# St. Didacus Catholic Community

4772 Felton Street San Diego, CA 92116 • Phone: (619) 284-3472 Email us at: mainoffice@stdidacuschurch.org or go to our Church website: stdidacuschurch.org

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?"

"¡Con razón nuestro corazón ardía, mientras nos hablaba por el camino y nos explicaba las Escrituras!"



#### YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Mother's Day is around the corner and the Diocese of San Diego is planning a video montage to honor all Mother's on Mother's Day. The video will be featured on the diocesan website and after their Sunday Masses on Mother's Day weekend. THEY NEED YOUR HELP! The

project entails collecting pictures of children holding a flower, an image of our Lady, holding a sign that say's Happy Mother's Day, I Love You, etc. They would love to have them in different languages—Italian, Vietnamese, Chinese, Tagalog, Spanish, Chamorro, French, etc. This is a time sensitive project and they need all pictures in no later than **Friday**, **May 1st**. They will be listed on the Diocesan website, Social Media outlets and YouTube Channel.

The details of the pictures are: 1. The pictures need to be from the waist up. They ask that the picture be of the child or children holding flowers or a Mother's Day message. 2. The orientation of the picture needs to be vertical. Send all images to:

mgalvan@sdcatholic.org and abustos@sdcatholic.org by May 1st.

Thank you in advance for helping the Diocese make this a special moment for all Mothers.

The Road to Emmaus. Seven miles is only about a one or two hour walk and yet for the two disciples it must have been the longest walk of their lives. It was a walk, away from defeat and frustrations, of failed promises and false hope. These were their assumptions. Jesus failed them. After all, he was executed and hung on the cross like any other criminal. It was shameful and danger-



ous to remain in Jerusalem. They had to find their way to start all over again. The road to Emmaus is our road too. Many times we are afraid of the real challenges in life and we would rather go to a place away from danger and persecution. We would rather have the peace and security than live a life of danger and uncertainty. For the two disciples even the Scriptures could not open their minds to what was going on. In the same manner, the Bible alone is not enough to make us change the course of our journey. Jesus explained to them the meaning of Scriptures and yet they did not get it all. Only when there was an exchange of gifts, hospitality on the part of the two disciples and the breaking of the bread on the part of Jesus that their eyes were opened and they understood. They had to go back to where they started the journey, Jerusalem. The Scriptures and the Breaking of the Bread or the Holy Eucharist are two essential provisions for our journey. These two gifts will bring about the change we all want and desire. Let us pray that our Churches will be opened again soon and together we can celebrate the Breaking of the Bread and be strengthened in our Emmaus journey.

Fr. Rick



#### Practicing Spiritual Communion

It's important to recall that, although our obligation to attend Mass might be dispensed, we are never dispensed from honoring the Third Commandment to "keeping holy the Sabbath." Sunday remains to be set apart as another opportunity to grow in communion with the Lord. When we are unable physically to attend Mass, we may consider the practice of "spiritual communion" — an act to which the saints have given a consistent witness.

Spiritual Communion is a traditional practice of expressing to the Lord our longing for him and our desire for him to enter our hearts. St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582) said: "When you do not receive communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a spiritual communion, which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you."

St. Jean-Marie Vianney (1786-1859), the famous country priest from Ars, France, once said "when we feel the love of God growing cold, let us instantly make a spiritual Communion. When we cannot go to the church, let us turn towards the tabernacle; no wall

can shut us out from the good God."

How might we go about making a spiritual Communion? St. Peter Julian Eymard (1811-1868), the French "apostle of the Eucharist," suggested the following format:

"If you do not receive (holy Communion) sacramentally, receive spiritually by making the following acts: conceive a real desire to be united to Jesus Christ by acknowledging the need you have to love His life; arouse yourself to perfect contrition for all your sins, past and present, by considering the infinite goodness and sanctity of God; receive Jesus Christ in spirit in your inmost soul, entreating Him to give you the grace to live entirely for Him, since you can live only by him; imitate Zacchaeus in his good resolutions and thank our Lord that you have been able to hear Holy Mass, and make a spiritual Communion; offer in thanksgiving a special act of homage, a sacrifice, an act of virtue, and beg the blessing of Jesus Christ upon yourself and all your relatives and friends."

While there is no formula prescribed by the Church to make an act of spiritual communion, prayers composed by various saints are part of the Church's rich treasury of devotions. One of the more popular acts of spiritual communion comes from St. Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787): "My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen."





St. Didacus School has been educating children for 80 years. If you were a student, or a parent of a student, and you have pictures or stories you would like to share in our special edition

**"80 years of Excellence"** St. Didacus School yearbook, we would love for you to share them with us! Please email them to <u>christine.dean@stdidacusparishschool.org</u>

Individual or group pictures are needed. If possible please label names and years represented. Thank you for sharing!

Fr. Rick will be livestreaming a SPANISH MASS on Sunday at 11:30am. Visit our parish Facebook page: <u>https://</u> www.facebook.com/ saintdidacus.parishchurch





Thank you for sending your weekly envelopes! Many people have dropped them in the parish mailbox or have mailed them in. We appreciate your donations. They are helping us pay the bills! May God bless you for your continuing support!



## **FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

If you are in need of food, you are invited to come to the

Parish Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from noon to 3pm. We have non-perishable items from Catholic Charities and it is available to anyone in need.

Also, we have people offering to help the elderly and those unable to get out to the store or to run errands. If you can use help, please call the Parish Office and we will connect you with our volunteers.

We give thanks to God for all the good works that come out of our adversity!

Saturday	April 25
	†Eleanor & Tom Driscoll
Sunday	April 26
-	People of St. Didacus
	April 27
	†Richadean Burrows
	April 28
	†Joe & Eleanor Martinez
	April 29
-	
Thursday	April 30
-	†Marlen Forbes
-	May 2
	George and †Janice Morzinski

Mass Intentions

Please note that Fr. Rick continues to celebrate a Mass each day at 6pm for your intentions. Watch it live on our Facebook page: <u>https://</u> www.facebook.com/saintdidacus.parishchurch

#### Readings for the week of April 26, 2020

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35 Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29 Tuesday: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Jn 6:30-35 Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40 Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51 Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59 St. Joseph the Worker: Gn 1:26—2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/Mt 13:54-58 Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Jn 6:60-69 Next Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

# **PRAYER LIST**

Tony Allen Tessa Anderson Diann Bauer Dan Bauer Martha Becerra Bob Bellesi Herminia Brignoni Gail Cedercrans Fred Cepeda Irene Davis MarvLou De Luca Bob Demers Josie Demers Mick Donahue Cecelia Dueber Carlita Durand Daniel Galvan Susan Guenzel Anthony Flores Tony Flores

Stan Hammack **Dolores Hansel** Joseph Hastings Jennifer Hughes & Family Al Hunt Joanne Hunt Ponciano Jimenez Emily Johnson Paul Kasha Meri Kerekanich Kerekanich Family Marilyn Kober Elizabeth La Costa Irene Lazo Juanita Lopez Paul Mansell Miguel Martinez Terrence McCabe Emma McPherson **Dolores Mediano** 

Peter Napolitano Lupita Plascencia Judith Pratt Antonia Raya Betty Rios **Dolores Robertson** Victor M. Sanchez Shirley Scinocca Carol Schmidt **Beverly Stemper** Phillip Sturock Vaneza Torres Maria Winters Jean Woody Helen Yturralde Joan Venverloh

And the special intentions in our Book of Needs

#### ZOOMING ALONG AT ST. DIDACUS

Elena continues to stay connected to the CCD students, the Confirmation students and RCIA using the Zoom platform to get them together. We are all learning new ways to connect during these days of COVID-19. Thanks, Elena, for all your hard work and your efforts to keep us connected!



Above—Elena meets with her CCD teachers in mapping out a plan to keep the students engaged and connected. Below—The students and their families tell what they did for Easter at a recent CCD Zoom get-together.



#### Here are some events on the Parish Zoom Schedule:

We have Zoom classes with High School youth and Confirmation students every Tuesday at 6PM.

We have Zoom catechism classes at 3PM, 4PM and 5PM on Wednesdays.

We Zoom with RCIA every Thursday in English at 7PM.

And we started a Zoom group with Young Adults and all those who are already Confirmed on Fridays at 7PM. If you want to join them send your email to Elena.

The Altar Society will be Zooming on Wednesday, May 6th at 1PM.

The Choir will be trying Zoom to connect and sing.

If you want to join a class contact Elena at elena@stdidacuschurch.org or 619-504-3514.

May God bless you and may the Blessed Virgin protect you during this pandemic.

#### **Enrich your Family's Conversation**

We are spending more time together as families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Make the most of this time together by going deeper in your relationships by making your conversa-



tions more meaningful. Here are a few good conversation starters you can use during family mealtime (with everyone invited to respond).

Sample questions:

—"What are 2 things you like about being a member of our family?"

—"What are 2 things other people can do to make you happy?"

—"What are 2 things you can do to make other people happy?"

—"What is something you wish we did more often as a family?"

—"What was one of the best things about today and one of the hardest things?"

—"What's something that happened today that you didn't expect?"

—"What helps you make a decision when you aren't sure what to do?"

—"Why do some kids do drugs?"

—"What is something you wish everybody knew?"

—"What is an experience you've never told the family about?"

—"If there's one thing you would have done differently in your life if you could, what would it be?"

—"If you wrote a letter to the President or someone else about one thing we could do to make our country better, what would you say?"

Even if you are isolating on your own, these might be good food for thought!

### A Prayer to Pray This Easter Season

Father,

The celebration of this Easter season cannot be dampened or drowned out by the COVID-19 pandemic. You are not surprised by it, and You know what tomorrow will bring. Help us to remember Your goodness, and the truth of



Your promises, amidst the fear and unknown days we are traversing now. Remind us to bring our fear and worry to You, and trust You to carry us, sustain us, heal us, provide for us, and be with us ...always. Father, You don't shame us for feeling scared and alone, but You are apt to remind us You are here with us. Bless us, this Easter season. Keep us healthy and heal all of those infected by the pandemic virus. Heal, cure, and stop its spread. In Jesus' powerful name we pray, Amen.

## A Litany of Blessing in Time of Grief

Before we breathed our first, O God, you etched our names upon your hands, like stretchmarks on our mother's skin. And those same hands that bear our lives will carry us home as we breathe our last.

So even in our grief, O God, let every breath we carry within announce your goodness with praise unending. For you have made us to be your own, a people of your Spirit with blessing on our lips.

#### Therefore:

Sun and moon: Bless the Lord! Stars of the sky: Bless the Lord! Depths of ocean: Bless the Lord! Birds of air: Bless the Lord! Let all creation: Bless the Lord!

Blessed be God for doctors and nurses: Blessed be God forever! For scientists and researchers: Blessed be God forever! For pharmacists and technicians: Blessed be God forever! For social workers and caregivers: Blessed be God forever! For all who endeavor to keep us safe: Blessed be God forever!

Blessed be God for grocery clerks and janitors: Blessed be God forever! For restaurant chefs and fast-food workers: Blessed be God forever! For farmers and delivery drivers: Blessed be God forever! For field laborers and postal carriers: Blessed be God forever! For all who feed and care for us: Blessed be God forever!

Blessed be God for pastoral staffs: Blessed be God forever! For clergy and religious who pray for us daily: Blessed be God forever! For catechists teaching in creative new ways: Blessed be God forever! For liturgical ministers tackling technology: Blessed be God forever! For all who serve the domestic church: Blessed be God forever!

Blessed be God for teachers and parents: Blessed be God forever! For those who sing and those who dance: Blessed be God forever! For musicians, artists, composers, and poets: Blessed be God forever! For comedians, actors, and story-tellers: Blessed be God forever! For all who inspire and sustain our hearts: Blessed be God forever!

And blessed be God for the human spirit: Blessed be God forever! That strives to live in more gentle ways: Blessed be God forever! That connects with others while staying apart: Blessed be God forever! That weeps and laughs and sits in silence: Blessed be God forever! For the human family in deeper communion: Blessed be God forever!

In faith and love, we ask you, God, let not this virus consume our world. But breathe your Spirit in us again that we may praise you unceasingly with Christ our Lord, from whom all good things come.

"A Litany of Blessing in time of Grief." Copyright © Diana Macalintal, 2020. Used with permission.

What does it take for our eyes to be opened? Every day, a man laboriously walks down Main Street of town. With great difficulty but graceful determination, he places one foot in front of the other, uses a crudely made staff for support, and walks. His pace is slow, but he walks. What does he hope to see? Where does he want to go? What does he find? We all walk through

life. The type of "walking" life requires is not always physical but is most assuredly emotional and spiritual. We walk, we look, we encounter, and we seek. How we do these things and what we actually find is determined by what we carry and what we allow ourselves to discover along the way.

If walking is too challenging for us, we may choose to isolate and stay alone. If we are afraid to walk, we may become overly dependent on others providing for us and abandon the journey. We can walk and pay attention only to what is in front of our feet and never notice the immensity of what is happening around us. The road is never the same twice. The journey is always different. What kinds of things do you notice as you walk through life? It seems that the disciples of the Road to Emmaus missed a lot at first. We do as well.

We are called to walk with purpose, to listen, and to notice things that may not at first be apparent. We have to allow the One who has a special claim on our soul to enlighten, instruct, and inspire us. The incarnate mystery of God is pulsating in and through all of creation, where the presence of the Word who became flesh can be discovered. He has been with us all along. How could we have missed Him? Our journey brings us back to the breaking of the bread, and something begins to stir within us. We begin to understand, and things look differently. Bread, body, wine, and blood bring us to see that everyone and everything is a "Eucharistic" encounter. We become what we eat and we see what we eat. We continue to walk. Our eyes are now opened, and we recognize Him. Our hearts burn. Stay with us. Please stay with us. ---©LPi



CHECK THIS OUT Catholic Climate Covenant's 2020 Earth Day program is a free, one-hour educational program designed to complement the Earth Day Network's 50th

anniversary theme, "Climate Action" and help us commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Pope's encyclical letter, Laudato Si'. Visit their website for more information: catholicclimatecovenant.org/program/earth-day

#### April 26, 2020





El camino a Emaús, son siete millas, como una o dos horas de caminata y, sin embargo, para los dos discípulos debió haber sido una de las caminatas más larga de sus vidas. Fue una caminata, lejana, de derrota y frustraciones, de promesas fallidas y falsas es-

peranzas. Estas fueron sus suposiciones. Jesús les había fallado. Después de todo, fue ejecutado y colgado en la cruz como cualquier otro criminal. Fue avergonzado y ellos corrían peligro si permanecían en Jerusalén. Tenían que encontrar la manera de comenzar de nuevo. El camino a Emaús es nuestro camino. Muchas veces tenemos miedo de los desafíos reales de la vida y preferimos ir a un lugar alejado del peligro y la persecución. Preferiríamos tener la paz y la seguridad que vivir una vida de peligro e incertidumbre. Para los dos discípulos, ni con las Escrituras podían abrir su mente de lo que estaba sucediendo. De la misma manera, la Biblia por sí sola no es suficiente para hacernos cambiar el curso de nuestro peregrinar por la vida. Jesús les explicó el significado de las Escrituras y, sin embargo, no lo entendieron todo. Solo cuando hubo un intercambio de regalos, hospitalidad por parte de los dos discípulos y al partir el pan por parte de Jesús, se les abrieron los ojos y entendieron. Tuvieron que volver a donde comenzaron el viaje, Jerusalén. Las Escrituras y la fracción de la pan y la Sagrada Eucaristía son dos disposiciones esenciales para nuestro viaje. Estos dos regalos traerán el cambio que todos queremos y deseamos. Oremos para que nuestras Iglesias se abran nuevamente pronto y juntos podamos celebrar el partir el Pan y ser fortalecidos en nuestro Viaje a Emaús.

P. Rick





Tenesmo Zoom clases con los jóvenes de HS y Confirmación todos los martes a las 6 PM.

Tenemos Zoom clases del catecismo a las 3PM, 4 PM y 5 PM los miércoles.

RCIA todos los Jueves en ingles a las 7 PM

Y iniciamos un grupo de Zoom con Jóvenes adultos y todos los muchachos que ya están confirmados los Viernes a las 7 PM.

Si quieres unirte a una clase contacte con Elena a elena@stdidacuschurch.org o al 619-504-3514.

Que Dios los bendiga y la santísima Virgen los proteja durante esta pandemia.



Ayúdenos a compartir la alegría en preparación para el Día de la Madre. Estamos planeando un montaje de video para honrar a todas las madres. El video se presentará en nuestro sitio web diocesano y después de nuestras misas dominicales el fin de semana del Día de la Madre. El proyecto consiste en recolectar fotos de niños sosteniendo una flor, una imagen de nuestra Señora, sosteniendo un cartel que diga Feliz Día de la Madre, Mamá, Te Amo, o algún otro mensaje sincero. Nos encantaría tenerlos en diferentes idiomas: italiano, vietnamita, chino, tagalo, español, chamorro, francés, etc. Este es un proyecto urgente, por lo que necesitaré todas las imágenes antes del VIERNES. Asegúrese de tener permiso para compartir estas imágenes. Se incluirán en nuestro sitio web diocesano, en los medios sociales y en el canal de YouTube.

Los detalles de las imágenes son:

1) Las imágenes deben ser de cintura para arriba. Pedimos que la foto sea del niño o niños sosteniendo flores o un mensaje del Día de la Madre.

2) La orientación de la imagen debe ser vertical.

3) Envíe todas las imágenes a mgalvan@sdcatholic.org y abustos@sdcatholic.org antes de este viernes.





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