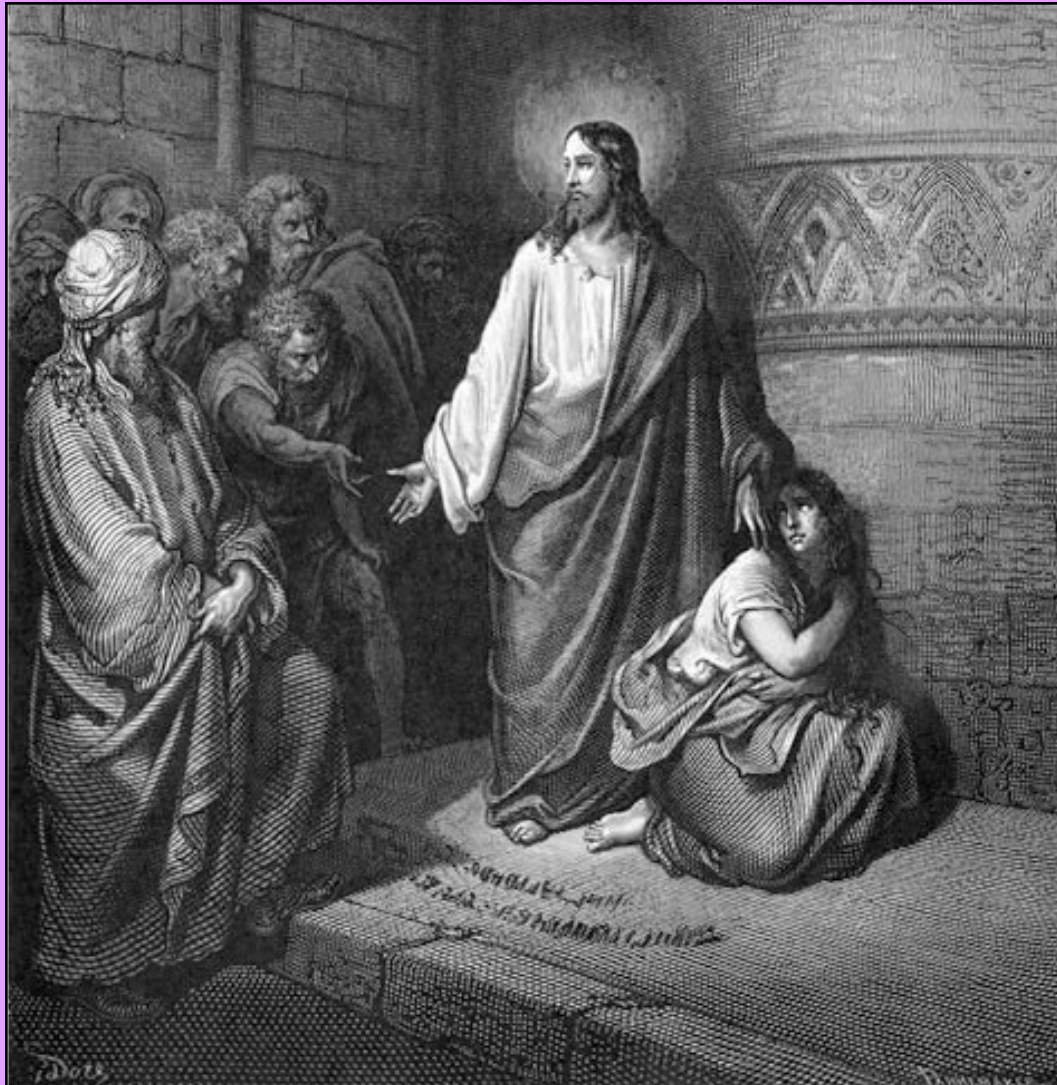


ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

373 BON AIR ROAD, GREENBRAE, CA 94904-1709
(415) 461-0704 WWW.SEBASTIAN94904.COM

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 17, 2013



**“Let the one among you who is without sin
be the first to throw a stone at her.”**

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening 5 PM
Sundays..... 7AM, 9AM, & 11AM
Monday - Saturday.. 7AM & 9AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays..... 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Pastor..... Rev. Mark Taheny
Parochial Vicar..... Rev. Paul Perry
Deacon Rev. Mr. Bill Turrentine

Parish School of Religion:

Renée O'Neill: ReneeGOneill@gmail.com

Confirmation Youth Group:

Dave Previtali: StSebConfirmation@yahoo.com
CYO: Bob McCullough StSebastianCYO@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS FOR MARCH 18—23

Mon 7AM Emma Bradley
9AM Rev. Adalbert Gluszek

Tue 7AM Joe Calleja
9AM Bill Crawford, *living*

Wed 7AM Estelle Maffei, *living*
9AM Ed Lampe
5:15PM Ed Tarrant

Thu 7AM † Lazio, Alioto, & Cincotta Families
9AM Joseph Calleja

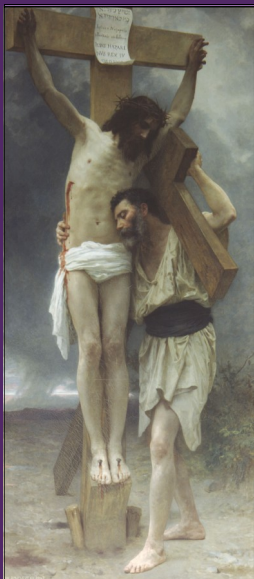
Fri 7AM Bessolo Family, *living*
9AM Victor, John, Andres, Martin, *living*

Sat 7AM John Edward McCain
9AM Survivors of Connecticut Shooting

**THANK YOU FOR KEEPING THE FOLLOWING
PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Angela, Barbara, Bertha, Carol, Claudia, Dorothy, Elizabeth, Kristen, Mary, Monica, Patrick, Sandra L., Stephanie, Tim, Verna, Vivien, Carol Abraham, Marilyn Charbonneau, Elizabeth Cook, Eileen Harriman, Margaret & Monte Maroevich, Chris & Marjorie Matthews, Mark Piatti, Steve Schlesselmann, Helen & Paul Smith, Mary Lou Smith, Rose Tannlund, and Sherry Willis.

**There are many sick, homebound,
and hospitalized parishioners,
unable to attend Mass,
who are blessed by your prayers.**



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Fridays during Lent
after the 9AM Mass,
and again, at 7:30PM,
*led by David Previtali,
Deacon Candidate***

Of course, you are welcome to drop in to the church at any time during the day to visit Our Lord, who is always present in the tabernacle, and you can pray the Stations of the Cross privately.

A.D. 2013 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



CONFESSIONS

**Tuesday March 26 7-8PM
Wednesday, March 27 3:30-5PM
Holy Saturday, March 30 10:30AM - NOON**

PALM SUNDAY

**Vigil Mass with Blessing of Palms
Saturday, March 23rd, 5 P.M.
Sunday Masses, March 24th, at 7, 9 & 11 A.M.**

HOLY THURSDAY

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(No morning Masses.)

**March 28 at 6 P.M.
*Adoration until 10 P.M.***

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

March 29

**12 Noon - Stations of the Cross, Songs,
Readings, Meditations on the Passion
1:30PM - Solemn Liturgy of the Word,
Veneration of the Cross,
and Holy Communion
*The church will remain open
for prayer until 7 P.M.***

HOLY SATURDAY

March 30

Easter Vigil Mass 8 P.M.

EASTER SUNDAY

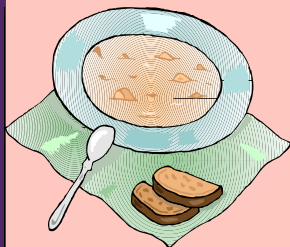
March 31

Masses at 7 A.M., 9 A.M., & 11 A.M.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Abstinence: Everyone fourteen years of age and older is bound to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

ONLY ONE MORE LENTEN SOUP SUPPER



After Wednesday's 5:15PM Mass, come to our *final* "Soup Supper" in the Parish Hall.

If you would like to share a pot of soup with your fellow parishioners, please call the Rectory at 461-0704.

CALLA LILIES FOR THE CHURCH

Once again, we ask for your calla lilies or any white flowers to decorate the Altar of Repose on Holy Thursday and the sanctuary for Easter. If you can bring calla lilies from your yard, please bring them to the sacristy *before* Holy Thursday, March 28.

PRAYER FOR THE ELECTION OF A POPE

Lord God, You are our Eternal Shepherd and Guide. In Your mercy grant Your Church a shepherd who will walk in Your ways and whose watchful care will bring us Your blessing. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.



1260 on your AM dial
immaculate heart radio
sharing the heart of the Christian faith

SACRED HEART CHURCH, OLEMA
57TH ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY BBQ
TODAY, March 17 Noon - 4pm
Dance Palace Community & Cultural Center
503 B Street, Point Reyes Station

Enjoy the famous Chicken Barbecue Dinner!
(BBQ Chicken, Pasta, Salad, Roll, & Milk)
Adults \$12 Children \$6
Games for kids, cash raffle, silent auction
Featuring fabulous donated items, delicious home-baked goodies.
Event held indoors, rain or shine.

THE GRAND VICTORIAN LADIES OF SAN FRANCISCO

Will open their doors on Thursday, March 21 for a special tour arranged by Young at Heart with host [Craig Smith](#)

9:45 depart from St. Sebastian's by Airporter bus to Japantown.

Tour of [Queen Anne Hotel](#)

Lunch at [Pompei's Grotto](#)

Menu: Cup of Clam Chowder

Menu choices:

1) Shrimp Louie 2) Chicken Piccata

3) White Fish or Prawn Pasta

Coffee, Tea, Soda, & Dessert Included

Tour of Grand Victorian Ladies

[Haas Lilienthal House](#)

[Reutlinger House](#) (collection of calliopes)

Cost of all the above: \$85/members \$88/guests
Call Donna 453-3383 — Rosellen 461-9003
Last Day for Reservations: Monday, March 18

MONDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

Monday mornings after 9AM Mass, the "Life in Christ" Cenacle of Prayer and Study meets in the parish hall. The Cenacle is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to our personal interior conversion. We read and discuss the Catechism of the Catholic Church, currently studying #456 to 478: Jesus Christ as true God and true man. There is a weekly reading from Fr. Gobi's book To the Priests, Our Lady's Beloved Sons. Group prayer includes time for individual needs and at least one decade of the Holy Rosary. We are also beginning a study of what happens during the Holy Mass and how to live it with our hearts. We welcome new participants especially during the Lenten season. For info: call Andra at 925-0487.

RETROUVAILLE

Is your marriage in trouble? Are you looking for help? Retrouvaille (retro-vī) has helped tens of thousands of couples save their marriages. This program can help you too. For confidential information or to register for the next San Francisco program beginning with a weekend on April 19-21 call 415-893-1005 or email: SF@RetroCA.com or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

--[Fr. David M. Friel, Homiletic & Pastoral Review](#)

As the saying goes, “You can’t teach an old dog new tricks.” Is that true of God? It would seem that God is very old, even ancient. Can he be taught “new tricks”? Can he do anything new?

Listen to the bold assertion that God makes in the Book of Isaiah: “I am doing something new!” In the Lectionary, the boldness is even punctuated by an exclamation point. The Lord claims that he is capable of doing things that are new. Perhaps, the clearest evidence to support this claim lies in the life of Jesus, who came to fulfill the Law and the Prophets.

A prime example is recounted in the Gospel of John, chapter 8. There, the evangelist recounts an episode in which the Pharisees try to catch Jesus in an impossible situation. They bring him an adulterous woman, pointing out that the Mosaic law would have them stone her to death. They ask the Lord: “What do you say?” If he commands them to stone her, he will be accused of strict cruelty. Conversely, if he commands anything else, he will be accused of laxity. So, how does the Lord respond? He does something brilliantly new. “Let the one among you who is without sin,” Jesus challengingly says, “be the first to throw a stone at her.” In so doing, he cleverly shifts the focus from a convenient judgment of others, to a challenging introspection of self—from condemnation to mercy, from legalism to love. Just as the tablets received by Moses on Mount Sinai were said to be “inscribed by the finger of God” (Dt 9:10), so now Jesus writes in the sand “with his finger.” By imitating the revelation at Sinai, Jesus teaches the Pharisees that he speaks with the same authoritative spirit that underlies the Commandments of old. He reveals, moreover, that he is establishing a New Law, which is a law of love. He also shows that he has come to give us the Holy Spirit, the living “finger” of God (*digitus Dei*), and only in this Spirit can the true commands of God be lived—love and mercy.

Yet, some go away in their own self-inflicted shame, departing ashamedly, not being able to open themselves up to hear these words of Jesus’ tenderness. We must convince our congregation that if they ever feel mocked, or derided by guilt or their sins, this is not from the Good Spirit. Later, John (cf. 16:8) tells us the true Spirit of God has come to convince us of sin, but never to condemn us. Think of those root words: when *con-demned*, one encounters only the malevolence of their own perverted will, damned (*damnare*) in on themselves; but when *con-vinced* of sin, the Christian soul hears words of encouragement, and the graced overcoming (*vincere*) of what keeps them from wholeness. This is what is “new” in Christ’s encounter today: sin draws the love of God closer to the repentant sinner. Unlike the world that knows how to accept and, thus, appreciate only that which is whole, healthy, and perfect, the love of Christ is moved by the stumbling, and the indecisions, of the human heart. He has come to save sinners; he has come to found a hospital for the sickened soul, calling out for a savior. This is precisely what today’s Holy Communion line is: God’s ailing patients lining up to visit the only doctor who can cure us.

Jesus avoids being trapped by the condemnation of the religious professionals of his day through his wise, though enigmatic, response. There seems to be no hesitance on his part in establishing this New Law. The Lord shows that he is at once novel and traditional. He is unpredictable yet reliable. He is young and old. He is unchanging yet relevant. He is simultaneously surprising and steady. Ancient though he may be, the Lord remains always fresh, ready to work new wonders.

We are very fortunate to have a savior who does not feel bound to do things “the way we have always done them.” He is, after all, the bearer of Good News, and he is not afraid to shatter the expectations of the world. By his innovative response to the Pharisees, Jesus is able to spare the adulterous woman from the pressing crowd. Instead of being crushed by their stones, the woman’s sins were crushed by the weight of Jesus’ astonishing mercy. The Lord not only does something new, but he also gives her the opportunity to do something new. She is given the chance to live a new life, sing a new song, and walk a new path.

The same opportunities are available to us all.