In these days of pandemic, I’ve found myself drawn to the Biblical story of Job in order to make sense of the suffering of our situation. The story begins with a cosmic conversation between God and Satan. In the course of their discussion, God expresses his delight with Job, a man of incredible faith, family, and prayer. Satan responds that Job is an upright man only because he has been richly blessed by God. Satan taunts God saying that, if God would remove His blessings, Job would eventually despair and curse God. Faced with this challenge, God agrees to allow Satan to diabolically distress Job.

Satan proceeds to strip Job of every security of finance, family, and friendship. Through the majority of his sufferings, Job continues to bless God. But as Job’s sufferings increase, Satan plagues him with an illness which brings him to the brink of death. At this moment, Job cries out to God, questioning how God could allow such suffering. God responds to Job by inviting him to consider his sufferings from a divine perspective. With powerful poetry and detailed description, God reminds Job that He is the creator of the universe. He is the author of life and death. Most importantly, God alone brings life from death, victory from defeat, blessing from suffering. Enlightened by this wisdom, Job repents of despair and finds himself renewed in his faith.

As we celebrate Easter, I find myself bedeviled by Job’s questioning of God’s presence. Suffering is all around us. Our churches are closed for public worship. The sacraments are not widely available. Our Easter Vigil will not welcome the more than forty RCIA members who have journeyed for more than eight months to this moment. There are those who are afflicted with the
coronavirus, those who are isolated, those who are in the grip of fear. Many are facing unemployment and an uncertain future. Others are weary from the listlessness of daily monotony. Some are discovering that living with family in the close quarters of a San Francisco apartment is anything but heaven! And, like Job, I ask: “Where are you Lord?”

As I read God’s response to Job, the Lord spoke to my heart:

- I am with you as you celebrate the communal Mass with your Dominican brothers.
- I sing through the community as you chant the daily Psalms.
- I have raised up those who have helped keep our Lima Center open and serving those in need.
- I have inspired others to create and support the technology to livestream worship.
- I am there when you connect via internet to pray the Rosary and the Stations of the Cross.
- I will support the community through those who are able to continue to tithe and be generous in their weekly offerings.
- I am the volunteer who offered to sanitize the Church pews before the Church opens for private prayer.
- You are not alone.
- Be at Peace.

- I am with you.

In the midst of his sufferings, Job says something remarkable. Although he is racked with pain, fear, and loss, he is inspired to say:

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust; Whom I myself shall see: my own eyes, not another’s, shall behold him. (Job 19:25-27)

This expression of faith in God as a Redeemer is the reason why Job survives. He doesn’t believe in God because he is blessed. He is blessed because he believes.

My prayer for all of you is that, even in the midst of your fears, anxieties, and sufferings, you live your faith fully. Nothing can separate us from the love of the Resurrected Christ. Take the time to pray and let the Lord speak words of tender presence to you. Let the fifty days of the Easter season renew you in the faith of Our Risen Redeemer. The pandemic has changed—but not cancelled—our liturgies. I invite you to participate through our YouTube live stream. United in faith at a distance, our lives will proudly proclaim that Our Redeemer lives!

~Fr. Michael
ST. DOMINIC’S CHURCH HOURS:
12:00 NOON TO 5:00 PM

LIVE STREAMING MORNING & EVENING PRAYER, DAILY & SUNDAY MASS:
- **MORNING PRAYER:** 7:15 AM
- **MASS:** 8:00 AM
- **EVENING PRAYER:** 5:00 PM

PRAYER FOR ST. RAPHAEL’S INTERCESSION

_Good Saint Raphael, blessed archangel, who healed the earth, we humbly implore your powerful intercession with Jesus through Mary._

_We pray for the healing of the sick, and for safety and good health for all from the corona virus._

_Bless our doctors and nurses; receive the souls of the dead into their heavenly reward and console all who are in pain or mourn._

_We ask these intercessions through the merits of our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen._

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions are being accepted online. Visit the parish website: www.stdominics.org and click the Mass Intention link.

- Enter a name of a person or family.
- Indicate Living or Deceased.
- The Mass will be scheduled on the first available date.
- We are blessed to have many concelebrants at our 8:00 am daily Mass and on Sunday to pray for the Mass Intentions of the day.

SHRINE OF ST. JUDE

The gift store in the church is closed. Candles are available by calling the St. Jude Shrine Office or online. The candles will be lit in the church by a St. Jude Shrine staff member.

Call (415) 931-5919 or visit their website: www.stjude-shrine.org.

ADMINISTRATION

PARISH ONLINE GIVING PROGRAM.

Become a supporting member of the parish through our online giving program, e-Offering. Make one-time or recurring donations for Sunday offerings, Community Outreach Services, Archdiocesan Annual Appeal, and other programs. Make your donations through a
checking account or credit card: Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover accepted. Visit our website: www.stdominics.org and click the DONATE button on the top bar on the homepage to get started. Or visit the parish office and complete a brochure. Thank you for your stewardship!

**CASHLESS GIVING IS HERE:** Want to make a donation but forgot your wallet? Don’t carry cash? You can still donate to St. Dominic’s using the mobile app Venmo. Our name = Saint Dominics, or our username = @stdominics. Just download the App to start making your donation. Thank you for your support of St. Dominic’s Church!

**CHILDREN & FAMILY FAITH FORMATION**

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a Montessori-based curriculum that uses a hands-on approach to pass on the faith to our children. Using materials beautifully created by our own parish artists and catechists, children explore the life and teachings of Jesus, the items and gestures of the Mass, the history of salvation, and the Kingdom of God. We have had a Level 1 Atrium for 3-6 year olds for the past 12 years. This year, St. Dominic’s has been working hard to take it to the next level with a Level 2 Atrium for 6-9 year olds in our First Communion class, and our hope is to one day have a Level 3 Atrium for 9-12 year olds. Thanks to the incredibly generous donations of many, we have raised the funds to grow our program. We are now looking for volunteer catechists willing to learn this beautiful method of passing on the faith to the future of our Church. The training for the catechists is so enriching that Mother Teresa insisted that all novices in the Missionaries of Charity receive this formation to deepen their own faith lives - that's how powerful it is! St. John Paul the Great, after viewing the Atrium in Rome said, "That is the most beautiful homily I have ever witnessed. It is proof that really the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to the children."

We have two catechist formations this summer. Each level has 12 days of formation in order to be certified, split over two summers.

- Level 1, Part 1 will be taught by Dr. Ruth Ohm Sutherland, Friday, June 26 - Wednesday, July 1, 2020.
- Our Level 2, Part 1 formation will be taught by Jennifer Bell and Emma Kane from Monday, August 17 - Saturday, August 22, 2020.

Registration and details will be available soon. Please contact Kathleen Folan if you are interested and/or to apply to be a catechist for the 2020-21 school year. kathy@stdominics.org or (415) 567-7824 x111.

**COMMUNITY LIFE**

St Dominic's Bookclub is reading He Leadeth Me by Fr. Walter Cizek. Everyone
is invited to read this book and offer their insights on Thursday, April 16th, 7:30 pm via Whereby, our parish's digital meeting platform. All we ask is that you have already read the book. Any questions please refer to Fr. Isaiah Mary at isaiahmary@stdominics.org.

Book description from the publisher:
“He Leadeth Me” is the deeply moving personal story of one man's spiritual odyssey and the unflagging faith which enabled him to survive the horrendous ordeal that wrenched his body and spirit to near collapse.

Captured by the Russian army during World War II and convicted of being a Vatican spy, American Jesuit Father Walter J. Ciszek spent some 23 agonizing years in Soviet prisons and the labor camps of Siberia. He here recalls how it was only through an utter reliance on God's will that he managed to endure. He tells of the courage he found in prayer—a courage that eased the loneliness, the pain, the frustrations, the anguish, the fears, the despair. For, as Ciszek relates, the solace of spiritual contemplation gave him an inner serenity upon which he was able to draw amidst the "arrogance of evil" that surrounded him. Learning to accept even the inhuman work of toiling in the infamous Siberian salt mines as a labor pleasing to God, he was able to turn adverse forces into a source of positive value and a means of drawing closer to the compassionate and never-forsaking Divine Spirit.

“He Leadeth Me” is a book to inspire all Christians to greater faith and trust in God—even in their darkest hour.

~ Fr. Isaiah Mary

OUTREACH

ST. DOMINIC’S HOMEBOUND AND NURSING HOME MINISTRY. There are a number of nursing homes in our parish boundaries. For those of you who would like to visit the sick and elderly, as well to give communion and help Fr. Christopher Wetzel and Fr. Isaiah Mary Molano with saying Mass at these various places, call the parish office at (415) 567-7824 and leave a message for Fr. Christopher or email him directly at frchristopher@stdominics.org.

Nursing Home Ministry is suspended.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR COMPANIONS FOR HEALTHCARE. Many of our parishioners have difficulty getting to their medical appointments. Ministering in Companions for Healthcare needs 1-3 hours of your time. The parishioners are grateful because of their needs they do not have to navigate public transportation or ridesharing. Connecting with the parishioner for a short car ride is very rewarding. Can you help out a parishioner who needs assistance getting to medical appointments? Do you have an employer that can give you volunteer hours so you can give a ride? Do you have a couple of hours during the day? All rides are arranged in advance and can be scheduled around your availability. Please volunteer
by contacting Mary Lou at c4h.sd@gmail.com.

**COMPANIONS FOR HEALTH CARE.** We seek to companion and support St. Dominic’s parishioners through the medical care system by assisting, clarifying, or instructing. If you need assistance or support navigating medical appointments or transportation to and from outpatient procedures, call (415) 567-7824 ext. 106 or email c4health.sd@gmail.com.

**ATTENTION PARISHIONERS!** Do you need a ride to and from medical appointments?

- We have a call list of 14 volunteers and 8 ready and willing volunteers
- Call our Companions for Healthcare number, (415) 567-7824 ext. 106 or email at c4health.sd@gmail.com today! Please give 3-5 days ADVANCE notice so that we can arrange a ride.

**LIMA CENTER'S ONGOING CLOTHING AND TOILETRY DRIVE** Our drop-in center for the homeless is always in need of men's new underwear, socks, t-shirts, jeans (sizes 30 – 34) and toiletry items (such as travel size shampoo, deodorant and razors). Check out our online wish lists to see what we need and get it shipped directly to the Lima Center. Or, check them when you're out shopping and then drop off your donation at the Parish Office. Due to space constraints, we cannot accept dress slacks and shirts, women's or children's clothing. Thank you for your support through all the seasons.

**Dollar Days (get an instant tax-receipt)**
https://www.dollardays.com/stdominicslimacenter/wishlist.html

**Amazon (send us your receipt and we'll apply it to your parish account)**
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/26PMLOFUE37XPZ

The Lima Center still continues to function with reduced services, giving out a hot meal, sandwiches and snack bags to the homeless from 10-11am on Tuesday thru Friday. We have 25-45 guests drop by each day, and could use help obtaining items for distribution.

We need sandwich fixings: sliced bread, lunch meat, sliced cheese, mayo, mustard, peanut butter and jelly.

We also need items for the snack bags and distribution of the hot food that is being prepared. Check out what we need on our Amazon Wishlist.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1IKEJWAAJKT1NF?ref_=wl_share

You don't need to purchase the items from Amazon, or even the quantity shown. But if you see any of the items that we need while you are shopping, or items that would be easily substituted, we'd appreciate it. You can drop them off at the Parish Hall at 9am Tuesday thru Friday. And remember to bring your receipt so we can include it in
your parish contributions, or reimburse you.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

**MARRIAGE PREP CLASS I:** *Wednesday, April 15, 7:30 pm, online*

**MARRIAGE PREP CLASS II:** *Thursday, April 16, 7:30 pm, online*

St. Dominic's offers classes for engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Parishioners Deacon Dino and Katharine Ornido teach the classes. These classes are offered online in April. **RSVP is required**, email: ornido@stdominics.org.

**SPIRITUAL LIFE**

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER LAY MISSIONARIES:** Thank you for your continued prayers for the St. Francis Xavier Lay Missionary Society. The missionaries returned home several days ago, with hopes to return to Asia in the very near future. Please pray for a growth the ministry and vacations to this unique ministry within the church! Any questions can be forwarded to Fr. Isaiah Mary or Tricia Bølle at tricia@laymissionary.org

**SPIRITUAL REFLECTION EMAILS:** If you would like to receive a short daily spiritual reflection to start your weekday, email Deacon Dan Rosen at deacondan@stdominics.org

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AVAILABLE.** A spiritual director accompanies you in your prayer relationship with God and helps you discern the movement of the Holy Spirit in your life. A spiritual guide offers spiritual counsel and wisdom. St. Dominic’s has two trained, experienced parishioners who have offered their time at no cost. For Spiritual Direction, call Diana Robinson at (415) 730-4783 or email gioia1106@gmail.com. For Spiritual Guidance, call Alfredo Neira at (415) 515-1650 or email aeneira@yahoo.com.

**INNER HEALING.** A giant leap towards holiness requires a spiritual, intellectual, and ecclesial undertaking. “For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places” (Eph 6:12). Authority and the sword of the Holy Spirit accompany each child of God. Learn to pray with success in the Most Holy Name of Jesus for victory with the 5 Gospel Keys in the UNBOUND prayer model. Don’t be unarmed this LENT without the assistance of the church, as you contend for holiness with the reality of the spiritual warfare inside yourself, within your family and in others.

After this year’s flu season, the Freedom in Christ Conference will be rescheduled. However, the battle for our souls is daily and unavoidable. Arm yourself with a private UNBOUND prayer session at www.5keystofreedom.com or call 424.IAM.FREE (424.426.3733)
CATHOLIC CHARITIES

CENSUS 2020: Show Your Community Some Love.

Ensure that every member of your household is counted in Census 2020, including infants.

All communities need love and support to grow and thrive. Join Catholic Charities and other faith-based organizations and social services in participating in the Census 2020, which can help bring a whole lot of heart to your community when it comes to jobs and road maintenance as well as funding critical social service programs that San Francisco residents rely on like affordable housing, early childhood education and food and nutrition assistance. The Census helps communities get funding they need so show your community some love and pledge to participate in the 2020 Census. Census Day is April 1st. You can respond by phone and online beginning March 12th in multiple languages. Census 2020 Toolkit and Resources for Congregations available at https://www.sfinterfaithcouncil.org/

HELP STUDENTS WITH HOMEWORK: Maureen & Craig Sullivan Youth Program. Monday – Friday, 3:30 – 5:30 pm. Catholic Charities CYO Home, 10th & Mission, San Francisco. Catholic Charities is looking for volunteers to help 3-5th graders with reading and homework at our Maureen and Craig Sullivan Youth Program. Make a difference by helping our staff provide academic enrichment activities that address educational gaps and shape the future for these children. A commitment of once a week is desired. Contact Brandon Shepard at BShepard@catholiccharitiessf.org or call (415) 972-1274 to learn more.

VOLUNTEER WITH SENIORS AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES ADULT DAY SERVICES. Monday – Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Volunteers help the Catholic Charities with enrichment activities for adults and seniors with memory issues. Hours and days are flexible hours, a commitment of once a week is desired. Contact Brandon Shepard BShepard@catholiccharitiessf.org or call (415) 972-1274 to learn more.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES LELAND HOUSE: Celebrate resident’s birthdays. Bring sweets and birthday cards to celebrate the birthdays happening that month for formerly homeless residents living with chronic HIV/AIDS at Catholic Charities Leland House in San Francisco.

Contact Volunteer Manager Carol Laughlin at CLaughlin@catholiccharitiessf.org or (415) 972-1236 to sign up for the monthly celebration or to learn more. Or provide companionship to residents by playing cards, bingo, board games or just chatting – your company is so valuable. Hours and days are flexible. A commitment of twice a month or more is desired. Contact Brandon Shepard at BShepard@catholiccharitiessf.org or call (415) 972-1274 to learn more.
### SUNDAY, APRIL 12
The Resurrection of the Lord
Ac 10:34, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Col 3: 1-4 or 1 Cor 5: 6b-8 Jn 20:1-9
Benefactors & those Resting Here; Pro Populo; Nicolosa Coronado†
- Church hours: **12:00 Noon – 4:00 pm**
- Morning Prayer (live stream): 8:00 am
- Easter Mass (live stream): 9:00 am
- Evening Prayer (live stream): 4:00 pm

### MONDAY, APRIL 13
Ac 2:14, 22-32; Ps 16:1-2a+5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Mt 28:8-15
Benefactors & those Resting Here; William Shumay†; Rosario Castro Mendoza†
- Church hours: 12:00 Noon – 5:00 pm
- Morning Prayer (live stream): 7:15 am
- Mass (live stream): 8:00 am
- Evening Prayer (live stream): 5:00 pm

### TUESDAY, APRIL 14
Ac 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20+22; Jn 20:11-18
Benefactors & those Resting Here; Daniel Shumay†; Edmundo Sumayo†
- Church hours: 12:00 Noon – 5:00 pm
- Morning Prayer (live stream): 7:15 am
- Mass (live stream): 8:00 am
- Evening Prayer (live stream): 5:00 pm

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
Ac 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:13-35
Benefactors & those Resting Here; Nicolette Nguyen; Yasuo Konishi†
- Church hours: 12:00 Noon to 5:00 pm
- Morning Prayer (live stream): 7:15 am
- Mass (live stream): 8:00 am
- Evening Prayer (live stream): 5:00 pm

### THURSDAY, APRIL 16
Ac 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab+5, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:35-48
Benefactors & those Resting Here; Kevin Cabili†; Lito Cervero
- Church hours: 12:00 Noon – 5:00 pm
- Morning Prayer (live stream): 7:15 am
- Mass (live stream): 8:00 am
- Evening Prayer (live stream): 5:00 pm

### FRIDAY, APRIL 17
Ac 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2+4, 22-24, 25-27a; Jn 21:1-14
Jordan and Sean Habash (birthday); Mae Echanis; Deceased Dominicans, family, friends and benefactors
- Church hours: 12:00 Noon – 5:00 pm
- Morning Prayer (live stream): 7:15 am
- Mass (live stream): 8:00 am
- Evening Prayer (live stream): 5:00 pm

### SATURDAY, APRIL 18
Ac 4:13-21; Ps 118:1+14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21; Mk 16:9-15
Benefactors & those Resting Here; Letitia J. Dunne†
- Church hours: 12:00 Noon – 5:00 pm
- Morning Prayer (live stream): 7:15 am
- Mass (live stream): 8:00 am
- Evening Prayer (live stream): 5:00 pm

### SUNDAY, APRIL 19
Second Sunday of Easter; Divine Mercy Sunday
Ac 10:34, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Col 3: 1-4 or 1 Cor 5: 6b-8 Jn 20:1-9
Benefactors & those Resting Here; Pro Populo; Mark Lavalle†; Julio Solorzano†; Gigi Cervero; Michael & Gillian
- Church hours: 12:00 Noon – 5:00 pm
- Morning Prayer (live stream): 7:15 am
- Mass (live stream): 8:00 am
- Evening Prayer (live stream): 5:00 pm

### PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS:
**Parishioners & Associate Members are invited to submit names via email to bulletin@stdominics.org or by calling the main parish number. Due to space limitations, names will be listed for up to six months.**
Dear St. Dominic’s Community,

As you are aware, the Bay Area counties have issued a “shelter in place” order for the purpose of limiting the spread of the coronavirus. Based on this new ordinance and in consultation with the Archdiocese, I want to keep you updated on the latest with regard to our schedule.

**MASSES/CONFESSIONS:** All daily and weekend public Masses and Confessions are suspended until at least Tuesday, April 7; however, the priests of St. Dominic’s will continue to celebrate Mass and honor all the intentions for the daily and weekend Masses. Every day for at least the next three weeks, we will live stream one mass daily at 8:00 am (approximately). The live stream will begin at 7:15 am with our chanted Morning Prayer followed by Mass. At 5:00 pm, we will be livestreaming our Evening Prayers. These liturgies will be hosted at our YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCljNGvGWiigSdWVDjcaeHRA

Also, I made a video, in conjunction with our Province, on how to make a spiritual communion. For the video in its entirety, and other spiritual resources in the face of this pandemic, visit: https://www.opwest.org/coronavirus/.

Moreover, you can keep connected with preaching and spiritual support and resource through our podcast:


**LIMA CENTER:** We will continue to serve our homeless and at-risk guests. Our services and hours will be modified to ensure health of both our volunteers and guests. We will give “to-go” food boxes Tuesday – Friday from 10:00 – 11:00 am. Also those in need of gift cards or food bags can call (415) 567-7824 to make an appointment for pick up.

**PARISH OFFICE:** The parish office will continue to be closed until at least May 3rd. We will be checking email and voicemail throughout the day. For emergencies, call (415) 567-7824 and our answering service can direct you directly to a Dominican friar.

**PARISH EVENTS:** All parish events onsite are suspended. There are some groups that are connecting virtually to pray and connect. For example, if you would like to join in virtual Stations of the Cross or Rosary email our Friends in Christ group at: fic@stdominics.org

As other opportunities for virtual prayer and connection emerge, they will be announced on our website https://stdominics.org.

**CHURCH AVAILABILITY:** Our beautiful St. Dominic Church will remain open as a place for private prayer from 12:00 Noon – 5:00 pm. For those of us who are feeling disconnected in this time of prudent “self-distancing,” I invite you to come and connect with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Find a quiet place to pray. Lift your heart to Lord. We’re open so you can connect.

*Finally,* as I noted in my previous letter, we should never doubt the power of prayer. As a parish, we are asking God thought the intercession of St. Raphael for protection and healing from the coronavirus. I invite you to join me in this daily prayer.


~ Fr. Michael