



Our Sponsored Child in Uganda

Please continue to help support Marvin Ntale during this time. The monthly cost is \$30 to sponsor a child for Shared Blessings, which helps with food, clothes and school costs.

Marvin lives in near poverty with his father, a peasant farmer and also his 3 sisters and brother.

Please put your donation in with your offering envelopes. Thank you!

Answer to Bible Quiz: A (See Numbers 11:24-29.)



2nd Chance Computer



Recently, Sylvan Elementary School District donated 300 laptops and 60 desktops. We have been busy sanitizing, scrubbing and installing Chrome OS on them. Modesto City Schools has given all their students a laptop to use for their at home school work, but there are still some students in other districts who need one. This morning, Terry brought some laptops to the Center for Human Services who are distributing the laptops to students in the Empire School District. If you know of a student or anyone else in need of a computer, please let us know by calling (209) 402-8586 or email terry.scott@gmail.com.

If you know of any businesses or personal donations, please let us know.

Please keep this wonderful ministry in your prayers!

Jesus Our Savior Anglican Church

1038 McHenry Avenue
Modesto, CA 95350
(209) 551-5279

We're on the web!

JesusOurSaviorAnglicanChurch.org

Mission Statement: "To Know Christ and to Make Him Known"



The Savior's Voice

Volume 12, No. 4

May 2020

REFLECTIONS from our Church Family

Below and continued on pages 5 and 6, we have gathered thoughts, news and reflections from our church members.

Some people wanted to think about what they wanted to say and others were ready with their thoughts. I found it very interesting to hear so many different viewpoints from our stay at home order. From all the people I spoke to, I found a underlying belief that our faith in God will see us through this trying time until we are able to worship together again. ☺

Mary Harnisch: This has been a wonderful experience for me as I am doing things that I haven't done before. My kids are calling a lot and I am reading the Bible more and feel closer to the Lord. Jim and I have become much closer and we're feeling at peace. I count my blessings during this difficult time and I am looking forward to coming back to church and seeing everyone. ☺

Ruth Carrillo: I am back at work now. We are required to wear masks, but it is getting easier to deal with as the days go by. My kids, Gracey, Glory and Albert and Luna are all well. And Thomas, as well and my big family! I pray for our church family every day as well as my family and friends, too. ☺

Continued on pages 5-6

"A recent study of 1,092 women found that those who felt a deep sense of religious faith coped with stress better than those who were less religious."

—*Woman's Day* 1997

from the Newsletter



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Perception (noun)

- the ability to see, hear, or become aware of something through the senses.
- the state of being or process of becoming aware of something through the senses.
- a way of regarding, understanding, or interpreting something; a mental impression.

Perceptions

Perception not only creates our experience of the world around us; it allows us to act within our environment. Perception is very important in understanding human behavior because every person perceives the world and approaches life problems differently.

Some people could be given an entire field of roses and only see the thorns in it.

Others could be given a single weed and only see the wildflower in it.

Perception is a key component to gratitude. And gratitude is a key component to joy.

*Amy Weatherly
Contributed by Ruth Carrillo*



Jesus Our Savior
Anglican Church

The Most Rev. Foley Beach,
.....Archbishop, ACNA
The Rt. Rev. Dr. Eric Menees
.....Bishop
The Rev. Woodrow Gubuan
.....Rector
The Rev. Tom Foster
.....Rector Emeritus
Mary Scott.....Secretary
Sarah Pine.....Sexton

Vestry

James O'Neill.....Senior Warden
Nathaniel Pine.....Junior Warden
Mary Scott.....Secretary

Joan Court June Simas
Audrey Foster Linda York
Mary Harnisch

The Vestry meets the third Sunday of every
month following the service.

☺ Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Nursery available



Liz Basham
Mary Harnisch
June Simas
Jim O'Neil
Linda York

Editor.....Fr. Woodrow Gubuan
Design & Format.....Mary Scott



Reflections by Audrey Foster

Quotes from Mother Teresa take up a lot of space in my little notebook/journal where I keep words I want to read again and think about. She didn't write books, but so many others, who were inspired by her life and teaching, wrote books about her. Her words are practical and down to earth but glow with light of heaven. Here are some examples:

We do not need to carry out grand things in order to show a great love for God and for our neighbor. It is the intensity of love we put into our gestures that makes them into something beautiful for God.

And this:

Doing little things with great love is simple but not easy. Suffering usually accompanies such deeds. Five sufferings: physical, mental, emotional, financial, spiritual.

Sometimes she is so direct and emphatic it make me laugh.

When you accept a task do it willingly. If not, don't accept it. And God is not looking for your opinion, but for your obedience.

She spoke often to sorrowing hearts because the people she ministered to daily lived in heart breaking poverty and hardship:

Let nothing so fill you with sorrow as to forget the joy of Christ risen.

Mother Teresa imbued the work done with the poor on the streets of Calcutta with intentional love. She was describing the work of her Sisters of the Poor in these words, but we can make them our own by carrying them into our daily activities:

Our work is our prayer because we carry it out through Jesus, in Jesus and for the sake of Jesus. The work we are called to accomplish is just a means to give concrete substance to our love for God. The work that we do is only a means to put our love for Christ into living action.

One of my favorites:

Let God use you without consulting you...let the Lord catch you. Let yourself be caught by Him and then let Him dispose of you utterly.

I miss getting together with our church family, worshipping our Lord together and enjoying each other's company over coffee and refreshments. This time of "social distancing" has made me stop and appreciate the warm fellowship we share. We are very blessed.



Christian Symbols

Violet

The violet, a symbol of humility, is used most often to refer to the Virgin Mary, whom St. Bernard (1090-1153) described as "the violet of humility." The purple flower also is sometimes used to express Christ's humility in assuming human form.

from the Newsletter



Faith & Spirituality

Perhaps it will seem obvious, but when big themes come up like mortality and loss, pain and suffering, it's often useful for us to turn to our religious and spiritual beliefs. These beliefs can be a safe harbor in a churning sea of despair, a light in the darkness. Communion with the sacred or the divine, whatever that means to each of us personally, can soothe and reassure.

Prayer and [meditation](#), spending time in sacred spaces, and seeking the [wisdom](#) of trusted spiritual leaders are all valuable tools to have in your life-or-death coping kit. People have a remarkable capacity to find meaning in adversity and appreciate what really matters.

Faith in something bigger than we are, whether God, Love, or Nature, can help fill our hearts with peace, hope, and [gratitude](#), even in the toughest times.

From Psychology Today

Special Dates

- National Day of Prayer.....May 7
- Mother's Day.....May 10
- Armed Forces Day.....May 16
- Victoria Day (Canada).....May 18
- Ascension Day.....May 21
- Memorial Day.....May 25
- Pentecost.....May 31



Bible Quiz

While 70 Israelite men were commissioned as prophets at the tent of meeting, two others, Eldad and Medad, were reported to have prophesied in the camp — not following "proper" protocols. Who defended them?

- A. Moses
- B. Joshua
- C. Jethro
- D. The Lord

*Answer on page 8
from the Newsletter*



- ♦ Tom D.
- ♦ Maxine M.
- ♦ Shirley E.
- ♦ Art E.
- ♦ Velmer R.
- ♦ Mary Lee
- ♦ Claude K.
- ♦ Janet M.
- ♦ Margaret M.
- ♦ Doug C.
- ♦ Fr. Jack
- ♦ Pat L.
- ♦ James H.
- ♦ Stephanie O.
- ♦ London S.
- ♦ Kay K.
- ♦ Dorothy Schuyler family—comfort
- ♦ Jackie, David & Chris —comfort
- ♦ For all medical personnel, first responders and all who serve this country
- ♦ Margie M.
- ♦ Jim H.
- ♦ Tatum
- ♦ Ruby L.
- ♦ Salaam S.
- ♦ Bob Z.
- ♦ Genie B.
- ♦ Luci B.
- ♦ Joan C.
- ♦ Pamela J.
- ♦ Jenny A.
- ♦ Juanita T.
- ♦ Rex A.
- ♦ Gail C.
- ♦ Richard T.
- ♦ Doug C.

*"The mere whisper of the Holy Spirit
can drown out the thundering noise of an
entire world."
—David Jeremiah
from the Newsletter*



- ★ Gabriel Pine May 1
- ★ Kyle Simas May 8
- ★ Ruby Louis May 9
- ★ Gina Neller May 13
- ★ Kay Knighten May 14

- ✠ Tom & Ruth Carrillo May 7 15 yrs
- ✠ Woodrow & Ruth Gubuan May 21 40 yrs

*If we don't have your birthday or anniversary,
please let Mary Scott know.*

Joan Court: Nothing is happening right now and we can't go for doctor appointments. They (Dale Commons) are restrictive with the activities and bring our meals to our room. When they have an activity, only 9 people are allowed to play Bingo with social distancing being enforced. In addition to my books and music, my most fun is going down to the elevator, looking around and coming back! "Hope is faith holding its hand out in the dark." ☺

Bob Neller: We are well and not doing too much. We take care of our two small dogs and they are nice to have around, especially during this stay-at-home period. Besides shopping for groceries and essentials, we occasionally buy take-out food from restaurants to try to help them out. Our family members in the Sacramento area are all well. I watch some travel-logs online and pretend that I am on vacation. We do Sunday Services using the Bulletins and the BCP. We are looking forward to when all can safely return for in-church services. ☺

Norma Parsons: I am staying in my apartment a lot and coping well. They (Dale Commons) take good care of us by sanitizing the mail, bringing our meals to us and organizing Bingo games in the dining room. We have to wear masks in common areas and visitors are restricted, but we haven't had any reported cases of the Coronavirus. Praying every day helps me and I go to God with all my concerns. I can't wait to go back to church! ☺

Seth Simas: I am staying home and supporting my students as best as I can by calling and e-mailing them. I see my Mom a couple times a week. ☺

June Simas: We are staying at home, which is hard and trying to follow the guidelines. I enjoy gardening, reading and watching TV. Adam is catching up on his schoolwork and Gabriel is done with school and waiting to hear from the Navy about when he will go in. ☺

Velmer Reeh: I'm having problems with some sores on my legs and a rash on my hands, which makes it hard to do anything. I am surviving with cooking, shopping and some gardening. I have been reading a chapter of the Bible at night and am currently at the Psalms. ☺

Kay Knighten: Unfortunately, my vertigo is back and Claude's back is still bothering him. We are hoping to get doctor appointments by the end of the month. We are watching TV and going to the store. We do enjoy the Sunday Bulletins and are praying every day. ☺

Linda York: I am staying busy with calling friends, singing, walking around the corner and doing the "twist" for exercise! I also watch movies on DVD and write letters and cards to family and friends. At night, I read psalm 121, 91, 138 and 23 and pray for all the people in our church and family...it's a long list. I am looking forward to coming back to church. ☺

Mary Scott: Terry and I are staying very busy right now. Terry is doing a lot of WebEx training sessions for Aeries Software (student information system software used by many school districts) and working on donated computers. In addition to my church work, I have been busy making 2 quilts for a couple of granddaughters upcoming birthdays, crafting and reading. We enjoy getting out and taking our dog, Bailey for an evening walk. My Sunday mornings are very reflective, when I find a quiet place to read the scriptures and Fr. Woodrow's sermon. I miss attending church and seeing everyone, but I find that if I listen, God is still talking to me during this time. In a small way, I take comfort in knowing that I am doing my part to keep my fellow parishioners healthy. ☺

Sarah Pine: This quarantine has been a lil crazy. At first I think we were more concerned about the virus and definitely stayed home all the time. Just the difficulty in finding toilet paper was insane. I never saw the store shelves so empty. I think we were buying what we could and hoped to make a meal out of what we had. As time went by, things came back to shelves and buying toilet paper was easier. We now can pretty much find what we need. So its gotten easier to make meals. Having the kids' birthdays at home was more hard for the kids I think because they miss their friends at school, and can't go out for a nice birthday dinner. We made it as special as we could, they picked one of their fave meals and we made it. Not that it wasn't as special, it was just different. Having school at home is a new challenge. Each child learns differently so it's hard for me to channel what each one needs. Haven't always gotten each assignment done, but I am happy they are trying. All in all, we have taken each curve and take one day at a time. I think that's all we can do. ☺

Nathaniel Pine: My grandfather used to say "boy, these times are a changing." I truly understand that statement through these tough times we are all facing. As an essential worker, I have been feeling lucky to be employed. A feeling of being needed for our society, and a way to continue to provide for my family. A feeling that I had not always appreciated. As I see the world around us changing, some for the worse. My thoughts and prayers go out to the people of the world that are not as blessed as my family and I. As staying home for the children, I have felt sad for them, to not be able to interact with peers/friends/sports etc. But, I have seen my children build closer bonds with each other and an appreciation for school and teachers. As I followed the news, anxiety and fear began to overwhelm my thoughts as the days and weeks went by. I found that praying and talking to God has soothed me. I feel that my faith in God and his plan for me and my family has grown and is more clear. Although these times have given us many different challenges, I am looking forward to our nation to re-open, looking forward to seeing my church family in person. I am excited to see what great Gods gifts/opportunities may bring in the future. God bless you all till we all see each other in person. ☺



The Rector's Message

40 DAYS FROM EASTER TO ASCENSION: QUARANTINE STORY

The story of the word *quarantine* traces its origin to two Italian words *quaranta giorni* (40 days). It is said that during the 14th century in order to protect the coastal city of Venice from plague epidemics, ships arriving from infected ports were required to sit at anchor for 40 days before landing. This practice came to be called *quarantine*. The requirements of *quarantine* evolved through the years. Quarantine stations expanded from every port to international airports and major border crossings. The main focus of quarantine remained the prevention of the introduction, transmission, and spread of communicable diseases from foreign lands.

The story of the 40 days from Easter to Ascension has features of our quarantine story today. John the Evangelist says that on the evening of Easter day, **"the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews."** Like the ship sitting at anchor, our churches are closed and we too are in a stay-at-home mode, this time, for fear of contagion or of transmission of the dreaded coronavirus.

Remember, it was to these frightened disciples, that the risen Jesus appeared. He sensed their profound fear. So, he spoke his peace to them and gave them their mission. He breathed the Holy Spirit on them, and told them to forgive sins with his authority. Then, **"he showed them his hands and his side"** As John's gospel continues to tell us **"The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord."**

This is also our cue. It is in such fearful times as today that Jesus comes to us with vivid reminders in his feet and hands and side that fear has been conquered. Like the disciples who rejoiced when they saw the Lord – his wounded hands and side, we also can rejoice, when in the midst of our quarantine period, we recognize the resurrected Christ here with us.

Jesus continued to appear to his disciples numerous times over the course of 40 days. He was a gardener, or a stranger to Emmaus, a ghost on the shore. But his appearances were always to instruct and to clarify, to

assure and to confirm, to deepen understanding and to entrust mission and ministry. This is our cue as well during this quarantine period at home. It is a time for turning our newfound home quarantine into something more spiritually profitable. Whether we are living alone or with just our spouses or with our children or children and other relatives, it is a time to make our home quarantine into a homeschool and a homechurch. These are suggestions to do in the concrete:

PRAYER is a central element: Let us have a regular time set for prayer. *We have the Book of Common Prayer available for those who do not have one. We can use the BCP to pray MP and EP in unison with the whole diocese of San Joaquin starting the second half of May. (Details will be given). Other short prayers will be indicated in the BCP for our daily use for different occasions. We will livestream our mass when we are back to Church and clergy and eucharistic ministers will bring communion after the mass to those unable to attend.*

STUDY: Let us set a regular time for individual and family study: *This will consist of Bible Reading (guides will be given), or Bible Study, or Spiritual Reading. (suggested readings will be made available), or Catechism (Lesson plans will be made available.)*

SERVICE: as inreach – towards the family and the Church family; outreach – towards our community and outside. *Together with the vestry, we will draw up suggested plans and projects.*

Remember that the 40 days of quarantine ends with Pentecost, with the coming of the Holy Spirit. From the locked doors that burst open, the disciples went to the streets and to the whole world. From our homes we will continue to do ministry and mission to our community and the world.

In the following parts of the newsletter, we will hear different stories and reflections on experiences of pandemic crisis. Thank you everyone for sharing these.

A new mailbox has been ordered and we would like to thank Nathaniel Pine for installing it. All our mail should now be safe and secure.



The Bishop's Corner

The Rt. Rev. Eric Vawter Menees

May 8, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Diocese of San Joaquin,

Alleluia, Christ is risen! I hope you are all having a blessed Eastertide despite the physical distancing and other restrictions we face. At this time, we are now going into our eighth week of the shelter in place order in California and I know this has been a struggle for you and many of your parishioners, not only due to the frustrations in our day to day life, but also out of the concern we have for those who are at a higher risk of complications. Please know that you're not alone, and that if you need support you can reach out to me or any of our fellow clergy.

Since my last letter the governor has released more information about his plan to reopen California as well as announcing that phase 2 of the reopening will begin on Friday May 8. If you haven't already I strongly encourage all of you to develop a plan to reopen your churches. A sample guideline is available on our website. We, of course, pray to be able to open our churches soon, but we should be prepared for the possibility of it taking longer than hoped for. Another resource is the webinar provided by Canon Roseberry and the Evergreen Project and can be found here: <https://theevergreenproject.org/sermons-2/>

In addition to being mindful of the public health directives, please be mindful of blessings your congregation can take away from our time sheltering in place. Some of you may decide it is in the best interest of your churches to keep streaming Sunday services in addition to having services in church again. Others of you have started small groups for teaching and fellowship throughout the week. Rather than just going back to what we did before we need to ask ourselves how we can use our experiences at this time to better minister in our congregations.

I am saddened that I've not been able to make my regularly planned visitation to your

congregations these past seven weeks. As a way to reach out, and potentially give you a break, I am recording an Ascension sermon that will be sent out to each congregation on or before May 20th. You are free to use, or not use, this sermon on the 21st, the Feast of the Ascension, or on Sunday the 24th if you translate the feast to that Sunday. Along with the video will be suggestions on how to incorporate it into your service. Of course, you are welcome to simply post the link as well or direct people to the diocesan website.

While the press and social media may be fixated on tragedy and fear there are plenty of examples of God's providence and blessing within our diocese. In the midst of our struggles there are many sources of joy we have to give thanks for. I'm continuously thankful for the way you have ministered to your congregations. In the midst of death, we are in life. The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

Your servant and bishop,

Guidelines

1. People need to be advised to self-select and stay home if they do not feel completely well in any way.
2. Church needs a deep cleaning before and after each service – using disinfectant on all surfaces that people may touch including the communion vessels.
3. Hand sanitization bottles should be at the entrance of the church for people to sanitize their hands upon entry.
4. People need to sit at least 6 feet apart unless they are family living in the same home. Family not living in the same home need to sit six feet apart.
5. No sharing of prayer books or hymnals.
6. No passing of the collection plate.
7. No shaking of hands or hugging at the passing of the peace.
8. Wearing of a mask is recommended by all.
9. Celebrant should sanitize his hands before the service, immediately before celebrating and again before distribution.
10. The Celebrant consecrates only enough wine for himself to receive on behalf of the community.
11. When celebrating the Celebrant should cover the hosts with a napkin or purificator. The priest's host rests on top of the napkin or purificator.
12. People should be asked to come to the altar rail in such a way that they can maintain the six-foot distance.
13. Recommended no coffee hour – if a coffee hour takes place maintain social distancing, no shared food, and out-of-doors if at all possible.

REFLECTIONS

Continued from page 1

Gubuan Family at home together and separately: Since you (**Fr. Woodrow**) are the priest, Ruth said, you take care of worship and prayer on set times on Sunday and weekdays. So we (with Rachel) worship together with you all at 10 am on Sundays. But I try to enrich our home-church experience by visiting and joining liturgies around the world: beginning with Manila & Bacolod [home churches in the Philippines], Rome & Vatican, ACNA & our Diocese of San Joaquin: (Fresno, Oakdale, Bakersfield, Stockton.) But the kitchen is **Ruth's** domain: gourmet dishes and endless baking. No wonder, **Rachel**, the exercise master make us do: walking on line, zumba on line. (As a high school teacher: Rachel has scheduled online classes and staff meetings too). Of course, **I** am the garbage collector, the folder of all laundries done by Ruth, the one who puts away all cooking pots and pans, all glasses, plates and utensils from dishwasher, helping Ruth's housecleaning by taking care of the vacuum, and Ruth's gardening by watering plants. Ruth gave me a **B** in home economics. We make it a point to call family, relatives, friends to say hi and anything we can do to help with your needs.

We have daily text messaging with the **children** without fail: **Honey and John** even just to say: "Good morning, all hale and well in Stockton, or Gilroy, or Romania. Love you and miss you." Then we have weekly FaceTime with **Honey and JayR and Isabella, and Joseph** – just to see Joseph's new haircut, or Isabella singing us a new composition, or watch Honey doing Zoom meetings with parents or students as vice principal in a San Jose High School. Seldom do we get the chance to FaceTime **John** because of the time difference. But when we do, see glimpses of his deployment principally in Romania with some excursions to Bulgaria. When there are group postings of family gatherings (wish I was there!) or of Ruth or Honey's cooking (after her mom) (Can't wait to eat that when I am home). When? His answer always: I don't know. But still counting the days based on the original schedule.

One realization to share: thanks to the social media – email to text, Facebook to messenger, Skype to FaceTime, Zoom and livestreaming – no one needs to be isolated. We are all connected. While this is great, it cannot altogether substitute for in-person presence. Praying earnestly for that time. ☺

Nancy & Bill Thomas: We are well thankfully and usually enjoying the quiet of stay-at-home. We've done a lot of gardening, the flowers are beautiful this spring, and are growing some vegetables for the first time in a long time. We enjoy having time for Morning Prayer each day and are trying to send e-mails, letters and cards to loved ones. The future is so worrisome, we hope we are all doing the right thing and we miss talking to people face to face. I've been sewing face masks and Bill is enjoying using his riding mower like a dune buggy in our big grassy yard. Love to you all. ☺

Greg Matteson: I'm missing church very badly after coming back to it after a difficult childhood. I'm watching online services at St. Matthias, keeping up with piano practice and watching lots of YouTube videos! ☺

Luci Beyers: I am amazed at what has happened. It seems crazy to have a pandemic and a depression at the same time. Spiritually, it has made me wonder if Jesus is coming back soon. We need to keep our eyes on Jesus knowing He is in control. ☺

Robbie Beyers: I am keeping very busy doing Door Dash right now and getting the mail. We are watching Morning Prayer online with Fr. Roberts at St. Matthias. ☺

Liz Basham: Life is very difficult right now. I am deeply missing church and seeing everyone at church. ☺

Audrey Foster: I love our country and basic freedoms that our bill of rights guarantees. For most of my life I have taken these freedoms for granted. This shut down and social distancing, enforced by our government, have made me think more seriously about them, especially our freedom of religion and our freedom of assembly. My concern is that the Christian church and other faiths have been relegated to "non-essential" status. They were not even given the same latitude as grocery shopping, so that with precautions in place, those who chose to assemble to worship God might do so. This bothers me as a denial of an important and basic freedom. For all of us who believe that our loving God has ultimate control of our individual and corporate lives, life is to be lived with a certain abandonment. I don't mean we should abandon good sense and practical wisdom in our choices, but that we should not succumb to the unreasonable fears imposed on us by men who do not believe that Jesus is Lord. ☺

Ruby Louis: Having gratitude and appreciation for the positive things at this time. I am well and staying in touch through social media with family and friends. I am doing a lot of FaceTime with my grandchildren. My love and best wishes for our church family. I pray we will be back together soon. ☺

Juanita Thorington: She is currently at Vintage Faire and is being quarantined for 2 weeks after coming from Doctors' Hospital. She was hospitalized for a recurring urinary traction infection and we're happy to say she is doing much better. ☺

Jameolah Soma: I am staying home and cooking for my family and I only go out to buy groceries. I also enjoy helping take care of my grandchildren. I love cooking and can't wait for church to open again so I can bring my food! ☺

Margaret Moore: Staying at home safe and away from other people. Going day to day and getting through this time by putzing around and watching TV. ☺

Continued on page 6