

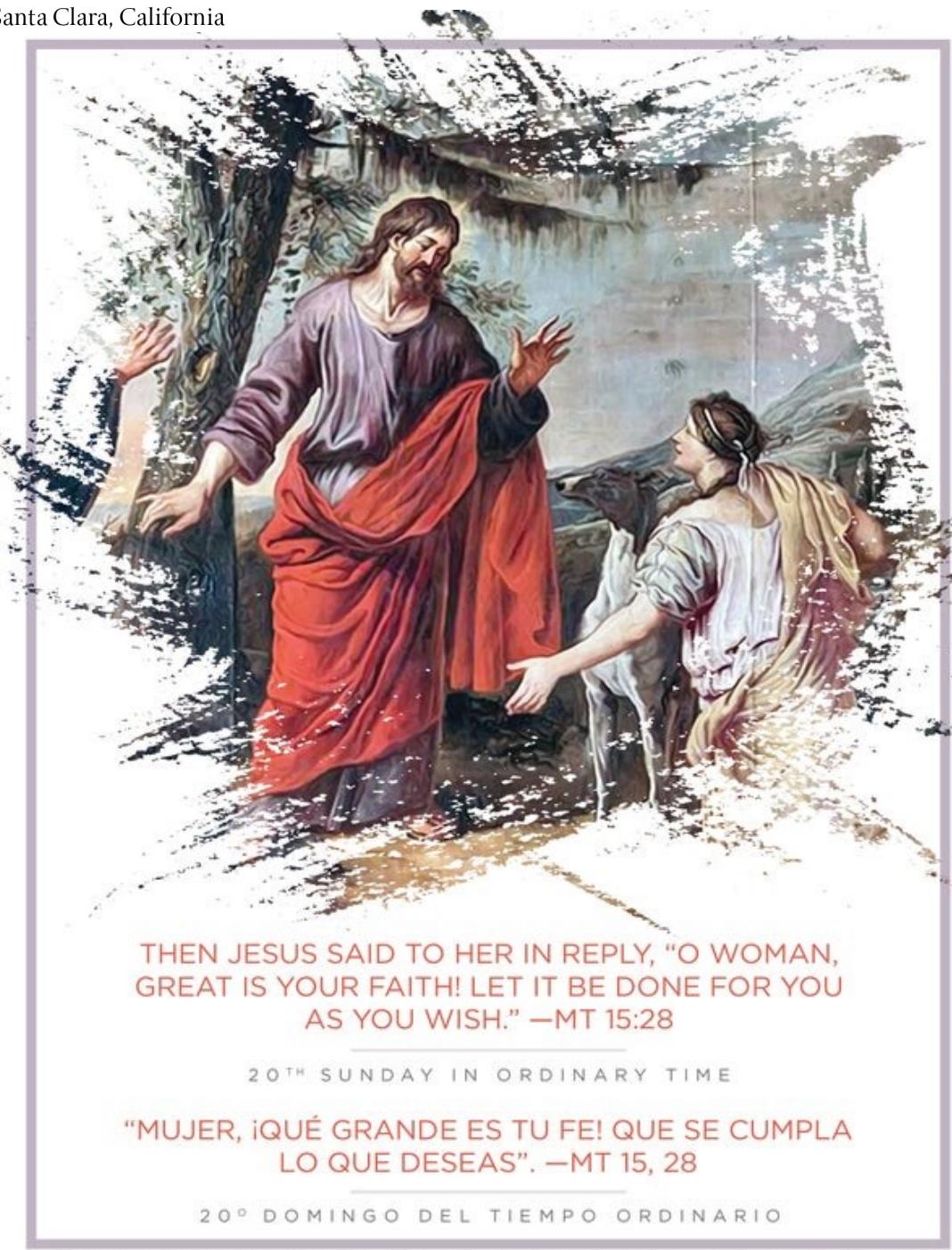


Santa Clara, California

**Twentieth Sunday  
of Ordinary Time**

**August 20, 2023**

**Vigésimo Domingo  
de Tiempo Ordinario**



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## Parish Mission Statement

*Founded in 1777,  
Saint Clare Parish is  
an ethnically diverse  
Catholic community  
of faith, united in  
worship, discipleship  
and service.*

*In welcoming  
immigrants,  
newcomers and  
strangers, we strive to  
live the virtues of  
justice and love, so as  
to be the face of  
Christ in the world,  
becoming in Him a  
sign of unity and an  
instrument of God's  
peace.*

## From Monsignor Fran Cilia

The polarization we experience in the Church and society is not healthy and does not contribute to the building up of the world, our nation or the Church into the very best that we can be. Instead, it tears us apart, reducing us to less than the sum of our parts.

The recent experience of World Youth Day was an antidote to the kind of thinking that fosters a “we versus them” life. Young people from almost every nation gathered in a kind of chaotic harmony; every language under the sun was spoken, although English was clearly the most prevalent of all. The diversity of cultures was enriching and eye-opening, especially for the youth. As Pope Francis mentioned, they themselves are a sign of hope for a better world, not based on the politics of fear and division.

I mention this in light of the readings we hear this weekend.

The Lord, through the prophet Isaiah, declares that “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples” (Isaiah 56:7). In our reading from the gospel of Matthew, Jesus praises the faith of a woman who was a Canaanite, a non-believer, and granted her request that he heal her daughter. As the “Apostle to the Gentiles,” Saint Paul broke down the barriers that had separated the Jews and the non-Jews who believed in Jesus.

We need to translate these biblical passages into our lives, our politics and our faith. Where do we draw imaginary lines that exclude others for reasons of ethnicity, language, sexuality, or any other distinction? The politics of exclusion cannot be our way. As Pope Francis repeatedly stated in Lisbon earlier this month, the Church is for all. . . “Todos, todos, todos!”

## Pancake Breakfast ~ Next Sunday

Our Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast Sunday August 27th, between 8:30 am and Noon in the North Hall. Donation are welcomed. This will be a great opportunity to treat yourself and your family to the rest of a “morning out” and to be with old and new friends from the parish.

Be gracious  
to us, O Lord,  
for we are  
in distress.

PSALM 31:9

God, bring  
consolation  
and relief

*To Maui.*

## Aid to the People of Maui

Bishop Cantú has authorized a collection to benefit the victims of the wildfires on Maui. We will take up that collection next weekend, August 26/27. Your generosity will directly benefit those most in need and will be administered through the Diocese of Honolulu.

If you choose to give directly, you may do so through the following link for Catholic Charities of Hawaii:

<https://www.catholiccharitieshawaii.org/maui-relief/>.

## Congratulations, Candidates for Confirmation

Congratulations to our 36 candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation who celebrated a “Rite of Election” for the Sacrament this Saturday at the 5:00 pm Mass. We look forward to welcoming Bishop Cantú when he confers on our candidates the Gift of the Holy Spirit at the 5:00 pm Mass on September 30. Please keep these young people in your prayers.

## Join the Parish E-Mail List

Bishop Every Friday (or sometimes Saturday), Monsignor Fran writes to our parishioners to update everyone on parish or other news. If you do not receive this email, please sign up for it here: [cilia@dsj.org](mailto:cilia@dsj.org). The worst that can happen is that you receive one more email that you will delete with the others. This weekly email keeps the lines of communication open which, hopefully, is a two-way street. Again, just email Msgr. Fran at [cilia@dsj.org](mailto:cilia@dsj.org) and join the 500+ who already receive these weekly updates.

## RCIA – The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults & Preparation of the Sacraments of First Communion (Eucharist) and Confirmation for Adults

### Adult Faith Formation



*Have you thought about ...  
Being Catholic? Join us!*

**RCIA** is a process by which a person who wishes to receive the sacraments and be received in the Catholic Church will be instructed in the Catholic faith. Catechumens are received during the Easter Vigil.

Also adults over 18 **who have been baptized** but wish to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist and of Confirmation meet weekly and sessions begin in September. Please contact us to register.

If you want to be Catholic or are a Catholic who would like to receive the **Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation**, or if you know someone who wants to be then please contact Diane Madruga for more information by email at [camponeses6@gmail.com](mailto:camponeses6@gmail.com)

## Creation Care Tips

If you have school-age kids or pack your own lunch for work, make a change this school year that moves you away from single-use plastic baggies or disposable wraps. Make an investment in some high-quality, re-usable containers or cloth snack bags. If you don't pack lunches for anyone in your family, is there a family you know to whom you can gift such containers?

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## Weekly Justice Challenge

Sunday's Gospel is a tough one. Jesus seems to be calling the Canaanite woman a dog. But she persists, challenging Jesus to see her human need. Jesus is persuaded to cure her daughter because of the woman's enduring faith. This Gospel event illustrates that Jesus' mission was not just to the Chosen People, but to the whole world. Your challenge this week is to follow in Jesus' footsteps. Reach out to someone of a different faith, defend a Muslim who is persecuted for his/her religion, learn something about Judaism, or invite someone who struggles with faith to join you for Sunday worship. How can you model our Catholic belief that Jesus is a universal Savior—for everyone, everywhere, all the time?

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**Parochial Vicar/Vicario Parroquial**  
Father Victor Trinidad  
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(669) 270-2701

**Saint Clare School Principal**  
Mrs. Catherine Kogura  
[www.stclare.school](http://www.stclare.school)  
(408) 246-6797

**Catechetical Coordinator**  
Sandra Quintanilla  
[Sandra.quintanilla@dsj.org](mailto:Sandra.quintanilla@dsj.org)  
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**Youth Minister**  
**Director of Confirmation**  
Ryan Bao  
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(669) 270-2708

**Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**  
Diane Madruga  
[camponeses6@gmail.com](mailto:camponeses6@gmail.com)

**Music Ministry**  
Christopher Wemp  
[cmwemp@gmail.com](mailto:cmwemp@gmail.com)

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**In Residence**  
Father Alberto Olivera  
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Father Martin Ezeador  
[martin.ezeador@dsj.org](mailto:martin.ezeador@dsj.org)



## Youth Ministry

We are in the works of creating a youth space in the church basement. The vision is to give young people a space to hang out, do their homework, and host youth meetings. If you have any furniture that you are willing to donate to this project, please contact Ryan ([ryan.bao@dsj.org](mailto:ryan.bao@dsj.org)). We are looking for couches, lounge chairs, rugs, bookcases, and anything else you think would go well in a youth space!



2 weeks ago, we, 2 youth ministers, 2 St. John Vianney Young Adults, and 3 St. Clare Young Adults, embarked on a pilgrimage they would never forget. Our first day never ended as we landed in Lisbon and immediately arrived for Mass with the bishop followed by an hour's walk to fellowship with other San Joseans all while carrying our whole weeks' worth of luggage on our backs. Constantly on the go heading to see people or get to a religious event became the theme of our pilgrimage. In total, our time was a hodgepodge of tiny sufferings whether it be waiting for hours to see a tiny relic or being packed into a crowd like sardines in the blistering heat of the summer. The pilgrimage would not have been complete without our small joys of sitting face to face with our Lord in the Mass or adoration. In those instances, our hearts were inspired the most. We also experienced small joys together sitting on the side of the road sharing domino's pizza, savoring the last bites of our beloved gelato, having a 'fancy' dinner at a tiny restaurant with Msgr. Fran, and sharing conversation on our sleeping pads under a freeway overpass at the vigil (it's a long story). As we return back to our communities, I think we can all attest that we are so grateful for the opportunity to have gone and experienced it with the support of our communities, families, and friends. Know that we kept all of you in our prayers when at Mass, visiting a Church, or praying with the Pope. Thank you all for your generosity and support in building up our young people and for being part of these everlasting memories of joy.



## Saint Clare School

The new school year at Saint Clare School began in an almost literal blaze of glory! Still no AC, but it will happen. Despite the temperatures, students arrived with smiles and laughter. Parents came together to prepare a delicious BBQ of burgers and hot dogs. Families reconnected with each other and students could be heard re-capping their first day back. Thank you, Msgr. Fran, for joining the party on your day off.

One of the highlights of the day was a 2nd grader who told her classmate over lunch that she was “excited about First Communion and even Reconciliation.” Thank you, Mrs. Santos, for making the morning impactful for your 2nd grade students who will be preparing for these important Sacraments of Initiation this year. Another 2nd grader was heard asking 1st graders what they learned today. When met with “I don’t remember,” they were informed that, at the end of the day, Mrs. Soares goes over everything they did so they need to listen so they’ll remember next time. Our students are our gifts. The Saint Clare faculty and staff make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students. I am proud of them all.



## Mass Schedule

### ***Weekend Masses***

#### **Saturday Evening Vigil**

(*Livestreamed*)

5:00 p.m. (English)

#### **Sunday**

7:30 a.m. (English)

9:00 a.m. (Portuguese)

10:30 a.m. (English)

12:00 p.m. (Español)

*Livestreamed*

### **Liturgy of the Word for Children**

During 10:30 a.m. Mass  
(English)

### **Liturgia de la Palabra para Niños**

Durante Misa de  
12:00pm (Español)

### ***Weekday Masses***

Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m.  
Holidays - 9:00 am

### **Confessions**

Saturdays 3:00 p.m.– 3:30 p.m.  
(*In the church*)

### **Office Hours**

9am - 5pm  
Monday - Friday

### **Address:**

725 Washington Street  
Santa Clara, CA 95050  
[www.stclareparish.org](http://www.stclareparish.org)

### **E-mail:**

[stclareparish@dsj.org](mailto:stclareparish@dsj.org)

### **Emergencies**

**(for the sick and dying):**

408-248-7786

Follow the prompt,  
then press 9



## Pastoral Planning Update for August

Refining the Pastoral Focus: Building on valuable feedback and the dedicated efforts of our commission and planning action teams, we have sharpened six strategic priorities that will lead to the Spiritual Renewal of our diocese. Notably, Retreats have integrated with Lifelong Faith Formation, and Families now stand as a distinct priority. Therefore, our six strategic priorities are: Youth & Young Adults, Worship, Outreach, Lifelong Faith Formation, Family Ministry, and Structural Renewal. This September, representatives from our parishes and schools will come together once more review and discern the second draft of our pastoral plan. Together, we forge a path of spiritual growth and renewal. Learn more at: [www.dsj.org/pastoral-planning](http://www.dsj.org/pastoral-planning).



## Daily Readings

Monday:

Judges 2:11-19  
Psalms 106:34-35,36-37,39-40,43ab & 44  
Matthew 19:16-22

Tuesday:

Judges 6:11-24a  
Psalms 85:9, 11-12, 13-14  
Matthew 19:23-30

Wednesday:

Judges 9:6-15  
Psalms 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7  
Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday:

Revelations 21:9b-14 1  
Psalms 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18  
John 1:45-51

Friday:

Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22  
Psalms 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10  
Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday:

Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17  
Psalms 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5  
Matthew 23:1-12

Sunday:

Isaiah 22:19-23  
Psalms 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 (8bc)  
Romans 11:33-36  
Matthew 16:13-20

## Mass Intentions August 19 - August 26

**Saturday** 5:00 pm Saint Clare Parishioners

**Sunday** 7:30 am Richard V. Gillick †

9:00 am Ernesto Gonsalves †  
Manuel & Cristina Jeronimo †  
Maria & Filipe Madruga †  
Manuel & Aldine Simas †  
Jose Manuel Correia †  
Vidalia Gaspar Rocha †  
Maria Simas Mello †  
Alice Bettencourt Cardoso †  
Rosalinda Silva †  
Jose Mendonca †  
Souls in Purgatory

10:30 am Manuel Silveira †

12:00 pm Ignacio Garcia Hernandez †  
Angel Peralta Jarquin †  
Alicia Gasga Martinez †  
Marina Ramirez Peralta †  
The Gutierrez Family  
Alicia Suárez - Health  
Ida López - Health

**Monday** 8:00 am Tedrick Albert T. Rumohr †

**Tuesday** 8:00 am Rudy Suaverdez †

**Wednesday** 8:00 am The Bautista Family

**Thursday** 8:00 am Santa Clara Carmelite Nuns

**Friday** 8:00 am Marie Dunn †

**Saturday** 8:00 am Beatriz Botero Buitrago †

**Boletim Paroquial Português**  
**20 de Agosto de 2023, Domingo XX do Tempo Comum – A**  
**Reflexão por João Pereira Arruda**

A mulher cananeia do Evangelho não desistiu, não desanimou com a resposta de Jesus ao pedido de ajuda feito por essa mulher. “*Não é justo que se tome o pão dos filhos para lançar aos cachorrinhos*”. Foi uma interpelação estranhamente contra a corrente do que sabemos de Jesus. A cananeia não se intimidou e com toda a coragem respondeu a Jesus: “*Mas também os cachorrinhos comem das migalhas que caem da mesa de seus donos.*” Esta resposta podia ser rude, mas interpelou Jesus em agraciar a mulher cananeia. Esta mulher tal como a viúva que importunava o juiz para lhe conceder justiça do mesmo modo insistiu com Jesus para lhe conceder a graça de curar a filha. A fé da cananeia levou-a a insistir com Jesus pela cura da filha. Como mãe que quer só o bem ; neste caso, da filha, levou-a a insistir com Jesus para lhe conceder essa graça. As graças que Deus nos concede não são dadas para que as guardemos. Não são dados para que se as ponham numa conta de poupanças. A graça de Deus não são geridas como se gera dinheiro. Possuindo Jesus o dom da cura, Jesus concedeu a graça da cura á filha da mulher cananeia que necessitava de ser curada. A graça de Deus não gera graça. A graça tem uma forma invertida: Quanto mais acumulamos, mais se perde. Quanto tentamos guardar a graça recebida, ela impede a fonte de continuar a jorrar. O nosso Deus nem é gestor nem administrador; o nosso Deus é amor; não sabe fazer outra coisa senão amar! A graça não se gera dá-se! Este episódio de Jesus com a mulher cananeia serviu de cenário da intervenção dos discípulos chamaram a atenção de Jesus de atender a mulher cananeia. O desespero de ver a filha doente e sem cura levou-a a gritar por Jesus para que Este a atendesse porque esta tinha a certeza que a cura da filha só Jesus a podia curar. Assim também nos poderia acontecer se, ao alimentarmos a nossa fé, essa nos levasse a acreditar em Jesus e nas graças que Ele nos concede. A acção da mulher cananeia nos sirva de exemplo de como interpelar Jesus nas nossas orações. Que estas saiem dos nossos corações com o mesmo fervor, a mesma certeza e a necessidade de interpelarmos Jesus para nos conceder as graças de viver em felicidade.

**Levar a Santa Comunhão aos enfermos e idosos da Comunidade Portuguesa:**  
***Desde 1977 que os Ministros extraordinários da Eucaristia servem a nossa comunidade levando a comunhão ás pessoas acamadas da nossa comunidade seja por idade avançada ou por doença. Desde 2002 a Diocese de San José pede para que se tenha um programa que contenha os nomes, endereços e telefones das pessoas que recebem a Santa Comunhão. Neste momento é necessário que todos os Ministros da Eucaristia deiem toda essa informação ao coordenador João Arruda para que tenhamos o programa completamente correcto e que não falhe uma pessoa, mesmo que esta não receba a comunhão todos os Domingos. Por vezes nem a própria comunidade não se dá conta deste serviço feito generosamente pelos nossos ministros Eucarísticos, mas quem recebe estes serviços aprecia e agradece. É por esse Ministério que a nossa missa se estende áqueles que por debilidades físicas não puderam vir á igreja. Nos nossos tempos acontecem haver burocracias demasiadas e ter uma lista dos doentes em que servimos parece uma frivolidade mas há razões muito fortes pela qual a nossa Diocese exige ter uma lista completa daqueles que nós servimos.***

***Um Susto e Alegre Domingo para todos !!***

**Parish Organizations**  
**Organizaciones Parroquiales**

**Parish Pastoral Council**

**Parish Finance Council**

Jerome Alabado

[Jerome.alabado@gmail.com](mailto:Jerome.alabado@gmail.com)

**Social Justice Committee**

Anne McMahon

[mcmahonam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mcmahonam@sbcglobal.net)

**Saint Vincent de Paul Society**

Mick Gonzales

(408) 645-0506

**Hispanic Council**

Elania Tablada

(408) 482-8234

**Portuguese Council**

Claudia Madruga

[cmadruga38@yahoo.com](mailto:cmadruga38@yahoo.com)

(408) 568-3115

Eduina Faria

(650) 420-9908

**San José Chinese**

**Catholic Mission**

*Mandarin Community*

Father Alberto Olivera, Pastor

[aolivera@dsj.org](mailto:aolivera@dsj.org)

**Cantonese Community**

Andrew Lin

[linlin2002@gmail.com](mailto:linlin2002@gmail.com)

**Serra Club of Santa Clara**

Cathleen Lencioni

(408) 248-6728

**Young Ladies Institute (YLI)**

Dolores Wriglesworth

[doloreswrigs@yahoo.com](mailto:doloreswrigs@yahoo.com)

**Knights of Columbus**

Tony Colombo

[a\\_colombo1726@comcast.net](mailto:a_colombo1726@comcast.net)

## De Monseñor Fran Cilia

La polarización que experimentamos en la Iglesia y la sociedad no es saludable y no contribuye a la edificación del mundo, nuestra nación o la Iglesia en lo mejor que podemos ser. En cambio, nos destroza, reduciéndonos a menos que la suma de nuestras partes.

La experiencia reciente de la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud fue un antídoto contra el tipo de pensamiento que fomenta una vida de “nosotros contra ellos”. Jóvenes de casi todas las naciones se reunían en una especie de armonía caótica; se hablaban todos los idiomas bajo el sol, aunque el inglés era claramente el más frecuente de todos. La diversidad de culturas fue enriquecedora y reveladora, especialmente para los jóvenes. Como mencionó el Papa Francisco, ellos mismos son un signo de esperanza para un mundo mejor, no basado en la política del miedo y la división.

Menciono esto a la luz de las lecturas que escuchamos este fin de semana.

El Señor, a través del profeta Isaías, declara que “Mi casa, casa de oración será llamada para todos los pueblos” (Isaías 56:7). En nuestra lectura del evangelio de Mateo, Jesús alaba la fe de una mujer que era cananea, no creyente, y le concedió su pedido de curar a su hija. Como el “Apóstol de los gentiles”, San Pablo rompió las barreras que habían separado a los judíos y los no judíos que creían en Jesús.

Necesitamos traducir estos pasajes bíblicos a nuestras vidas, nuestra política y nuestra fe. ¿Dónde trazamos líneas imaginarias que excluyan a otros por motivos de etnia, idioma, sexualidad o cualquier otra distinción? La política de la exclusión no puede ser nuestro camino. Como dijo repetidamente el Papa Francisco en Lisboa a principios de este mes, la Iglesia es para todos. . . “¡Todos, todos, todos!”

## Desayuno de panqueques ~ El próximo domingo

Nuestros Caballeros de Colón organizarán un desayuno de panqueques el domingo 27 de agosto, entre las 8:30 am y el mediodía en el North Hall. Las donaciones son bienvenidas. Esta será una gran oportunidad para que usted y su familia disfruten el resto de una “mañana” y estar con viejos y nuevos amigos de la parroquia.

Ten piedad de  
mí, oh Señor,  
porque estoy en  
angustia.

SALMO 31:9

Dios, trae  
consuelo  
y alivio  
a Maui



## Ayuda a la población de Maui

El obispo Cantú autorizó una colecta en beneficio de las víctimas de los incendios forestales en Maui. Retomaremos esa colecta el próximo fin de semana, 26/27 de agosto. Su generosidad beneficiará directamente a los más necesitados y será administrado a través de la Diócesis de Honolulu.

Si elige donar directamente, puede hacerlo a través del siguiente enlace para Caridades Católicas de Hawái: <https://www.catholiccharitieshawaii.org/maui-relief/>.

## Únase a la lista de correo electrónico de la parroquia

Obispo Todos los viernes (o veces los sábados), Monseñor Fran escribe a nuestros feligreses para actualizar a todos sobre la parroquia u otras noticias. Si no recibe este correo electrónico, regístrate aquí: [cilia@dsj.org](mailto:cilia@dsj.org). Lo peor que puede pasar es que recibas un correo más que borrarás con los demás. Este correo electrónico semanal mantiene abiertas las líneas de comunicación que, con suerte, es una calle de doble sentido. Nuevamente, solo envíe un correo electrónico a Mons. Fran en [cilia@dsj.org](mailto:cilia@dsj.org) y únase a los más de 500 que ya reciben estas actualizaciones semanales.

**What is God's Dream for YOU?**

# **Come & See!**

**September 29-October 1, 2023**

Be your  
Best self!



Live your  
Best life!

What's it like  
to be a  
Sister?

**Stay with us \* Pray with us \***

**Ask your questions \* Get to know us!**

**Join Our Retreat in Los Altos Hills, CA**

**DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**Find out more at [Daughters-Of-Charity.com/retreats/](http://Daughters-Of-Charity.com/retreats/)  
FOR SINGLE CATHOLIC WOMEN 18-40.**

## **Felicidades, candidatos a la Confirmación**

Felicitaciones a nuestros 36 candidatos para el Sacramento de la Confirmación que celebraron un “Rito de Elección” para el Sacramento este sábado en la Misa de las 5:00 pm Esperamos darle la bienvenida al Obispo Cantú cuando confiera a nuestros candidatos el Don del Espíritu Santo en la Misa de las 5:00 pm el 30 de septiembre. Por favor mantenga a estos jóvenes en sus oraciones.

## **Stewardship Report**

**Sunday Collection:  
August 12th & 13th**

**Goal: \$9,000.00**

**Actual: \$9,938.50**

**Solidarity Fund for Africa:  
\$ 2,233.00**

**Thank You !**

### **Parish Office Hours**

9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Monday through Friday.

*The office closes  
between 12:00 and 1:00 for  
lunch.*



Confessions  
Every Saturday 3:00 p.m.– 3:30 p.m.  
in the church

Confesiones  
Todos los sábados de 3:00 p.m. a 3:30  
p.m. en la iglesia

## **RICA – Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos y preparación de los Sacramentos de la Eucaristía y la Confirmación para Adultos**

### **Formación de fe para adultos**



*Lo has pensado*

*¿Ser católico? ¡Únete a nosotros!*

**RICA** es un proceso por el cual una persona que desea recibir los sacramentos, **Bautismo, Eucaristía y Confirmación** en la Iglesia Católica es instruida en la fe Católica y luego recibida como fiel de la Iglesia. Los cursos de RICA – comienzan en septiembre y se reúnen una vez por semana. Los catecúmenos son recibidos en la fe en la vigilia de Pascua.

También aquellos adultos mayores de 18 años **que ya han sido bautizados** pero desean recibir la Sagrada Comunión y el sacramento de la Confirmación por favor contáctenos para registrarse. Candidatos comienzan en septiembre y se reúnen una vez por semana.

Si usted desea ser Católico y está interesado en recibir la **Sagrada Eucaristía y la Confirmación** o conoce alguna persona que tiene esa inquietud puede llamar al ministerio de formación religiosa de la parroquia, Sandra Quintanilla (669) 270-2702 o por correo electrónico: [Sandra.Quintanilla@dsj.org](mailto:Sandra.Quintanilla@dsj.org).

# *Pastoral Council at Saint Clare Parish*

## *2023*



*Elyse Raby*



*Mary Reiland*



*Nick Nichols*



*Cyndi Banaag*



*Christina Nolan*



*Ursula Szeles*



*Kay Tierney*



*Scot Stennis*



*Lucy Silva*



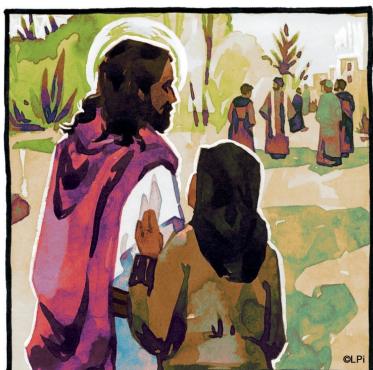
*Cecilia Altamirano*



*Leandro Vieira*

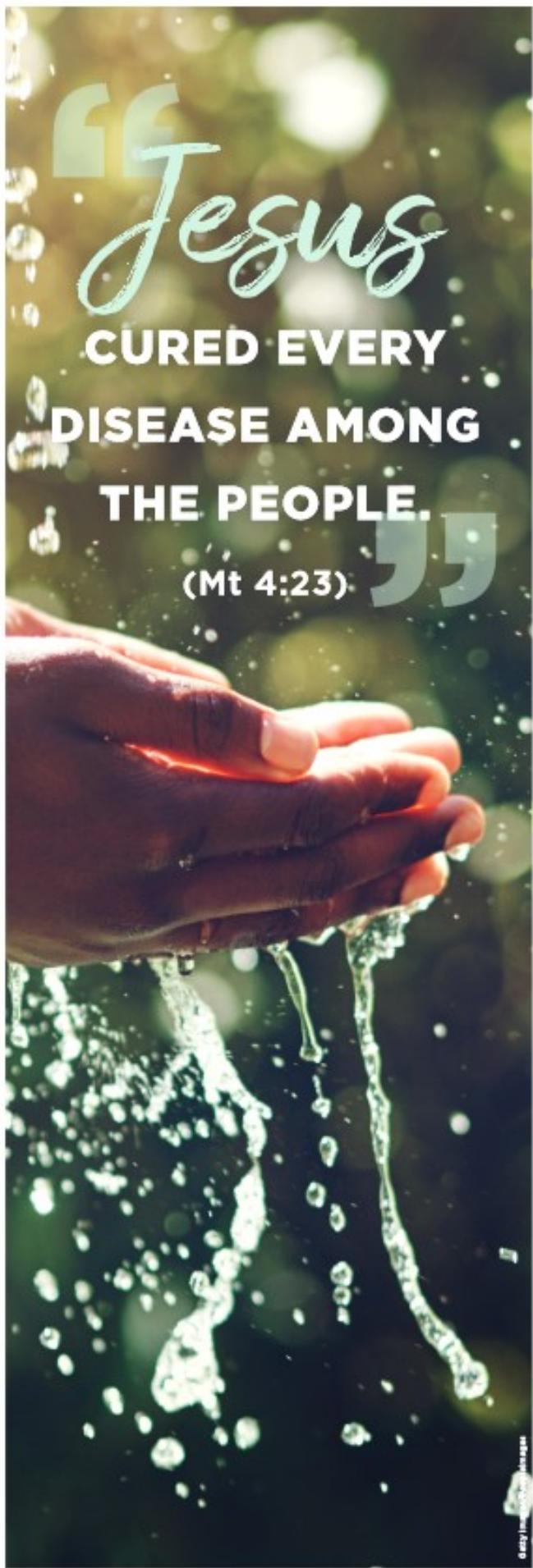


*Cathleen Lencioni*



**A**nd behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, “Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon.” He said in reply, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, “Lord, help me.” — Mt 15:22, 24-25

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD



August 20, 2023

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56:1, 6-7 | Rom 11:13-15, 29-32 | Mt 15:21-28

### GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

The abundance of God's love for us is what stood out for me in our readings today. If we consider the concept of abundance outside the Scriptures, it can be tricky. When we have it, does it imply we have too much when others have too little? If we are speaking of material things, then perhaps. But God's infinite and merciful love for us resound in each of our readings today, and this is cause for joy. In Isaiah, the Lord announces that he will accept offerings from anyone who holds to his covenant, Jewish or not. Saint Paul stresses that God's mercy is for all, and Jesus, after some back-and-forth with the Canaanite woman, heals the woman's daughter because of her great faith. God never tires of desiring healing and wholeness for all his children, which is a great gift. Let this gift of grace from God be a catalyst for us to reach out in love to others so that we also can come to God's "holy mountain and [be made] joyful in [his] house of prayer."

### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

How can we reach out in love to others as we called to do? Perhaps we can start with our parish. Is there a ministry we have read about in the bulletin that needs volunteers? Or a coordinator? Perhaps it is time to ask God how we can be his instrument in the world. We can start small. I will never forget when my friend volunteered to run our Vacation Bible School one summer. Of course, she turned to her friends to help her with this daunting task! What she desperately needed was someone to go from classroom to classroom and lead the children in song. Talk about out of my comfort zone! But she gave me the music books and song suggestions, and pretty soon, "This Little Light of Mine" was reverberating through the halls of the school. I learned then and there that kids don't notice the quality of your voice if you are joyful and enthusiastic. They love to sing! Take a chance and get out there. You won't regret it.

**PRAY** *Lord, Jesus Christ, give me the wisdom to view my hands as extensions of yours. Give me eyes to see all people as you see them. Help me to use my voice to praise you and bring the truth of your goodness to everyone I encounter. Give me the strength to have unwavering faith. Amen.*



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# Bienvenido!

PARTH COMMUNITY

Nuestra más cordial bienvenida a todos los que están celebrando con nosotros, ya sea que han estado por largo tiempo o estén recién llegados a la parroquia. Damos gracias a Dios por ustedes.

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