



Fourth Sunday of Easter May 8, 2022

"I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth."

— Acts 13:47b

A FORETASTE OF PARADISE

Throughout Easter Time, the Church rejoices with Jesus, risen from the dead. Our readings on this Fourth Sunday of Easter celebrate our instinct to come together in joy, worshipping in church. While private prayer nourishes our individual relationship with the Lord, community prayer is a foretaste of paradise. The book of Revelation depicts a "great multitude" worshipping God "day and night in his temple." Our churches on Easter Sunday often reflect this happy multitude, filling the pews to bursting. Four Sundays into the festive season, we are encouraged to keep praising God together. In the Acts of the Apostles, Paul and Barnabas demonstrate their instinct to worship with their faith community each Sabbath, dutifully taking their seats in the synagogue. In the Gospel, Jesus calls us his sheep and reminds us why coming together as a flock is so important: uniting in community, we imitate the unity of God.

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PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

How can I listen more closely to the voice of the Good Shepherd?

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday:	Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday:	Acts 12:24 - 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
Thursday:	Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20
Friday:	Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
Saturday:	Acts 1:15-17; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17
Sunday:	Acts 14:21-27; Ps 145:8-13; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

SAVE THE DATE: Our Parish Picnic returns on Saturday, **August 6, 2022**. Join us for barbecue, games, and a chance to re-connect with friends. Hope to see you there!



Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

For the month of **May** offerings: PLEASE put in Mass collection basket or mail to St. Philip/St. Teresa Parish, P. O. Box 339, Occidental CA 95465. Or donate at our website www.stphilipstteresa.org via Paypal or card. Please include your offering envelope # [if you have one] with your donation. **5/01: 1st col.: \$2161. 2nd col.: \$301.**

5/08: Operating Expenses. 5/15: Capital Expenditures.



Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council [PC]: TBA
Finance Council [FC]: TBA
Liturgy Committee [LC]: TBA
St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044
St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule 2022

5/07 Sat.	5:00pm ✠	Brendan Smith
5/08 Sun.	8am Mass	John Geving
5/08 Sun.	9:30am Mass	for the People
5/08 Sun.	11:15am Mass ✠	Lucille Munson
5/14 Sat.	5:00pm ✠	Brendan Smith
5/15 Sun.	8am Mass	John Geving
5/15 Sun.	9:30am Mass	
5/15 Sun.	11:15am Mass	for the People

Prayer Requests: Please leave a message at 707-408-2650.

Robert S., Britney N., Chuck, Rebecca A., April K., Leo A., Ed C. family, Kathy R., Donna W., Sherry S., Gail F., Marie N., Christine, James G., Gary S., Peter R., Gerry N., Diane K., River M.; Nikkie; Mr. C., Michelle, Christian A., Peter B. Samantha S., Gary E., Frederick Kasl, John Geving, Arnie, Reece, Damien S.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day; World Day of Prayer for Vocations
Tuesday: St. Damien de Veuster; St. John of Avila
Thursday: Ss. Nereus and Achilleus; St. Pancras
Friday: Our Lady of Fatima
Saturday: St. Matthias



Mothers Everywhere

May the blessing of the Divine
Be an especially bright benediction
Upon mothers everywhere
On your blessed day -
On Mother's Day!

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for APRIL 2022

On Tuesday, April 12, forty-seven families, (118 individuals) were welcomed to our distribution and selected fresh produce, milk, eggs, poultry, beef, fish or vegetarian items, commodities, snacks and bread. All who are in need are welcome to receive nutritional support from our Program. One of our clients provided colorful hand crocheted caps which were offered to all clients during the very chilly morning.

Filled Easter eggs were offered by Volunteers to every client to share with their family. Our volunteers even found time to help with the weeding in the hall parking lot. What an amazing group!

We have opened the hall to in-person shopping for our clients who can choose specific foods from our program for their families. It also allows volunteers and clients to re connect post pandemic.

If you are aware of a family which needs nutritional assistance, please let them know about our program. Leave a message at the parish office, (707) 408-2650 to get a call back with additional information and to answer your questions.

This program is funded through monthly Rural Food Collection, private donations and the dedicated, awesome volunteers. Thank you for your generous donations as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in the Parish Hall and parking area: Saturday, May 7, 9-10:00am repackaging; Monday, May 9, 9:00 – 11:00am set up and Tuesday, May 10, 7:30a – 11:00am to distribute food to clients.



**Mother Maria Francesca Rubatto:
Uruguay's first canonized saint**

by [Kristina Glicksman](#)

A hidden life

Anna Maria Rubatto – “Marietta” to her family – was born in 1844 to a working-class family in Carmagnola, a northern Italian town situated 18 miles south of Turin. For the first four decades, her life was fairly unremarkable. Although she received at least one offer of marriage, she remained true all her life to a personal vow of virginity made as a child.

When her mother died in 1863, the newly orphaned Anna Maria moved to Turin to stay with an older sister. There she entered the service of a local noblewoman, Marianna Scoffone, as a lady-in-waiting. The older woman took a great liking to Anna Maria, treating her like a daughter and enabling her to spend her days in charitable works: conducting catechism classes for the local children and visiting the sick and the poor. Later, she also assisted her patroness with the management of her substantial assets.

When Marianna Scoffone died in 1882, Anna Maria returned to her sister. But then, the following year, an event took place which changed the trajectory of her life.

A new mission

Anna Maria had gone on vacation to the seaside town of Loano, where she spent some time every day praying in the Capuchin church. One day, on leaving the church, as she was passing by the construction site for a new convent, a stone fell, hitting one of the workmen on the head. Anna Maria, with her years of experience,

tended to the man's wound and gave him some money – two days' pay – so he could take time to recover.

Her act of charity did not go unnoticed. It so happened that the women who were to occupy the convent were looking for a spiritual leader, and now they felt that God had given them a sign. After a period of discernment with her spiritual director and also with St. John Bosco – whom she had come to know through her catechetical work in Turin – she decided to accept the new role leading a community dedicated to the care of the sick and the education of children.

And so in 1885, she took the name Maria Francesca di Gesù and became the superior of the newly formed Institute of Capuchin Sisters of Loano (which changed its name in 1973 to the [Capuchin Sisters of Mother Rubatto](#)). Although she had been chosen initially for her show of spirituality in action, no doubt her experience of managing Marianna Scoffone's estate over several years had given her the administrative capabilities and financial know-how so vital to the successful running of a religious community.

To the ends of the earth

Soon the community expanded beyond the bounds of Loano to other parts of northern Italy. Then in 1892, Mother Rubatto sailed for Montevideo in Uruguay – the first of four such trips she would make in her zealous support for her sisters on two sides of the Atlantic. In her nearly 20 years as superior, she established 18 houses in Italy, Uruguay, Argentina, and Brazil. In addition, the Capuchin Sisters of Mother Rubatto now also serve in Peru, Cameroon, Kenya, Malawi, Ethiopia, and Eritrea.

In 1904, during one of her visits to Uruguay, Mother Rubatto fell ill. She died of cancer on August 6 and was buried among the poor, as she had requested. She was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1993.

A Uruguayan miracle

In 2000, a young man in Montevideo suffered severe head trauma from a car accident and was in the hospital with a coma. When his family sought the intercession of Mother Rubatto, he made an unexpected and inexplicable recovery. This miracle was approved by Pope Francis in February 2020, and so on May 15, 2022, Mother Rubatto will join nine other blessed in becoming a canonized saint.

Possible patronage

Although Mother Rubatto did not spend much of her life in Uruguay, she was an influential person in that region and was considered their [first blessed](#) when she was beatified in 1993. The government of Uruguay even commissioned a stamp for the occasion and another in 2017 for the 125th anniversary of her arrival on their shores. Uruguay is, of course, also the site of Mother Rubatto's tomb. So it would only be natural for her to watch over the citizens of Uruguay as their patron alongside the Blessed Mother, Saint James the Less, and Saint Philip.

Mother Rubatto would also be an appropriate patron for those whose vocation to religious life manifests itself relatively late in life, as is so often the case in our modern age.

“Do everything for the love of God and you will see that you do not feel the weight of anything. If we all begin by taking up our own cross willingly, we will find ourselves at the summit of the holy mountain without having felt its weight and without having put it off onto others.” – [Letter from Blessed Maria Francesca di Gesù to her sisters](#)

A Prayer in Gratitude for Our Mothers

Good and Gentle God,

we pray in gratitude for our mothers and for all the women of theory who have joined with you in the wonder of bringing forth new life. You who became human through a woman, grant to all mothers the courage they need to face the uncertain future that life with children always brings.

Give them the strength to live and to be loved in return, not perfectly, but humanly.

Give them the faithful support of husband, family and friends as they care for the physical and spiritual growth of their children.

Give them joy and delight in their children to sustain them through the trials of motherhood. Most of all, give them the wisdom to turn to you for help when they need it most.

~You who live and reign forever and ever. Amen.



A Mother's Day Prayer

I said a Mother's Day prayer for you
to thank the Lord above
for blessing me with a lifetime
of your tenderhearted love.

I thanked God for the caring
you've shown me through the years,
for the closeness we've enjoyed
in time of laughter and of tears.

And so, I thank you from the heart
for all you've done for me
and I bless the Lord for giving me
the best mother there could be!