*Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2020*



Saint John Vianney Parish Community

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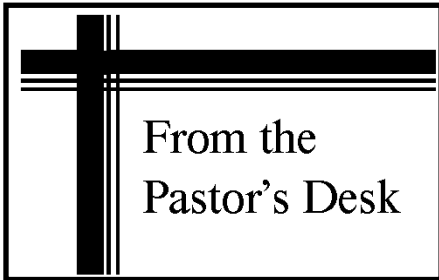
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Dear Parish Family,

Happy Mother's Day!

It has been said that there are at least 365 references to *not being afraid* in the scriptures. In this Sunday's Gospel, the risen Jesus tells us not to fear, not to let our hearts be troubled. On this Mother's Day, we remember the many times our mothers gave us, and continue to give us, a similar assurance. But how can we do that? The Gospel tells us that it is by believing in God. An interesting exercise is to catalogue how many times each day we are apprehensive or fearful. The list can be long and daunting at times. Fear can hold us prisoner, while hope can set us free. It is so easy to become a prisoner to our day-to-day fears; big and small. Fear shuts us down, makes us doubt both God and ourselves.

Toward the ending of this Sunday's Gospel, St John goes on to quote Jesus saying: "*Whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself...even greater works...*" The Church and every one of its members are called on to continue Jesus' mission without fear, being *the way, the truth and the life*. We can do more than Jesus, not in terms of more spectacular signs, but because Jesus, in his humanity, was limited to a very small section of space and time. In his lifetime, he reached only a relatively small number of people. Today, whether we are pope, bishop, priest, office worker, truck driver, housewife or so on, our duty is the same: to lead the people with whom we come in contact, along the Way of Jesus – the Way of Truth and Life. As in Jesus' day, the masses are calling out to be fed and we, the friends and companions of Jesus, have been called to continue to bring the Bread of Life to the world. Jesus said "*Without me you can do nothing*". It is important for us to realize that the opposite is also largely true: *without us* Jesus can do little.

In the Risen Christ,
Fr. Peter

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory: Our weekly donation for May 2-8, 2020 is \$ 7,171 and the weekly budget is \$ 9,288. Therefore, we have a deficit of \$ 2,117.

MAHALO for your continued SUPPORT to GIVE. If you give online, keep giving online, and if you give by envelope, you can mail or drop off your donation at the Parish Office or place in the Slot Box.

*Remember to Pray for the Sick—
Francis Teixeira and Jack Sullivan
And for the Homebound*

Parish Office is Open
Mondays 8:30 am—12:30 pm
Tuesdays—Fridays—8:30 am to 4 pm

May 9, 16, 23 and 30—9 am to 10 am—Please join the Sodality in reciting the Rosary in front of the Blessed Mother Grotto.

By May 13—Please call the Parish Office, 262-8317, and provide names of people that need food/supplies for the Food Drive.

May 17—Food Drive at SJV Parish—please drop off your food/supplies from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. If you wish, we will collect your Sunday Offering.

School News by Earl Walker

St. John Vianney School has a long tradition of promoting excellence in academics and providing a balanced curriculum that incorporates faith, values and service. For over fifty years our Catholic identity, character and culture has distinguished our school and made it successful. During this pandemic, students continue to receive an exceptional education and experience God's grace and presence in their lives.

Your parish school truly benefits our parish, the Diocese and the universal church by keeping our community strong during these challenging times. Although we are closed for the balance of this year, our school will reopen in the fall. In facing the future, our entire parish family should recommit itself to the mission of our Catholic education and its duty to support our treasured parish school. With your support our mission to provide our youth an outstanding education will continue for years to come.



Know Your Catholic Faith Corner

Apologetics without apology!

*Continued... Why do Catholics
Confess to a Priest?*

Common Misunderstanding:

Many Protestants insist that since only God can forgive sin, every sinner must approach him individually. It is said that no man can forgive sins, hence to have priests forgiving sins in confession is a sacrilege and blasphemy. Furthermore, this power is alleged to be an invention of the Church in history.

There is no ideological response to this than revisiting John 20:21, when Jesus said to the Apostles: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive men's sins, they are forgiven them. If you retain them, they are retained.' The first thing to note is that Catholics do not tell their sins to a priest "instead of God," but to God through a priest, appointed by our Lord as an official stand-in for Christ (Alter Christus). During His life-time Christ forgave sins. Since he would not always be with the Church physically and visibly, Christ delegated this power to other men so that the Church would be able to offer forgiveness to future generations. He gave this as a communicable power to the apostles so it could be passed on to their successors, the bishops. In this passage Jesus is telling the apostles to follow his own example of forgiving sins.

Note that all of this is not a priest's doing but God's. It is He who, through Christ, has reconciled us to himself, and allowed us to minister this reconciliation of his to others (2 Corinthians 5:18). Note also that in the anointing of the sick described in James 5:13-15-16, "it is to the presbyters of the Church the person is to be brought, and his sins will be forgiven." It is to the ordained that the sick are brought.

*Next Sunday we will take a look
at confession in the history of the
Church.*



**SJ V Covid-19 Community Outreach
We need you!
Our community needs you!**

During these difficult times, St John Vianney Parish is trying to meet the needs of our Parishioners (Seniors and others in need) and stock our Community's food pantries at St. Anthony and St. George. Our Outreach efforts are critical with unemployment reaching its highest level in decades. Seniors in need of nonperishable foods items (canned pork & beans, canned tuna, Cup of Noodles, peanut butter, jelly, canned spaghetti, canned Vienna sausage, canned corn, canned vegetables and soups, etc.) and supplies (toilet paper, paper plates, plastic utensils, paper towels, hand sanitizers, etc.).

We will be reaching out to our Kupunas, parishioners and others by hosting a donation drive on May 17th between 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

If you have a need or know of Kupunas, parishioners and others that could use nonperishable food items/supplies, please contact the Parish Office at 808.262.8317 by May 13, 2020. Our goal is to be stewards of our community.

On May 17, we have volunteers that have committed to helping out. However, if interested, please contact:

Mike Taylor - mtaylor@fhb.com; 808-525-6212

OR

Corinda Wong - CORINDA.WONG@locationshawaii.com;
808-306-7242

by Tuesday, May 12th.

Where: Saint John Vianney Church

When: May 17th 10:30 am to 12:30pm

How: This will be a drive through collection. You will **not** need to leave your car. We will have volunteers with masks and gloves to receive your donations. If you wish, we can take your Sunday Offertory Collection.

MOTHER'S DAY TRIBUTE

As we celebrate Mother's Day this Sunday, let us consider for a moment the thoughts of two great men about the role their mothers played in their lives. George Washington once said, *"My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from her."* Abraham Lincoln spoke similar words when he said, *"All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel Mother."*

In today's culture, whether circumstances oblige women to work or stay at home, it is without a doubt that motherhood is a very high calling. During this coronavirus pandemic, we all can reflect and appreciate, within the comfort of our homes, the love and care they once provided, if they are no longer with us or the love and care they provide in the here and now. A good mother calms down the fears of her children and family. A good mother lives with faith that all is going to be fine in spite of all odds. A good mother strives for excellence. A good mother does not do harm but protects and prays for her little ones.

But, to whom can mothers look as the real model of a good mother? Today's modern culture offers many role models through television, movies and women's magazines. However, often these role models are either all together wrong or they offer a very limited and unrealistic view of true motherhood. All mothers who wish to be true to their calling need only look to the woman who became the greatest mother of all. Born into humble surroundings, she was called by God to be the mother of the Son of God. She affirmed her obedience to the call of God and lived out her vocation throughout her entire life. Mary, the mother of Jesus, our Blessed Mother, is the true model of motherhood.

May the Holy Spirit renew and fill the hearts of all mothers with love, so that they can live out their calling to motherhood with a deeper and more generous love within the daily circumstances of their lives.

