THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 29, 2020

“I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live ... ”

(John 11: 25)

Fr. Peter Dung Duc Ngo, Pastor
Deacon Loc Nguyen

Office Hours
Monday – Friday: 9:00AM - 1:00PM

Masses
Saturday Vigil:  5:00PM (English)  
                7:00PM (Spanish)  
Sunday:        8:00AM, 10:00AM, 12:00 Noon  
                4:00PM (Vietnamese)  
Weekdays:      Mon-Fri. 7:30AM, Sat. 8:00AM  
First Friday:  7:30PM

Devotions
Adoration & Benediction: Fridays 6:00PM- 7:30PM  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena:  
  Wednesdays after morning mass  
Chaplet of the Divine Mercy: Mondays &  
  Fridays after morning mass

Confessions
Saturday 3:30PM to 4:30PM or by appointment

Baptisms
Pre-Baptism classes for parents and godparents held every second  
  Tuesday of the month. Contact the parish office.  
  *Spanish Classes, contact Hilda Avelar at 925-642-3058.  
  *Vietnamese baptisms, contact Fr. Peter Dung D. Ngo at the  
    parish office.

Marriage
Contact the parish office at least six months in advance.

Rene Asuncion, Director of Rel. Ed.  
Tel:(925) 458-4574-Website: olqwre.olqw.org  
Email:director@olqwre.olqw.org

- Religious Education
RCIA Adults seeking Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, or mem-  
  bership in the Catholic Church.

- St. Vincent de Paul
Food pantry opens Mondays 9:30AM -11AM in the Parish hall
Monday, March 30
7:30 am Guillermo Rabara

Tuesday, March 31
7:30 am Jose Asejo

Wednesday, April 1
7:30 am Vicente & Kirstiene Catapusan

Thursday, April 2
7:30 am Elias’ Intention

Friday, April 3
7:30 am Mai Dinh & Ngan Vu

Saturday, April 4
8:00 am Joseph Dinh
5:00 pm Frank Duff
7:00 pm (SP) Ignacio Sr., Dolores & Ignacio Jr. Orta

Sunday, April 5
8:00 am Louise Salazar
10:00 am Mai Dinh & Ngan Vu
12:00 pm Emilia & Antonio Jayin
4:00 pm (VN)

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS & CONTACTS

Filipino Association: Nerissa Riray, President (nriray@comcast.net)
Hispanic Association Antonio Renteria, President (antoniorenteria201@yahoo.com)
Contacto en Español: Gladys Giron 925-334-9873
Columbiettes Cara Wahl, Vice President (lavignetoo@comcast.net)
Knights of Columbus Andrew Trias (Andrew.trias@gmail.com)
Regina Mundi Guild Alicia Belza, President 925-261-0283
St. Vincent de Paul Society: Esther Tilton, President SYDPOLQW@gmail.com
Legion of Mary: Rick Belza (925-261-0283)
Vietnamese Association: Hiep David Vu, President (Davidvu207@gmail.com)

GOSPEL READING
Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, “Master, the one you love is ill.”

When Jesus heard this he said, “This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, “Let us go back to Judea.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home.

Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.”

Martha said, “I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.”

Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

She said to him, “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.”

He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Sir, come and see.” And Jesus wept.

So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.”

But some of them said, “Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?”

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”

Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him, “Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me.” And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth.

So Jesus said to them, “Untie him and let him go.”

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.
Our Gospel on this day, the fifth Sunday of Lent, is again taken from the Gospel according to John. The reading from John continues the break from Cycle A’s focus on the Gospel of Matthew. Today’s Gospel reading recounts another sign, or miracle, found in John’s Gospel, the raising of Lazarus. As our catechumens move closer to the celebration of their Baptisms at the Triduum, today’s reading invites us to reflect upon what it means to call Jesus the Resurrection and the life.

The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders’ growing animosity toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication, which we have come to know as Hanukkah. The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy.

Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Jesus is said to love Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but he delays his journey for two days. The delay heightens the drama and shows Jesus’ obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus’s resurrection. When Jesus finally declares that he will journey to Bethany, his disciples fear for his life. Thomas declares that he and the other disciples should prepare to die with Jesus.

The scene described at Bethany is a sad one. Martha meets Jesus weeping and saying that if Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Yet she remains confident that God will do whatever Jesus asks. Martha affirms her belief that there will be a resurrection of the dead in the last days. Then Martha’s sister, Mary, comes to Jesus with the same confidence, saying that Jesus could have cured Lazarus. Jesus asks to be brought to Lazarus’s tomb where he prays and calls Lazarus out from the tomb. At this sign, many come to believe in Jesus, but others take word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin their plans for Jesus’ death.

Set against the backdrop of Jesus’ impending death, many elements of the raising of Lazarus foreshadow the good news of Jesus’ own Resurrection. Jesus, facing the conflict with the Jewish authorities, acts in complete obedience to God. In raising Lazarus, Jesus shows his power over death so that when Jesus dies, those who believe in him might remember that and take hope. Just as Jesus calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus’s tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus’ tomb. With our catechumens preparing for their Baptism at Easter, the Gospel today calls us to reflect on Baptism as a dying and rising with Jesus. In Baptism we die to sin’s power over us, rising as children of God. In Baptism we join ourselves with Christ, who conquered death once and for all so that we who believe in him may have eternal life. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life.

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**Lenten Schedule for RCIA**

April 2: Chrism Mass Cancelled

April 11: RCIA Liturgy at Easter Vigil

Please continue to pray for our Catechumens and candidates as they now enter into a period of deeper formation in the RCIA process.

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**STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE**

Sunday Plate March 22: $ Catholic Relief Services: $

Thank you for your contribution support to sustain the ministries & ongoing needs of our parish.

Please make all checks payable to either “OLQW” or Our Lady Queen of the World for both first and second collections. Also please put your envelope number on the Memo line.

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**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Kathy Nebel, Sylvia Ho, Conception Huezo, Ray & Alice Conner, Connie Trias, Claire Luna-Fernandez, Mario & Emma Dolor, Bertha Baldauf, Amy Kueck, Jovita Domingo, Carol Wagner, Julian Martinez, Virginia Cabaddu, Nena Davi, Danny Muly, Michelle McLaughlin, Miguel Ortiz and all those in the Parish who are sick, and all those listed in the Book of Intention.
ONLINE MASSES AND OTHER LITURGICAL RESOURCES

Daily Scripture readings from the US Conference of Catholic Bishops in English and Español

Mass celebrated by Pope Francis in Italian (original sound) - https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope-francis/mass-casa-santa-marta.html

Please also check if your local parish is livestreaming or posting videos of Mass.

There are several entities providing Mass on the internet. Check the websites regarding whether the Mass is livestreamed or available on demand.

Daily Mass (including Sunday)
Archdiocese of Boston CatholicTV - http://www.catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass
Relevant Radio (audio only) - http://relevantradio.com/
Sunday Mass
Catholic Extension Society -- https://www.catholicextension.org/stories/sunday-catholic-mass-online

PARISH EVENTS

CONFESSIONS:

Father Peter will be offering Outdoor Confessions on Saturday from 4:00 pm at the Divine Mercy Statue.

Please join us for a Live Streaming of Mass on Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 am on our Facebook Page.
Please join our Facebook page for updated information regarding the Parish.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

FOOD DRIVE

We will maintain a donation barrel for non-perishable foods in the church foyer; please be generous. Our groups of volunteers are here every Monday, and they always need groceries to help the needy in our community. The demand has been much greater!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

EASTER SUNDAY EGG HUNT

On Easter Sunday, April 12th, the Confirmation/Youth Group will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt after the 12 noon mass in the Parish Grounds. We need donation of Plastic Eggs in a variety of sizes and candies and prizes. Please bring them to the CCD Office during CCD hours on Saturday or Monday or bring them to the Rectory during Rectory Office hours no later than April 4, 2020.

Your donation is much appreciated by the Youth Group and the parish.

PALMS FOR PALMS SUNDAY

DO YOU OWN A SAGO PALM PLANT?

We need donations of Sago Palms for Palm Sunday. If you own some and able to donate, please bring them to the church hall on April 3, 2020 Friday morning 8 am.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Please drop your Sunday Envelopes in the wooden box in front entrance of the Church or the rectory mail box or mail it to the Church.

SOLAR SYSTEM

The Maintenance Fund 2nd collection will be for the Solar System. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you.
The Church will remain open during these difficult times to provide a place of prayer and solace. All public Masses are suspended until further notice.

**MESSAGE FROM BISHOP BARBER:**

In collaboration with local Bay Area officials, and in service to the common good of our communities and our country, the Diocese of Oakland is immediately putting into effect the following actions:

All public Masses are suspended. Priests are receiving specific guidance from Bishop Michael Barber, SJ, regarding the celebration of sacraments, including baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Churches will remain open to provide a place of prayer and solace for people. Proper hygiene and social distancing will continue to be emphasized per CDC guidelines.

All other events at parishes and schools are to be postponed, rescheduled or cancelled until further notice.

All chancery employees are to remain at home during this period. They are being compensated as normal. Those who can work remotely are required to do so. Those whose job responsibilities do not allow them to work remotely are required to stay in communication with their team or supervisor. Parishes are strongly encouraged to follow a similar approach with their employees.

In issuing these new guidelines Bishop Michael Barber stated, “Our Lady, Health of the Sick, has always come to the aid of the Church in times of plague, pestilence and danger. Let us pray to her to intercede for us with her Son.”

**2020 BISHOP’S APPEAL**

The 2020 Bishop’s Appeal has begun. Bishop Michael C. Barber, S.J. decided to continue with the theme, *Rebuild My Church*, a phrase inspired by St. Francis of Assisi. By sharing our talent and treasure with our sisters and brothers, we are making a sacrifice and returning to God a small portion of the many gifts he has given to us.

By embracing *Rebuild My Church*, you are contributing greatly to building up the Kingdom of God here in the East Bay. We are asked to pray for our fellow parishioners, clergy, leadership, and those served by the ministries offered by the Church, and for the success of the 2020 Bishop’s Appeal. All gifts to the Appeal are equally important. As stewards of our faith we are asked to make a sacrificial, proportionate and thoughtful gift. Those who are blessed with more are challenged to give more, but everyone is asked to respond.

Imagine what can be done in the name of our local faith community if every parishioner were inspired by *Rebuild My Church* and participated in our annual Bishop’s Appeal. While parishes rely on the financial support of parishioners through weekly offertory collections, the diocese also relies on these same parishioners to make possible the many services it provides to literally thousands of individuals each year.

The Bishop’s Appeal provides funds to help offset some of the following programmatic expenses:

- Parishes & Schools in Need
- Clergy Formation & Support
- Religious Education & Faith Formation
- Pastoral Ministries & Services
- Priest Retirement & Care

Jesus Christ promised us at His Ascension: "I will be with you all days until the end of the ages." If Christ has helped you and your family, if He has been generous to you, will you consider sharing some of the blessings you have received with Christ and His Church?

Thank you for your prayers and gifts!

Our Lady Queen of the World’s 2020 goal is $19,600.
Pope Francis’ Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.
The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person, between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet), through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

- Older adults and people who have severe underlying chronic medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness. Please consult with your health care provider about additional steps you may be able to take to protect yourself.

- Contra Costa Health Services does not recommend wearing a mask to avoid becoming infected with a respiratory disease. Masks can be effective when worn by someone who is already sick to prevent the spread of their disease.

Take Steps to Protect Yourself

Clean Your Hands Often
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Take Steps to Protect Others

Stay home if you’re sick
- Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care. Learn what to do if you are sick.

Cover coughs and sneezes
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

If you are sick, wear a facemask
- If you are sick: You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider’s office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then you should do your best to cover your coughs and sneezes, and people who are caring for you should wear a facemask if they enter your room. Learn what to do if you are sick.
- If you are NOT sick: You do not need to wear a facemask unless you are caring for someone who is sick (and they are not able to wear a facemask). Facemasks may be in short supply and they should be saved for caregivers.

Clean and disinfect
- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, door knobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- If surfaces are dirty, clean them: Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.