

For The Bulletin Of
1 August 2021



From Father Robert – Reflecting On The Gospel

After the multiplication of the loaves the crowds hail Jesus as prophet and want to make Him king, so He withdraws from them. When they find Him, they ask, “When did You get here (Capernaum)?” The question serves as foil for Jesus to say that they were interested only in the material benefits of the feeding without seeing that it was a symbol of the “food that endures for eternal life” and which the Son of Man will give. Highly condensed in this answer is a summary of the whole ministry of Jesus. He will come to bring eternal life, that is, the fullness of life to people, and this will be brought about through the cross, when the Son of Man Who is lifted up will draw all people to Himself (John 12:32).

The misunderstanding continues in the next question posed by the crowds, who seek some easy way to perform the works of God (such as the multiplication of loaves). The Johannine Jesus responds with another foundational theme of the gospel: “This is the work of God, that you believe in the One He sent. At the conclusion, in John 20:31, the evangelist well comment, “But these things are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in His name.” Believing, which is

never a noun in John (that is faith), is the aim of the whole gospel and challenges readers to accept the extraordinary claim that in the very text of the gospel they encounter the transcendent God in the person of the Word made flesh.

Yet another misunderstanding is posed to Jesus, where the crowd seems to oppose this “work” with the gift of manna in the desert (a miraculous work of God), which Jesus again counters by saying that the manna was not a miracle of Moses, but God’s gift of bread from heaven, and that God’s bread from heaven gives life to the world, and He is the Bread of Life, so that “whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.” The next major section of the discourse extends from this saying to its repetition in 6:51, when in clear eucharistic language Jesus will speak of eating His flesh and drinking His blood. Two major themes are woven into the tapestry of this discourse which help to shape eucharistic theology today. In the Jewish tradition the manna in the desert came to be associated with the giving of the Torah, so that believers are nurtured by God’s teaching as were their ancestors in the wilderness, and the wisdom of God is often portrayed by the metaphor of food. Throughout the first section of the discourse (6:24-51), while speaking of the bread of life, Jesus uses language of believing, drawing near, and listening, terms that are associated more with assimilation of wisdom than eating. The full participation in eating the body and drinking the blood of Jesus (6:55-56) follows upon personal commitment and love which draws a person to absorb the teaching of Jesus and imitate His life given for others (John 13:34; 15:12).

John’s Jesus today says the bread of God that comes down from heaven “gives life to the world” and “whoever comes to Me will

To our wonderful team of volunteers who came to prepare the mailer this week:
Bernice Campbell, Clem Bushman, Marguerite Bloomfield, Gloria Olvera, Tony and Claudia Gumina, Bobbie Ocang, Nancy Newton, and Bev Iacona.

To those who provide security in the parking lot on the weekend and during funerals:
Don Benson, Jose Perez, Brian McCoy, Tony Gumina, and Dave Simpson.



***Young Ladies Institute of Antioch
#101***

This past Monday evening, the YLI had its Annual Installation of Officers and Installation Dinner, held at Little Manuel's.

The evening began with a delicious dinner prepared by Chef/Owner Cynthia Sidrian and staff and promptly served right on time. Following dinner, the Installation took place and on behalf of all of us, I would like to congratulate the following:

- President – Teresa Glenn**
- First Vice President – Yolanda Lord**
- Past President – Rachelle Martin**
- Recording Secretary – Beth Enea**
- Financial Secretary – Sammie Garcia-Johns**
- Treasurer – Teri Anello**
- Trustees: Mary Greenberg, Shelli Daviess, Deanna Ribeiro, Melodye Costanza, and Pam Confetti**
- Sentinel – Grace Mariner**
- Marhsall – Gwenn Ehrlich**
- Organist – Rosemary Anyanwu**
- Chaplain – Deacon Gary Hack**

Elderly are to be valued, not discarded, pope says

26 July 2021

by [Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service](#)

[Spirituality](#) [Vatican](#)



A young woman holds flowers and copies of Pope Francis' message for the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. At the end of a Mass July 25 in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, young people handed out flowers and copies of the message to their elders in attendance. (CNS/Vatican Media)

VATICAN CITY — Older people are not "leftovers" to be discarded; rather, they continue to be precious nourishment for families, young people and communities, Pope Francis said in the homily he wrote for the Mass marking the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

"Let us ask ourselves, 'Have I visited my grandparents, my elderly relatives, the older people in my neighborhood? Have I listened to them? Have I spent time with them?'" the pope said in his homily, which was read aloud at the Mass by Archbishop Rino Fisichella.

"Let us protect them, so that nothing of their lives and dreams may be lost. May we never regret that we were insufficiently attentive to those who loved us and gave us life," the homily said.

The Mass July 25 was celebrated in St. Peter's Basilica with about 2,000 people in attendance, including multigenerational families, older people and their caregivers. Large-print Mass booklets also were available.

Francis, who had colon surgery July 4, did not preside over the Mass as he was still undergoing "normal convalescence," according to the Vatican press office. The pope, however, did give his Angelus address and lead prayer at noon the same day.

Fisichella, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization, presided over the Mass, which he began by greeting the older people in attendance who, he said, had been understandably expecting to celebrate with Francis.

But "we do not want him to tire himself so that he may spend these days resting to regain his strength and fully resume his pastoral ministry," the archbishop said before reading the homily the pope prepared for the Mass.

"Grandparents and the elderly are not leftovers from life, scraps to be discarded," the pope wrote. "They are a precious source of nourishment."

"They protected us as we grew, and now it is up to us to protect their lives, to alleviate their difficulties, to attend to their needs and to ensure that they are helped in daily life and not feel alone," he wrote.

The pope asked people to reconnect with older people, to visit or call and "listen to them and never discard them. Let us cherish them and spend time with them. We will be the better for it," young and old alike, he wrote.

"I worry when I see a society full of people in constant motion, too caught up in their own affairs to have time for a glance, a greeting or a hug," he wrote.

The notion of "every man for himself" is "deadly," he wrote, and the Gospel asks people to share "what we are and what we possess" in order to find true and lasting fulfillment.

"Our grandparents, who nourished our own lives, now hunger for our attention and our love; they long for our closeness. Let us lift up our eyes and see them, even as Jesus sees us," the pope wrote.

During the intercessions, prayers were offered for those who died during the pandemic, especially the elderly, and for the faithful to learn to cherish and serve the elderly.

At the end of the Mass, Fisichella and Cardinal Kevin Farrell, prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life, which was promoting the world day, blessed baskets of bright yellow, red and orange flowers, that were then distributed with the pope's message by young people to the older people attending the Mass.

The pope appeared at the window of his studio in the apostolic palace to greet and bless those gathered in St. Peter's Square and to deliver his address before praying the Angelus.

He invited everyone to visit the elderly and to give them a copy of this year's world day message. Young and old must spend time together, talking and sharing their memories, hopes and dreams, he said.

Commenting on the day's Gospel reading of the multiplication of the loaves, the pope recalled the generous gift of the boy who gave what little he had, which was enough for Jesus, who used that small gift to feed thousands.

But, the pope said, think about the event from the point of view of the young boy: taking his five barley loaves and two fish to feed others seems like an "unreasonable proposal. Why deprive a person, indeed a child, of what he has brought from home and has the right to keep for himself? Why take away from one person what is not enough to feed everyone anyway?"

It shows people must ask what they can bring to Jesus each day and reminds people that "the Lord can do a lot with the little that we put at his disposal," the pope said.

Today's mindset is marked by the quest to "accumulate and increase what we have, but Jesus asks us to give, to diminish. We like to add, we like addition; Jesus likes subtraction, taking something away to give it to others. We want to multiply for ourselves; Jesus appreciates it when we share with others, when we share," he said.

The pope recalled that many problems in the world, particularly hunger, cannot be solved without "fair sharing." It is estimated that about 7,000 children under the age of 5 die each day because of malnutrition, he added.

Facing such scandals, he said, people should, like the boy, accept Jesus' invitation and "be brave, give what little you have, your talents and your possessions, make

them available to Jesus and to your brothers and sisters. Do not be afraid, nothing will be lost, because if you share, God will multiply."

*Justice Corner by Carolyn Krantz,
Pastoral Associate*

We continue this Sunday with readings on bread. In the Old Testament, the Lord feeds the people with "fine flakes like hoarfrost." But in the Gospel, Jesus clarifies the meaning of what happened on the mountain with the five thousand. "You are looking for me because...you were filled. Do not work for food that perishes but for food that endures for eternal life." In other words, look for that which feeds your spirit. The true bread for the Spirit is to discover and know Jesus Christ. His life and teaching is what "gives life to the world."

The followers of Jesus in the Gospel then offer a request which could be our prayer for the week: "Sir, give us this bread always." When we are sick, give us this bread. When we are lonely, give us this bread. When we are discouraged, give us this bread. Feed us with Your Life which is Life for the world. It is this spiritual nourishment that keeps us going.

We come on Sunday to be reminded of this and to be with a community whose lives shine with the goodness of this spiritual food. We are reminded to feed others and Jesus does us. Without this celebration, our lives become dry and unmoving. Spiritual writers talk about times of nourishment and times of dryness in the spiritual life of the individual. We have just experienced that in the time of COVID when we could not come together except through the screen of the computer. We return to the sacred space with joy.

Our world is so much in need of this spiritual food. Lies and repetitive

disinformation have made some jaded and mistrusting of institutions, even good ones. Half of our world will not “get the shot” endangering the rest of us. Congress seems unable to come together. Wild fires rage in the West destroying homes and beautiful wild lands. Many are stuck “in the futility of their minds” instead of the “truth that is in Jesus.”

I live near the Contra Costa Canal. Recently we had a six-engine fire in the grass and trees below us. I experienced the fear and stark reality of possibly having to evacuate. I saw the beauty of nature destroyed. Cars parked near the fence were burned. The fire was possibly started by homeless people sleeping in that space. It was a close example of all those who have to sleep out in the open because of money, drugs and mental illness. It was a huge reminder that many of my brothers and sisters do not have food or a place to sleep. What is my responsibility to them? Can I work with organizations to help house the homeless in our area?

“Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures food for eternal life,” says the Gospel. As we go about this week, we can examine our consciences in this regard. Am I busy about the things of this world (money, power, etc.), or am I giving spiritual food to others. I do that by being present to those around me and nourishing their spirit. I do that by giving others hope and encouragement. I do that by taking time to pray so that Jesus’ Spirit can fill me. I do that by being present in the moment and taking deep breaths to really see as Jesus sees.

Sometimes we get so busy with the routines of our own making that we forget to stop and see what's in front of us. This is the week to stop that. This is the week to pass

on the spiritual food we have been given. If we pray, our “jug will never run dry.” We will find the direction we have been looking for. We will be able to be present to all who walk through our lives. Jesus promises, “The bread I will give...gives life to the world.” May we be that life this week.

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***Parish Perspective by
Peter Degl’Innocenti, Pastoral Associate***

A Divine Place for A Human Deacon
Andre Bocelli had a huge hit song a few years back entitled *Time to Say Goodbye*. As we go through life, there are many times when we must say goodbye to friends, family, co-workers, and to times within our own lives like childhood and adolescence. No goodbye is more poignant as when we say goodbye to someone who has died that touched our lives in a special way. This week we said goodbye to Deacon Al Fleischer.

Deacon Al was already here at St. Ignatius of Antioch for quite some time when I arrived to sit down in a pew for the first time. He was the distinguished white-hair wise old man father figure that just exudes wisdom. His demeanor and homilies reflected that image in the truest of sense. He was always calm, cool, and collected with a ready ear to listen to you fully with his undivided attention. In fact, that was what he was most known for. His undisputed ministerial gift was in grief ministry. You can’t care for people if you don’t listen to them at the level of grief they are experiencing and tenderly ask them to express that grief cathartically. Al was the genuine article when it came to pastoral care.

I was honored and pleased to learn from him some of those ways of comforting those who grieved for lost loved ones and those who grieved for their own condition of being old and homebound with few or no visitors. It didn't matter to Al if the person was Catholic or not. He would be Christ-like to anyone in need, always listening. He served people, the Church, and the Kingdom of God equally well.

I remember clearly how he would base a homily two or three times a year on a poem called *A Human Place*. It went like this:

*If this is not a place where tears are understood, where do I go to cry?
If this is not a place where my spirit can take wings, where do I go to fly?
If this is not a place where my questions can be asked, where do I go to seek?
If this is not a place where my feelings can be heard, where do I go to speak?
If this is not a place where you'll accept me as I am, where do I go to be?
If this is not a place where I can try, and learn and grow, where can I be just me?
If this is not a place where tears are understood, where do I go to cry?*

Deacon Al, we must deal with the grief of your leaving, but you at last are where everything is understood, tears are no more, and your joy is beyond our understanding. Well done good and faithful servant of God.

The cost is \$25 per player, 4 player teams, 3 games – total score. If you want to enter a whole team, that's great; or just yourself, we can put you on a team. Lunch and awards after the games; prizes for 1st and 2nd place in each category (Adult Category: 18 yrs. and older or Junior Category: under 18 — no registration fee). All proceeds benefit Special Haven of Antioch.

To register, please contact Steve Rojek at 925-642-2329. Payment to be mailed to: 4408 Reimche Drive, Antioch, CA 94509. The deadline for registration and payment is August 4th.



Reminder: Our Knights of Columbus are hosting a Bocce Tournament on Saturday, August 7th at Chichibu Park Bocce Courts (on Acorn Road off of Longview Road— just down the street from the church) with check-in and continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and games beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Expansion Update

July 28 2021

The project continues to move forward with the completion on schedule for late October. Delivery delays, manufacturing issues and availability of subcontractor labor have the potential to affect any construction schedule. So far, our project superintendent has been able to juggle tasks and due dates to keep our project on track.

The flat portion of the kitchen roof is now complete. As part of the design, some equipment will be located on the roof and this work will continue for a number of weeks.

The new fire-rated rollup door for the serving window will be installed shortly. Installation of the 16' hood system located over the cooking appliance area is underway. Work on the separate condensation hood over the dishwashing area has also started. The walk-in cooler installation is pending but should be complete within the next two weeks.

The new kitchen flooring and ceiling installation is scheduled to begin in the next week or so. Exterior stuccoing on the new construction should begin within the next 10 days.



Great progress continues to take place under the watchful eye of project superintendent Trevor Blok. He says he gets better cell phone coverage standing on the bed of his truck. 😊

The kitchen roof itself is virtually complete. Some of the equipment (intake & exhaust vents, compressor and hot water heater, etc.) will be located on the new kitchen roof and this work has commenced.





← Crane onsite used to hoist equipment onto the new kitchen roof.

↓ Readyng the new kitchen exhaust hood for installation.



Thirteenth Annual St. Peter Martyr Backpack Drive

St. Ignatius of Antioch is again sponsoring a back to school backpack and school supplies drive for our adopted school, St. Peter Martyr. The teachers have prepared lists of supplies that each student needs to begin the new school year. You're invited to select a grade, purchase a new backpack, and fill it with the supplies listed.

Please mark the backpack with the appropriate grade designation.
Bring backpacks to the weekend liturgies on August 7 and 8.

Pre-kindergarten & Preschool

Backpack large enough to hold folder, jacket & lunch
2 bottom pocket folders
1 zipper pencil pouch large enough to hold crayons
4 sm. glue sticks
1 lg. box facial tissues
2 rolls paper towels
1 lg. box Baby Wipes
2 lg. Clorox Wipes

Kindergarten

Backpack large enough to hold folder, jacket & lunch
1 cloth zipper pouch
2 bottom pocket folders
1 red bottom pocket folder
2 boxes of crayons
4 BLACK dry erase markers
4 glue sticks
1 pair blunt tip children's scissors
1 pack 100 index cards (3 X 5)
1 lg. box facial tissues
2 rolls paper towels
1 lg. box Baby Wipes
2 lg. Clorox Wipes

First Grade

Backpack large enough to hold folder, jacket, and lunch
1 cloth zipper pouch
4 solid color folders 2 yellow, 2 blue
2 lg. pink erasers
2 boxes crayons
1 10 count washable markers
2 packages sharpened #2 pencils
2 highlighters
4 BLACK dry erase markers
4 glue sticks
1 pair blunt tip children's scissors
1 set 8 watercolors with brush
1 pack 100 index cards (3 X 5)
2 lg. boxes facial tissues
2 rolls paper towels
2 lg. box Baby Wipes
2 lg. Clorox Wipes

Second Grade

Backpack large enough to hold folder, jacket, and lunch
1 cloth zipper pouch
1 pair blunt tip children's scissors
2 solid color folders 1 yellow, 1 blue
1 composition book (wide ruled)
2 lg. pink erasers
2 boxes crayons
1 8-10 count washable markers
2 packages sharpened #2 pencils
2 highlighters
4 dry eraser markers
(continued in right column)

Second Grade (continued)

4 glue sticks
1 set 8 watercolors with brush (max 8 count)
2 lg. boxes facial tissues
2 rolls paper towels
2 lg. box Baby Wipes
2 lg. Clorox Wipes

Third Grade

Backpack large enough to hold folder, jacket & lunch
3 red pencils
1 pair safety scissors
2 glue sticks
1 box crayons
1 set markers
1 package sharpened pencils
1 set of 8 watercolors with brush
1 12" ruler— has inches and metric
1 pkg. ruled index cards
1 package wide ruled binder paper
1 hardback composition book
4 solid color plastic bottom pocket folders (one of each: blue, red, yellow, green) with no names on folders
1 zipper pouch or supply box
1 lg. box facial tissues
2 rolls paper towels
1 lg. box Baby Wipes
2 lg. Clorox Wipes

Fourth Grade

Backpack large enough to hold folder, jacket, and lunch
2 package mechanical pencils (5 count)
2 lg. erasers
1 set of colored pencils
3 highlighters
1 box of 24 crayons — not fluorescent
1 12" ruler— has inches and metric
2 each: blue, red, yellow, purple, and green solid color plastic bottom pocket folders
3 small glue sticks
2 bottles hand sanitizer
1 set of washable colored markers
2 red ball point pens
1 pack of Black or Blue pens
4 dry eraser markers (thin tip preferred)
1 pkg. ruled index cards
2 pkg. Wide ruled binder paper
4 one subject notebooks (2 red, 1 yellow, 1 Blue)
1 pair of safety scissors
1 two-inch binder
1 pencil box
1 backpack
1 whiteboard eraser
2 clear sheet protectors
5 small size Post-It notes (various colors)
1 bottle Elmer's White Glue
1 lg. box facial tissues & 2 rolls paper towels
1 lg. box Baby Wipes & 2 lg. Clorox Wipes

Thirteenth Annual St. Peter Martyr Backpack Drive (continued)

Fifth Grade

Backpack
4 dry eraser markers
2 FIVE subject spiral notebooks with plastic covers
4 SINGLE subject spiral notebooks with plastic covers
5 durable folders (plastic preferred)
1 pkg. 3x5 notecards
2 red pens
1 package #2 pencils
1 box colored pencils
1 set markers
2 highlighters
1 bottle white glue
2 glue sticks
1 pair school scissors
1 12" ruler— has inches and metric
1 clear protractor
1 pkg. loose-leaf binder paper
1 Report Cover (must hold 25 pages)
5 small size Post-It notes (various colors)
1 lg. box facial tissues
2 rolls paper towels
1 lg. box Baby Wipes
2 lg. Clorox Wipes

Sixth Grade

Backpack
1 package plastic mechanical pencils (5 count)
1 package of Black or Blue pens
1 large eraser
1 box crayons
1 package of markers
1 box colored pencils
1 red pen
1 package of loose-leaf binder paper
3 glue sticks
1 pair scissors
2 highlighters
1 12" ruler— has inches and metric
1 covered pencil sharpener (optional)
5 single subject spiral notebooks with plastic covers
4 durable bottom folders
5 small size Post-It notes (various colors)
1 package of colored pens (At least 4 different colors)
1 lg. box facial tissues
2 rolls paper towels
1 lg. box Baby Wipes
2 lg. Clorox Wipes

Seventh Grade

Backpack
1 pack of Blue or Black pens
1 package of colored pens (At least 4 different colors)
1 package mechanical pencils
1 red pen
1 12" ruler— has inches and metric
1 pack binder paper
1 pkg. 3x5 index cards
1 box crayons
1 box colored pencils
1 box of markers
1 pair scissors
2 highlighters
3 glue sticks
1 THREE subject notebook
4 SINGLE subject spiral notebooks with plastic covers
4 durable folders
5 small size Post-It notes (various colors)
1 lg. box facial tissues
2 rolls paper towels
1 lg. box Baby Wipes
2 lg. Clorox Wipes

Eighth Grade

Backpack
5 dry erase markers
1 package mechanical
1 package of Black or Blue pens
1 red pen
1 package of colored pens (At least 4 different colors)
1 package of binder paper
3 glue sticks
1 pair scissors
2 hardbound composition books
2 highlighters
1 box crayons
1 package of markers
1 box colored pencils
1 12" ruler - has inches and metric
4 single subject spiral notebooks college ruled
4 durable bottom pocket folders
5 small size Post-It notes (various colors)
1 lg. eraser
1 lg. box facial tissues
2 rolls paper towels
1 lg. box Baby Wipes
2 lg. Clorox Wipes

Other Welcome School Supplies:

- Cases of Copy Paper (8.5 x 11)
- Whiteboard Markers
- Construction Paper



HOPE
Lives Here

Our Mission

Catholic Charities East Bay works with youth, children, and families to promote resilience, strengthen families, and pursue safety and justice for all.

What we do

We provide **housing, legal immigration, and mental health** services to people of all cultures, ethnicities, backgrounds, and faiths.

Our Programs

Housing: we provide low-income families and seniors facing eviction and homelessness with back rent, security deposits, and utility assistance in Alameda, and Contra Costa Counties.

Immigration Legal Services: We help clients earn lawful working status and follow a path to citizenship through Legal Consultations, Family-Based Visa Petitions, Permanent Residency Application and Renewal, U.S. Citizenship, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Unaccompanied Minors, and more.

Mental Health:

Experience Hope in Schools and Communities – We work with students, schools, and community groups serving young people, to provide culturally responsive approaches to overcome the challenges presented by pervasive violence at schools in Oakland Unified and West Contra Costa Unified School Districts.

Day Star – We provide education and mentoring to connect youth who are surviving or are at risk of commercial sexual exploitation (CSEC) to adult mentors, to increase awareness, and to decrease demand.

Crisis Response Services – We provide grief counseling and family support services to surviving family/friends of loved ones lost to homicide in Oakland.

Family Support Services – We work with parents and children referred to us by Contra Costa County Children & Family Service to strengthen families, improve child well-being, and help children stay safely with their families in their home.

TRUE Academy – We help young people (ages 14 to 18) within the Alameda County juvenile justice system learn strategies to safely and productively think and respond in situations of stress, fear, and conflict.

Founded in 1935 to serve people who reside within the Diocese of Oakland.

An affiliate of Catholic Charities, USA, one of the largest social services networks in the country

Our Locations

Oakland- 433 Jefferson St
Richmond- 217 Harbour Way
Concord- 2120 Diamond Blvd #220

Contact Us

(510)579-3100

Our Impact in 2020

- **36,000** people received essential services.
- **914** households received housing assistance.
- **23,570** people were provided food during our food distributions.
- **463** people were helped enter the path to citizenship.
- **10,000** people helped with \$500 gift cards totaling \$5 million in assistance (DRAI, funded by the State of California).
- **54** families received support services who had lost loved ones due to homicide.
- **84** families received in-depth services who were referred to us by Contra Costa County Family and Children Services.