



Welcome to Resurrection Catholic Community

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 2, 2020

“Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing.....” Mt 14:19

Our Faith, His Power!

“Lord, five loaves and two fish are all we have here.” Jesus said, “Bring them to me!”

And you know the rest of the story. Thousands of people were fed, and there were twelve baskets of leftovers—more than they started out with!

There are two mentalities with which we can approach life’s situations—the belief in scarcity, or the belief in abundance.

The disciples looked at their situation—thousands of hungry people and a few loaves and fish—and understandably believed that what they had wasn’t enough. They asked Jesus to send the crowds away so that they could find food on their own.

Jesus, however, had a shockingly and seemingly crazy response: “There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves.”

He knew that they didn’t have enough food. But he also knew what he could accomplish with their faithfulness.

Fortunately, his gamble on their faithfulness paid off. They put their faith in him and gave him what they had. Jesus blessed it and told them to start distributing it, and then the miracle happened, the miracle of their faith and his power.

Sometimes, perhaps often, Jesus tells us the same thing when we face overwhelming needs and problems. We want him to let us off the hook and send the needy people away. But he says to us what he said to the first disciples: “You take care of it with what you have.”

If we put our faith in him, he will bless what little we have in the face of such great needs, and as we start sharing it with others, we will see the miracle of multiplication.

This is not us foolishly rushing into impossible situations on our own. This is us obeying the Lord’s command to use what we have to meet a need. When we respond faithfully to his command, he will take responsibility for the final results, because it is his bidding that we are doing.

Jesus wishes to meet the needs of humanity, and to alleviate all the suffering, and to end all injustice. And he will do that through our faithful openness to his power working miracles. Now, more than ever, we need to faithfully heed his call so that his power may be unleashed in our world.

LITURGY & SPIRITUALITY

WELCOME TO MASS OUTDOORS!

For the sake of your health and safety, we have moved our masses outdoors to the Labyrinth Patio. This weekend (July 31—August 1) we’ll have **two masses: Saturday at 5:00 PM and Sunday at 10:15 AM.** Due to social distancing requirements we have limited seating, and reservations are required. (A letter and an email explaining all the requirements was sent to all parishioners June 12. If you didn’t get it, you can read it [here](#).) We also have our Tuesday through Friday daily masses at 10:00 AM. Thank you for your patience, prayers, and amazing support as we continue to safely adapt to living with the COVID-19 virus. The Bishop has suspended the Sunday mass obligation indefinitely since many people still need to stay at home, and we will continue to live stream our 10 AM weekday and our 10:15 AM Sunday mass.

“LIVE FROM RESURRECTION! IT’S SUNDAY MORNING!”

Our live stream Sunday mass will be at **10:15 AM.** Anytime after 10:00 AM on Sunday, here’s how to join us:

Option 1: YouTube (non-interactive)

Go to our YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-00aTsxzpSPs60Qlt0CIKQ>) (or simply search YouTube for Resurrection Church, Aptos) and look for the “Live Now” video. You’ll be able to see and hear everything, but we won’t be able to hear you if you want to share a prayer intention or peace greeting (but God will hear you!)

Option 2: Zoom (interactive)

From a computer:

1. Go to: <https://zoom.us/j/429472279>
2. Enter your name (so we’ll know you’re there!)

From a smart phone or tablet:

1. Download the Zoom app (if you don’t already have it)
2. Start the app and select “Join a Meeting”
3. Enter Meeting ID 429 472 279

From any phone: (audio only)

1. Dial 1-669-900-6833 (a San Jose number)
2. Enter Meeting ID 429 472 279 and #
3. (Enter # again (no “Participant ID” needed)

An email will be sent on Saturdays with a convenient one-click link for computer users and a link to a worship aid for all. A link will also be placed on our website. A Zoom Visual Aid is available on our website.

You may wish to have a trial run by logging on ahead of time. If you get to a page that says “This meeting has not started” then you’ve succeeded!

The mass will be available for on-demand viewing immediately after mass on our parish YouTube channel (search "[Resurrection Church Aptos](#)")

DAILY MASS (Tuesday—Friday) 10 AM
Live and On-Demand on our YouTube Channel
Live on Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/98470808627>

MORNING PRAYER (Mondays) 8:00 AM
Live and On-Demand on our YouTube Channel
Live on Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/95514328423>

GOOD NEWS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Is 55:1-3; Ps 135:8-9,15-18,
Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21
Monday: Jer 28:1-17; Mt 14:22-36
Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2,12-15,18-22; Mt 14:22-36 or
Mt 15:1-2,10-14
Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7; Mt 15:21-28
Thursday: Dn 7:9-10,13-14; Mt 17:1-9
Friday: Na 2:1,3; 3:1-3,6-7; Mt 16:24-28
Saturday: Hb 1:12—2:4; Mt 17:14-20
Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a,11-13a; Ps 85:9-14;
Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33



THE MASS NEVER ENDS—IT MUST BE LIVED!

We are invited to continue to reflect upon the Gospel reading (Matthew 14:13-21) and homily as we live out our Eucharist this week. Reflect upon it in your heart and mind, and discuss it with your family, friends and faith community members.

- Do you ever feel the need to get away by yourself to heal from your own losses and pain?
- Do you ever feel overwhelmed by the demands of your life?
- How have you experienced abundance in the midst of apparent scarcity?

Mass Intentions for August 1—9

Saturday, 8/1

5:00 PM +Hilaria Calag, +Bernardo Calag,
+Mariano Ceniza

Sunday, 8/2

10:15 AM +Michael Collins, +Mirellin Tello Luna,
Special intention of Kathleen P. Flanagan,
The People of the Parish

Monday, 8/3

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

Tuesday, 8/4

8:30 AM +Lori Matusich

Wednesday, 8/5

8:30 AM +Mary Musitelli

Thursday, 8/6

8:30 AM +Vince Rice

Friday, 8/7

8:30 AM +Fr. Angelo Re

Saturday, 8/9

5:00 PM The People of the Parish

Sunday, 8/10

10:15 AM +Sheila Brogan, +Thomas Milnes,
+Jake Bregante, +Michael Collins



PRAYER LINE PRAISE REPORT!

Dear Parishioners,

We have some really Good News! Elaine received the results from her final Cancer test and it was showed she is completely Cancer Free! We were blessed with a fantastic medical team of specialists and caregivers, but they could not have done their job alone without help, and we certainly know where that come from. Her complete recovery is attributed to the Power of Prayer! From the bottom of hearts we want to thank each and every one of you for all your prayers, healing thoughts, encouragement and moral support as she made the arduous journey through chemo, radiation and surgery, the past eight months. May everyone be blessed with Peace and all Good—*Patrick and Elaine McMenemy*



Have your prayers been answered? Have you experienced a sign of God's love? Please let us know so that we can give thanks and praise to God with you! You can email us or send your praise report to our PO Box 87, Aptos, CA 95001.



PARISH EMAIL ADDRESSES

Parish: resurrectionparish@sbcglobal.net
Fr. Romeo Evangelista: reevangelista@att.net
Deacon Patrick Conway: pfconway@sbcglobal.net
Karen Victorino: kmvictorino@sbcglobal.net
Jolene McFeely: jamcfeely@sbcglobal.net
Deborah Rovick: darovick@att.net
Erma Coty: elcoty@att.net





**PLEASE PRAY for ALL THOSE
in NEED OF HEALING**



- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Cyrilla Ashley | Irma Enriquez | Leo Olson |
| Cross/Boettcher/
Burghart families | Terry Erwin | Gina Orlando |
| Jessy & Family | Dee Feci | Teresa Orosco |
| Lorenzo Abeyta | Trent Feliss | Kathy Osmonson |
| Gregory Ackerson | Greg Finegan | Gabe P. |
| Marc Adato | Mark Emmet Fisher | Connor Paulbitski |
| Javier Anaya | Roy G. | Dave Peasley |
| Baby Luke | Jen Garvey | Ashley M. Pennell |
| Becki Bailey | Roy Gomez | Anita Perry |
| Emi Baldenegro | Andre Grier | Gabe Ponce |
| Adeline Bautista | Lita Hebert | Oliver Potts |
| Dennis Berbach | Kelly Jo Hebert | Heidi R. |
| Maria Bernstein-
Brumbaugh | Heike Hempel | Pablo R. |
| Stacy Bischoff | Mary Ann Herlihy | Chris Randolph |
| Jeraldine Boger | Robert Higgins | Dawn Renz |
| Jim & Lill | Debra Hightower | Mary Repetti |
| Bombardieri | Rick Housouer | Joel Rivera |
| Vera Borroel | Barbara Howley | Chellie Roberts |
| Tracy Boyd | Patrick Howley | Jon Roberts |
| Rick Braun | Allan Hughes | Suzie Roberts |
| Michelle Brown | Jim Jackson | Jose Rufino |
| Betsy Burrows | Faye Jahnigen | Valerie Ruschke |
| Caitlin Jane Buse | Johnathan | John Sargetis |
| Carlos C. | Ariel Johnson | Joseph Saucier |
| Tony Cacache | John Jones | Anna Seely |
| Dante Calcagno | D.B.K. | Kim Sessa |
| Ardith Campbell | Tony K. | Jill Schauf |
| Delores Carano | Cameron Karleen | Kelly Scott |
| Chelsea & Family | Eric, Marth, Andrew
& Taryn Kenner | Alisha Smith |
| Mary Church | Dylan Kinion | William Smith |
| Dr. Abraham | Kathy Klapheke | Diane Spoto |
| Cordova | Mary Klaus | Henry Sprenger |
| Trish Cronin | Joshua Kobinski | Greg Stewart |
| Ralph Cross | Marion Kusanovich | Agnes Subbiondo |
| Edith Cuevas | Michael Lafilin | Kathleen Tavares |
| Nancy Daves | Matt Lane | Paul Thompson |
| Larry Davis | Joan Lawlor | Estelle Turner |
| Carrie deHart | Eric Lee | Sharon Turner |
| Tavish deHart | Frank Leonetti | Amy V.F. |
| Lynnette Delgadello | Carrie Levin | Sally
van Kaathoven |
| Sr. Joan Derry | Donald Lowery | Mark Vaught |
| Ralph Desmond | Matthew Ludlow | Lawrence W. |
| Michelle DeSouza | Danny Lucas | Stephanie Walsh |
| Mary Donatoni | Michael Lucas | Mary Ann Wright |
| Sharon Dougan | Eileen Mathwig | Michele Wright |
| Mark Duggan | Ginny Solari Mazry | Tannis Welch |
| Robert Duggan | Jackie McDow | Gina Wilson |
| Wyatt Duino | Connie McGill-Fergus | Thom Windsor |
| Pat Emard | Kathleen McGinley | Maggie Young |
| Sophia Emmons | Mary McMenemy | Rosemary Zamora |
| Peter Empson | Lisa McMenemy | |
| Annie Enright | Elaine McMenemy | |
| Sean Enright | George Mungai | |
| Alicia Enriquez | Joleen Munoz | |
| | Judy Navarro | |
| | Zoe Nink | |

Please let the office know when a name can be removed from this prayer list. Thank you.

PRAYER LINE: Please call Rosalie Flores-Aguon (831-359-9799) or Mary Soltis (688-8326) if you or someone you know is in need of prayer or email resurrection.aptos.prayerline@gmail.com

**Stewardship of Treasure
PLATE COLLECTION
July 25 & 26, 2020**

Weekly Plate Collection:	
• Mailed In & All Masses	\$4,445.00
• Electronic	\$2,035.33
• Total	\$6,480.00
Weekly Plate Collection Need (Budget)	\$11,300.00
Plate Collection Average	\$9,797.00
Diocesan Seminarians & Cont'd Education of Priests	\$745.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT!

If you miss a week your donation can be mailed to the parish office at P.O. Box 87, Aptos, CA 95001-0087 or you go to <https://resurrection-aptos.org> and click on the donate now button. Thank you.

Remember Resurrection Catholic Community in your will. Contact Karen Victorino in the parish office.

My Weekly Offering

Your weekly offering can be given securely to Resurrection via our website

<https://resurrection-aptos.org>

or by scanning the QR Code



or by downloading the free app **GIVE PLUS+** in the Google Play Store or Apple Store

or by mailing your donation to Resurrection Church, PO Box 87, Aptos, CA 95001

Your weekly offering helps pay for 70% of our operating expenses, expenses which continue even during the shutdown. Our staff is still working for you "behind the scenes". We thank you for your patience and for your continued support of the parish!

May the God of Hope continue to bless us during this unprecedented time in our lives.



WOULD YOU LIKE A MASS OFFERED FOR A LOVED ONE?

We are still able to take mass requests for daily mass or for the weekend. Please email Jolene at jamcfeely@sbcglobal.net and she will be happy to set up a date for you. The donation per mass is \$10.00. You can mail in a check or pay with your credit card. Thank you!

FAITH FORMATION

LA CONGRESS 2021: Have you ever wanted to experience the Religious Education Congress? If so, 2021 might be the year for you! Congress 2021 will be virtual so you can participate from the comfort of your home or wherever you can connect digitally. For up to date information go to www.recongress.org **Youth Day will be February 18 and the Adult Days will be February 19-21.** The theme for the adult days is Proclaim the Promise.

Enrich your life with these online resources:

- Give Us This Day: www.giveusthisday.org/Digital
- Magnificat: www.magnificat.com/free
- MagnifiKid: <https://us.magnificat.net/flipbook/KID/sample/>
- Word on Fire: www.wordonfire.org/
- Magis Center: <https://magiscenter.com/>
- Ave Explores: www.avemariapress.com/aveexplores-series/

JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE VIRTUAL RETREATS: Virtual retreats in August and September held via a Zoom call. Right now, we are offering on-site retreats starting in October. But that is subject to change, of course, depending on the spread of the virus. Please check out our retreat offerings here: <https://jrc.retreatportal.com/events/f?p=EVENTS:1:.....>

Tune in this Saturday, August 1 at 10:00 AM Pacific when Fr. Andrew will give a one hour talk on Spirituality in this Time of Pandemic. The talk is \$15 and you can register here:

https://jrc.retreatportal.com/events/f?p=101:2:12391844265947:PROGRAM_ID:3070

OUTREACH

SHELTER UPDATE: Our round-the-clock shelter continues to operate smoothly in Markey Community Center. Our little "family" of 17 beautiful people are able to shelter-in-place thanks to the gift of our center. They spend their time quietly reading, doing puzzles, keeping everything spotless, watching TV and movies, and enjoying our beautiful grounds in the lovely spring weather. During the shelter-in-place order, meals are being brought in by local caterers and restaurants, and we thank them for this wonderful, compassionate service! Shelter staff are onsite 12 hours each day to provide support, and one of the guests serves as the overnight monitor. Our mobile shower unit is on-site three days a week, and we thank our faithful

and brave volunteers for providing this service. Our guests are so very grateful for our hospitality and want you to know it! Thank you for your ongoing support of the parish which makes it possible for us to be of service to others!

MANTLES OF CARING: The members of Mantles of Caring are occupying their isolation time with knitting and crocheting. There is a lovely array of handmade items available for your selection. Would you like a lovely, soft cap for a cancer patient? Perhaps, a baby blanket for a new grandchild? Or a prayer shawl for a Covid-19 patient? These items and more are available now. Contact Sue PUNCHES (831) 661-0783 to find exactly what you are looking for and how to get it. Thank you and be safe.

FOOD PANTRY IS OPEN AND FULL! Our Food Pantry continues to serve the needs of the poorest of our community each Monday and Friday morning from 10:00 AM to noon. Thanks to being an official distribution center for the Second Harvest Food Bank, and your generous donations, we have plenty of food to offer those who need it. We are able to purchase what we need from the Food Bank at a fraction of retail cost thanks



to your generous donations, and we receive many free things from the Food Bank as well. We are so grateful for our generous volunteers who come each week to serve the clients and to make the food bags and keep everything organized. Truly Christ is revealed in the breaking of the bread! **Thank you to all who have responded to our appeals for specific food items—our needs have been met at this time. We are blessed with an abundance of food items and will reach out to the community as needs arise.** If you have any questions about the food pantry, please feel free to contact the parish office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECYCLING: We are not able to take recycling at this time. We will let you know when we are able to do so again. Thanks for your support of our youth ministry!

HEALTHCARE: Covered California is giving consumers more time to sign up for health care coverage during the COVID-19 pandemic by extending the current special enrollment deadline through August 31, 2020.

www.coveredca.com

LIVING AT PEACE IN DIFFICULT TIMES

A ZOOM day retreat with Fr. Jim Nisbet Saturday, August 8, 2020 from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM These are difficult times. We are faced with the pandemic of COVID-19 and the unrest of inequalities within our society. The cost is \$50 per internet connection. This is a ZOOM only retreat, the retreat is not open for guest participation in conferences at this time. For more information and/or to register, call 831-623-4234 or visit

www.stfrancisretreat.com

ANNUAL MINISTRIES APPEAL (AMA): It is once again time for the AMA. If you have given to this appeal in the past several years you should have received a letter from Bishop Danny Garcia in mid-February. Thank you to those who have responded to this appeal to date. Because of the Shelter in Place Order we have not sent out a letter. Please make your donation on-line if you are able. This is especially critical since we depend on this appeal to help support our ministries. This appeal supports the ministries of the Diocese of Monterey and our ministries here. Our Diocesan goal is \$41,000 this year and our total goal is \$69,000. Once we have reached our diocesan goal everything we receive over the goal will be returned to the parish.

To make a donation online please go to <https://dioceseofmonterey.org/giving>

Thank you for your support!

Bishop's Annual Ministries Appeal as of July 27, 2020		
# of households participating	Amount Pledged	% of total goal
66	\$21,326	31%

AMAZON SMILE: Many of you already shop on Amazon—now you can support Resurrection Church's Building Fund for Markey Community Center by using Amazon Smile. Log into your Amazon account by going to smile.amazon.com, using your same credentials to log in and choose Resurrection Church in Aptos, CA as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases made by supporters to Resurrection Church. Help spread the word!

Go to settings in the Amazon app and turn on Amazon Smile to use Amazon Smile in your app.



Thank you for your support!



Resurrection Church—Aptos, California



Resurrection Catholic Community

DANIEL FASTING – 21 DAYS SPIRITUAL JOURNEY with prayers and sacrifices from August 1st to August 21st - is the deliberate and intentional dedication to focus on God and humbling oneself in the presence of almighty God. We do this with the same fervor and urgency shown by prophet Daniel for his people and nation. Expecting a great manifestation of God's power upon the current pandemic, we lift our hands and hearts to the Lord for supernatural breakthroughs in our lives and in the world.

“I ate no savory food, took no meat or wine, and did not anoint myself at all until the end of the three weeks” (Daniel 10:3)

Fr. Roy Varghese Palatty CMI (Spiritual Director, Shalom Media) will be leading this initiative. For more details about Daniel Fasting Prayer please visit <http://www.shalommedia.org/danielfasting>

We would like to spread this message to as many people as possible, so that tens of thousands all over the world can join together in unison calling upon our Abba, Father and seeking his mercy and grace. Registration for this event is free.

YLI #95 SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE: As we all know, this is a very different period of time. Due to COVID-19 we will be unable to conduct our School Supply Drive in the way that we have done in the past—leaving buckets in the church to collect school supplies. While teaching children in the classroom or remotely remains uncertain, the foster care students are still in need of school supplies. There are several ways you can help. If you would like to provide items needed (sturdy back packs, spiral notebooks, pens & pencils, erasers, rulers, glue sticks, binders, paper, markers, crayons), we will pick them up from you by calling Erin at 831-471-9589 for front porch pick up. Or if you would like us to do the shopping, please send a check to Pat Morotti at 222 Highland Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. Please make checks payable to Y.L.I. #95 and write “School Supplies” in the memo line. Thank you for all you do to support our foster children.



DON'T FORGET TO SUPPORT OUR BULLETIN ADVERTISERS! This week we are giving a shout out to Dominican Hospital & John Summers of Summers Real Estate & Property Management. See the attached advertising page for all our advertisers. We are grateful for our advertisers continued support of the parish.

Keeping Busy and Safe In the Time of Covid-19 by Nancy Howells

As a member of Resurrection Church since the 1960's with Fr. Markey as Pastor, I've always believed it was a very special community. Now, in 2020, with the COVID-19 virus challenging so many parts of our lives, I attend Mass on my computer. Resurrection is still a special place. I just can't physically go there right now.

We are all in the same boat, attempting to remain healthy and active without leaving home. I'm an avid reader. I watch Netflix movies without annoying commercials. I tend my animals and garden. I love making mosaic projects. But, what else could I do to fill up extra time?

While cleaning out cupboards, I found two jigsaw puzzles, each with 1000 pieces. They were completely untouched for years. I read somewhere that puzzle sales recently surged by 370 percent. No wonder!

There are many valid reasons for this:

1. Completing puzzles take time. (Yeah!!)
2. It sharpens your ability to use tiny clues to fit the correct pieces together.
3. Puzzle solving brings family members together around the dining room table (which you are no longer using for dining). Leaving it there will entice all the family to put in a piece or two.
4. You may experience a full range of emotions, from gloom to glee, based on every little success.
5. My puzzle was a scene at the Santa Cruz Boardwalk. The artist created typical beach goers with a flick of his brush. It was a reminder of happy summer days.
6. I learned that my grandson is especially talented with solving puzzles. After I tried to finish the final few pieces by pounding them in place, he corrected my badly hurried mistake and we finished the last few pieces together. We even found the correct spot for the piece the dog chewed on (which made it unrecognizable).

But, what does one do with a *completed* puzzle, especially after you've spent so much time on it? My friend patiently glued the pieces together, storing them all under her bed until she could decide the answer to this question. Then, in a moment of tidy housekeeping, she hauled them all to the dump! I, however, found a friend who will swap puzzles, thus, creating two circles of joy. What a good idea!

During a recent Mass, Fr. Romeo, in his homily, explained how God is not a genie you can call upon to solve all of your problems. Rather, He hears our prayers and helps us become stronger at finding pathways to the solutions by ourselves. I think that is what God is doing for me at this time. Although finding ways of being busy and content during this epidemic may not be the biggest puzzle to solve, God is there for us always in so many different ways. Thank all of you at Resurrection for continuing to keep our church community a very special place.



**WE WANT TO
HEAR FROM
YOU!**

New Opportunity

If you would like to contribute a written experience to the senior section of the bulletin, please let me know. Or email it to Erma. This is a nice way to share what you are doing and/or how you are coping with the changes we are all experiencing. This is a great opportunity to publish your story. We would love to hear from you. Email your story (or poem) to elcoty@att.net.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

August 2020

Resurrection Catholic Community

Aptos, California

One Minute Meditations

St. Alphonsus Liguori

Born near Naples, Italy, St.

Alphonsus left his successful legal career for the

priesthood. He founded the Redemptorists to educate the faithful.

Internal problems resulted in the Order's rejecting St. Alphonsus. Despite failing health, he was made a bishop. He lived simply and was generous with the poor. He combatted Jansenism, which imposed a burdensome, legalistic morality, and promoted a more moderate, realistic morality – one driven by love rather than guilt. He is a Doctor of the Church.



Pay God first

It takes money to do God's work in the world and the top funding source for the Catholic Church's ministries is her generous people. Set aside a portion of every paycheck for charity just as you do for your rent or mortgage. Write that check first. Your parish needs your support now, more than ever.

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?" (Psalm 27:1).



Lean on our Faith during tough times

Throughout the history of God's dealings with humanity, He has continually brought good out of evil. During this unprecedented time of pandemic, we can remember this history and lean on Him.

Participate in weekly worship. If public Mass is not

an option for you, find ways to join in worship safely. Participate in Mass online and don't miss a Sunday. Support others by setting up a prayer group or Bible study with friends through calls, chats, or online meets.

Practice listening during prayer. Even though our schedules may have slowed down, our thoughts probably have not. Make mental space to listen to and hear from the Holy Spirit, and

allow Him to bring truth and consolation.

Look for the ways God is working in the crisis. Our fear and anxiety can arise from worrying about what might happen. It helps to look for the good coming out of the crisis.

Can you spot unexpected blessings?

Create a safe space in your home. Create a place – a corner, a chair, a large closet – where you spend at least 15

prayerful minutes each day. Take this time to remember that you are not alone.

Be not afraid. Choosing to trust God is a decision we can each make. It comes from a determination to surrender with confidence knowing His love is enough.

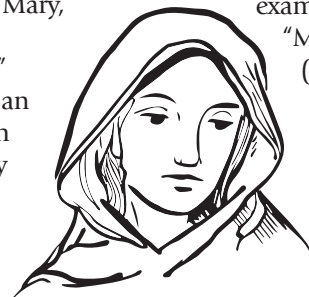


Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics have so many titles for Mary?

Everything we say about Mary, ultimately, is about Jesus, including her "devotional" titles. Each title highlights an aspect of God's saving plan and Mary's role in it. Many of them have to do with her sinlessness and her motherhood. For

example, Mary is called the "Mirror of Justice," Theotokos ("God-bearer"), "Seat of Wisdom", "House of Gold," etc. Mary's titles – like Mary – are meant to draw our focus not to Mary, but to Jesus. Mary always leads us to her Son.



Turn conflict into growth

Criticism can bring you down if you let it. Instead, finding a gracious way to handle criticism can be the key to improving your life, attracting new friends, and becoming a better Christian.

Stay calm. The person delivering the criticism may be having a bad day or seeking attention. Or, she may really want to help and just not be skilled in delivering criticism. Staying calm and avoiding defensiveness helps you look for the rose among the nasty thorns.

Thank the commenter, no matter what is said or



how it is delivered. People who make rude comments don't expect you to listen to them, much less be grateful for their comments. Being appreciative is disarming. That's how to turn a critic into a friend.

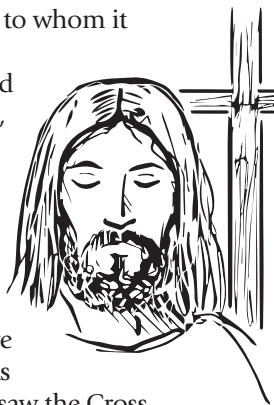
Weigh the criticism. Do the comments contain something helpful you can use to become a better person? Is the person trying to help, to make things better, to keep you from repeating mistakes, to suggest positive improvements? If not, forget it and move on without anger.

from Scripture

Matthew 16:21-27, Our ways are not God's ways

This passage seems like bad news. First, Jesus predicts his own death. This must have shocked the disciples, to whom it was just revealed that their Master was the long-awaited Messiah. Instead of an epic, Roman-conquering battle plan, Jesus told them he would be executed – seemingly tragedy and defeat, not joy and triumph.

Second, Peter did what we often do when God permits setbacks and suffering. He saw the Cross and wanted to flee – and was harshly rebuked. Yet, if Jesus listened to Peter and turned aside, we would have died in our



sins, unable to get into Heaven. Instead, he chose the Cross – for us. He chose us. Through our post-Resurrection lens, what seemed a devastating defeat was actually a decisive victory against sin and death.

Let's be clear: our Father wants us to be happy, but he wants us to be happy forever, not just for today. The key is not to avoid the crosses he sends us, but to accept them trustingly, peacefully, as

Jesus did. Jesus helps us carry our crosses, with him taking the heavier end.

Q & A Can the seal of Confession ever be broken?

The seal of Confession refers to the silence binding a priest, under severe penalties, about what he hears in Confession. "[The priest] can make no

use of knowledge that confession gives him about penitents' lives." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1467). The penitents are not bound by the seal.



The only two "exceptions" are: If the penitent wants to discuss his previous confession to Fr. X with him, Fr. X must first ask the penitent's permission. Or, if a priest needed guidance from another confessor, he must still ask the penitent's permission and keep the penitent's identity a secret.

In truth, in the Sacrament of Confession the penitent is really addressing Jesus Christ, not the priest, who is simply the "phone line" between the two parties. The purpose of the seal is to encourage people to approach the Lord in complete confidence and experience his mercy. While this enforced silence may seem strange and possibly problematic, the first priority is the salvation of souls. The rest is entrusted to God.

Feasts & Celebrations

Aug. 10 – St. Lawrence (258). A Roman deacon to Pope St. Sixtus II, St. Lawrence presented the poor and destitute as the Church's treasure, in answer to Rome's demands for the church's gold. He was martyred shortly afterwards.

Aug. 15 - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1950). Declared a dogma of our faith by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary being taken up into Heaven body and soul at the end of her life. Note: This year, this is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation.

Aug. 25 – St. Joseph Calasanz (1648). Seeing the suffering of neglected children, this Spanish priest founded the Clerks Regular of Pious Schools, called the Piarists to educate them. He suffered opposition for his work, which he bore with patience and humility.

Aug. 27 – St. Monica of Hippo (387). St. Monica is best known for converting her wayward son and pagan husband by her patience, piety, and prayers. Her son, St. Augustine, became a great saint of the Church.



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