



Happy Easter!

The photo is courtesy of Fr. Tom Nangle, Happy Easter, in the spirit of unity and solidarity with our Orthodox sisters and brothers, it wasn't until 715 that the Celtic communities of Ireland and Scotland, accepted Rome's calendar for celebrating Easter. Before that date they were in harmony with our Orthodox brethren. The Triduum services at St. Columba last week were some of the most powerful and moving services I have experienced in years and I hope to carry that energy forward. I don't know if I am on the road to Damascus, Jerusalem, or Emmaus, but I am open to the people and experiences on my path.

I had intended to spend the last few months of my time in California exploring the incredible landscapes and traveling around the state and friends. Instead I got involved in making a video to celebrate my church, St. Columba's 120th anniversary. I received a great gift in hearing the stories, challenges and discoveries of the people of the parish. I interviewed over 60 people for the videos. I was reminded of the quote by the novelist Mischa Berlinski: "Only the rich and the lucky can afford to live without stories, for without stories – as every Haitian peasant knows – life is all just things that happen to you, and you are just something that happens in the lives of others." I believe that stories are our greatest truth and I felt privileged to have had these amazing people share their stories with me. I realized that these stories of hope, struggle and sometimes redemption are far more magnificent to me than the beautiful landscapes here.

I moved out of my apartment in Oakland the end of March. I left the Bay Area last Thursday and I am currently in St. George, UT with my niece, Adele and her husband, Michael. My next stop is to see my nephew, Chad in Aspen. I will visit other family in Colorado before moving on to Great Bend, KS to visit Theresa who is working at the Dominican Sisters of Peace Ecology Farm outside Great Bend, KS. I then will visit my brother in Grand Island, NE before moving on to Chicago around the first of May. It became obvious that the cost of housing here is unsustainable for me. I will miss the great weather, all my new friends and especially Kaye and Jerry, who have been so supportive to me in all my endeavors here.

I will see you in June.

Love,
Monica



“Prophetic Opportunity: 120 Year’s of Building the Community”

ST. COLUMBA CATHOLIC CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 22, 2018

SAVED BY THE ONE WHO WAS REJECTED

Some city teenagers often scorn and reject farm kids. Yet it's no exaggeration to say that humanity owes its life to farmers who care for the world's crops and livestock. This week's scriptures remind us that Jesus was as rejected as a shepherd, a farm boy, yet we owe our very lives to him.

In this Sunday's reading from the Acts of the Apostles Peter tells the people that salvation comes through Jesus Christ, the one who was rejected. In John's letter we hear that we have become God's beloved children through Jesus, whom the world did not know. Lastly, in the Gospel Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd who "lays down his life for the sheep" (John 10:11). Will you join Jesus in laying down your life for God's beloved flock?

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Today's Good News ~Living with Christ

"Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent" (John 6:29). While on our annual family vacation last summer, I encouraged my young grandson to jump off the dock into the water. Although he was wearing a life jacket and I was standing with arms outstretched to catch him, he stood frozen in fear watching his sister and cousins splashing around in the water. I'm happy to say that eventually he summoned the courage to jump in and quickly overcame his anxiety. I couldn't help think how much I act like my little grandson at times. Rather than taking a risk and trusting that I will be all right no matter what happens, I cling to the familiar for dear life. To believe in Jesus is to believe in the absolute goodness of God. At times the challenges before us look insurmountable, but in those moments we stand with the choice between hope and despair. **TERRI MIFEK**

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Easter; Earth Day;
World Day of Prayer for Vocations
Monday: St. George; St. Adalbert
Tuesday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
Wednesday: St. Mark; Administrative Professionals Day
Friday: Arbor Day
Saturday: St. Peter Chanel;
St. Louis Grignon de Montfort



- April 22, 2018 - All Family Faith Day**
- April 29, 2018 - Pancake Breakfast (KPC)**
Youth and Children's Mass
- May 5, 2018 - Child's Car Seat Check (Health Cabinet)**
- May 13, 2018 - Jesus' Ascension**
Happy Mother's Day
- May 27, 2018 - Trinity Sunday**

Holy Name Sister will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of their arrival in CA with the opening even on May 10th, 2018 at Oakland's St. Theresa Parish Event Center. The reception and a short program will be from 4:30 - 6:30 pm. All are welcome. Please RSVP to snjmca150.org

Office Assistant/Receptionist—St. Columba Church Oakland
St. Columba Parish in Oakland is seeking an Office Assistant/ Receptionist. The Office Assistant /Receptionist is responsible for assisting the Pastor and Office Manager in routine office duties (answering telephone, scheduling and organizing the use of Parish Hall, and assisting all church ministries as needed. Part time position, 19-20 hrs. week/ does not include benefits. Please submit resume to Fr. Aidan or Parish Office for consideration.

We welcome all who come to celebrate with us. If you would like to register or if you need to update your information, please complete this registration form and place it in the collection basket, return to office or send us an email. Be Blessed!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Day _____ Eve _____

City _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

- New Parishioner
- Change of Information
- Moving: Remove from list
- Please Call me - best time _____
- I would like to serve as _____