# SERRA CLUB CITY OF ORANGE

Reg. 11, Distr. 79, Charter 643

# **SPECIAL EDITION**

COVID SHUTDOWN ISSUE Volume 10

**APRIL 2021** 

# A Voice for Vocations



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### **OUR MISSION** is to foster,

affirm and promote vocations to the priesthood, religious life, deaconate and lay ministries and, through this, to deepen our members' personal faith. life.



APRIL 23RD Rosemarie Tsutsumi



## HALLELUJAH! CHRIST IS RISEN!

As we've come to the end of Lent and moved into the Triduum, we remember the Lamb of God, who becomes the sacrifice given for our deliverance from sin and evil. And then, following the start of Spring, we celebrate new life, obvious by fresh growth of plants and trees and prolific bunnies, rabbits and butterflies. But the most important is Jesus rising from his grave. We can now proclaim, "Alleluia!"

And yet, amidst all the colored eggs and jellybeans, is a world in turmoil. We've passed the one-year mark of misery around the globe, but the burden didn't fall evenly. Some of us were merely inconvenienced; others will never be the same. However we fared, we all have noticed things wrong in our society from the pandemic to domestic violence. And I know it doesn't compare in severity to everything else going on, but the fact that hot dogs come in packs of ten and hot dog buns come in packs of eight shows that there is something wrong with the world! We know we can't fix it on our own, not even a politician or leader. The only one who can set things right is God. And the good news is that he wants to do so. Hence, Easter, where he brings us out of our darkness into his marvelous light. Christus Lux Nostra! (Christ Our Light)

As we move further in April, we celebrate Earth Day on the 22nd. The planet is our home. It's important to treat it and each other with care. We only have one Earth home, so we must make it a priority to do what's right, to protect it alongside our neighbors. Pope Francis, in Laudato Si, has a lot to say in his "Prayer for

SEE PG 2, "PREZ SEZ"

### **DISTRICT DOINGS**

Anne Champagne Governor, District #79



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# LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT: INSPIRED BY THE POPE

Many of the Catholic faithful were inspired by Pope Francis' recent 4-day trip to Iraq where he visited a number of Iragi cities, including Baghdad, Najaf, Erbil and Mosul. He attended a meeting for interfaith dialogue in Ur and, in His speech there, emphasized the importance of promoting human fraternity, and called believers to "revive the values of human fraternity". Professor Mohamed al-Mahrasawi, President of the Al-Azhar University said that Pope Francis' visit provided healing for the wounds of the Iragi people after years of wars and destruction. The professor continued "his visit would act as a call for tolerance .....and tolerance is the best response to the calls for hatred and extremism that took the lives of many and displaced millions of innocent people". Below are additional comments on the Pope's visit from other high-ranking Iragi committee members.

"The Pope's presence in Iraq brought to light the religious and cultural diversity in Iraq and the region. It also showed how this diversity could be a way for achieving peace and cohesion among communities."

"The visit carried a powerful message that the whole world should support victims of

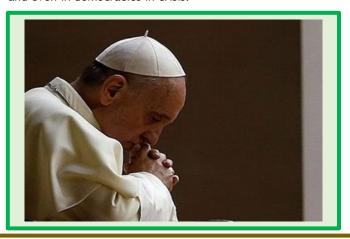
SEE PG 3, "DISTRICT DOINGS"

### DREZ SEZ CONT.

Our Earth," some highlights being: "All-powerful God, you embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten. Bring healing that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Teach us to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey toward your infinite light. Encourage us in our struggle for justice, love and peace." So, we've come full circle in this prayer, recognizing that God, indeed, (because we've asked him) is filling us with his power every step of the way to set things right in our world. Seek healing if you need it; be the healing if you can offer it. Our healing God so wants to restore health and hope to the world he so loves. We have a beautiful, lengthy Easter Season in which to experience movement from death (misery) to life (triumph)! Fiat Lux! (Let there be light!)

#### THE SPECIAL INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR APRIL:

During this time when we recall your son's resurrection, we pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.



# **Easter Blessings!**





# We Are One With The Risen Christ

Lord we lift our hearts to you. As the dawn breaks, may we carry the unity we share live to praise you! Amen. Into every moment knowing that we are one with the risen Christ. Lord, we lift our eyes to you. As the sunrises, may this moment stay with us, reminding us to look for the beautiful colors of promise in your word. Lord, we lift our prayers to you. As the dew air falls, may we breathe this morning in and know that like the earth, you sustain us, keep us and work within us always. And so, we lift our voices to you. We celebrate the greatest day in history, when Jesus rose from death, defeated darkness and bathed the world in stunning resurrection light. May we ever live to praise you! Amen.



### City Club Newz

## **APRIL SPEAKERS**

APR 6 Deacon Tom Concitis

Subject: "USE SPIRITUAL GIFTS"





APR 20 Father Raul Lemus
Subject: "VOCATIONS





## DISTRICT DOINGS CONT.

of war and extremism and not abandon them under any circumstances."

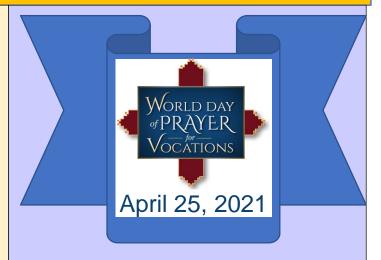
Also, in March, at the weekly General Audience, the Holy Father focused on the role of the Holy Spirit in prayer. He said, "The Holy Spirit opens our hearts to Christ, and allows us to invoke God as "Abba", that is "Father". It is the Holy Spirit, by his prevenient grace, that draws us to pray to Jesus. Pray to the Holy Spirit as well.....address your prayer to him every day, especially at the beginning and end of every important action. "Because of the Spirit, Jesus is not distant, but with us always. He still educates his disciples by transforming their heart."

Pope Francis said that keeping this flame of God's presence alive is "the first task of Christians." He said "Keeping the flame alive is the experience of so many who pray, men and women whom the Holy Spirit has formed according to the measure of Christ, in mercy, service, and prayer. It is the experience not only of monks and hermits, but of ordinary people who have woven a long history of dialogue with God, seeking God, and in doing this "they safeguard His presence" in the Gospel, in the Eucharist, and in the faces of those in need -- like a secret flame".

Pope Francis' words bring to mind the scripture passage from the Road to Emmaus: "Were not our hearts burning inside us as He talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?" What a beautiful reflection as we enter the Easter Season and see how Christ's Resurrection leads all of us to "new life" regardless of the world's circumstances or surroundings!

Important Note: Source materials from www.vaticannews





The purpose of WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), consecrated life in all its forms (male and female religious life, societies of apostolic life, consecrated virginity), secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.

2021 marks the 58th Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations

**Toronto June 2021 Convention Postponed** 

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### April 6th, 2021 from 10:15 AM -12:00 PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86849194962?pwd=ZXRLNnlKWVB0SjlHVDlZcVVKelJ4Zz09

Meeting ID: 868 4919 4962

Passcode: 127291

Join by phone: 1-669-900-9128

### April 20th, 2021 from 10:15 AM -12:00 PM \*IWG ending at 9:45 AM\*

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81379386637?pwd=Y1FSN2ZUaUtSTEk4aTU0LzJqVzhSUT09

Meeting ID: 813 7938 6637

Passcode: 424257

Join by phone: 1-669-900-9128

### May 4th, 2021 from 10:15 AM -12:00 PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84212706821?pwd=YzMwbUg2YXNzRmRzNThkcE5iZUU0QT09

Meeting ID: 842 1270 6821

Passcode: 367900

Join by phone: 1-669-900-9128

### May 18th, 2021 from 10:15 AM -12:00 PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84049220683?pwd=Q05YZlUwWnVuKzFHcDgrdE1ibFhPQT09

Meeting ID: 840 4922 0683