

St. Joseph of Cupertino

St. Joseph of Cupertino Parish
Cupertino, California
~~ 100 years, 1913 – 2013 ~~

September 2015

Flyer



The Pope App

By Ed Johnson



The Vatican's communications and news team has been expanding our Pope Francis' online presence.

A recent addition is "*The Pope App*". This smart phone application provides a

single gateway to news and information about our Pope and Vatican events.

Daily reports of happenings at the Vatican are easily available on your mobile device. This compact application combines so many information streams, all with frequent updates, that it is really amazing!



Language choices include: English, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and French. Live video feeds of meetings and Papal visits are often in spoken Italian...so; be prepared to broaden your ear!

Cameras stream live images of St Peter's Square, Dome, and Basilica, the tomb of Pope Saint John Paul II, and Castel Gandolfo.

As we have found at St. Joseph of Cupertino, embracing social media communications technology is important in today's connected world. The technology connects us, the message inspires us!

Get the app and enjoy all the Papal Tweets, posts, texts, videos, and audio streams!

See SJC's web page "Connections/Catholic Links/Vatican" where links for "The Pope App", "Pope to You", and more are found.

Social Media Communications at SJC

By Ed Johnson

Have you noticed the  and  logos on our parish website? Are you a 'follower'? Our parish has extended its online social media footprint with Facebook and Twitter. Today, we have followers nearby in Cupertino and as far away as Jerusalem.

It is not a surprise that people, who recognize *Saint Joseph of Cupertino*, the patron saint of students, are also followers. Their comments and help requests are posted on our Facebook page.

Besides our website, we have *The SJC Flyer Weblog or blog* where you will find our pastor, Fr. Greg's many homilies, and commentary. The blog and our ever popular online calendar offer RSS¹  feeds to easily communicate with you by feeding the latest postings and events directly to your Internet connected device.

With all these channels, we can keep current with happenings at our parish, Catholic news from our Diocese to the Vatican and more. Our channels help connect with our greater community as a complement to traditional public relations activities. With connection and interest, it is more likely that people will be attracted to our parish and Catholicism. Our parish is visible to all!

While Facebook and Twitter seem to be the province of our youth, the use of social media transcends all age groups, especially in our Silicon Valley communities. We have a broad online audience.

We all have choices about how to use these social media channels. Use what works best for you! Each of us has favorite ways to get information.

All are invited to 'follow' St. Joseph of Cupertino Parish on social media. Get the latest news and parish events delivered to you. More so, invite your fellow parishioners, friends, and associates to follow SJC as we continue building our community.

¹ Really Simple Syndication or Rich Site Summary. Feeds are supported by most web browsers and specialized RSS readers.

A Celebration of the Life of Father Mark Catalana

By Mike Hoffman

Fr. Catalana was parochial vicar in our parish from 1994 to 2000. In 2013, he was killed in a bicycle accident. This article presents reflections and remembrances about Fr. Mark from people who were close to him.

Father Carl Faria

Father Mark and I began Seminary the same year. I was 31 and he was 19. I liked him immediately. His smile and gentle demeanor truly drew me in to spend time with him. There was such sincerity about him that he always made me feel very affirmed and respected.

Beside his always making me feel valued and having a great sense of humor, there are two specific incidents that stand out in my mind during the seminary. There is another one two weeks before he died. During one of the rector's conferences at the college, Fr. Brown was asking us to reflect on how we share our feelings with one another. He said that sometimes it is difficult for guys to be close and show concern and care for each other without feeling awkward. After his talk, Mark asked if he could talk to me. We walked around the school grounds as was our customary walk and he shared that his father had died in his arms a few years before. As his father was dying, Mark didn't tell him that he loved him. This bothered Mark greatly. I gave him space and time to share and asked what helped him to accept that fact that his father knew of his love. Mark mentioned at some point that he had a teddy bear that brought him some comfort. At some point I mentioned that I never had a teddy bear growing up. I thought nothing of it. This was sometime in November.

When we were getting ready to leave for Christmas break, I got to my room and found a gift bag outside my room by my door. I went inside and opened it. Inside was a small teddy bear. Along with that was a note that simply read, I love you, have a nice Christmas, Mark. I was so moved and almost cried. To this day, I still have that teddy bear on my bed stand.

Another time, in January the following year we went to the annual retreat in Santa Cruz at Villa del Mar. I was walking along the beach and saw Mark walking toward me. He gave me the smile that always greeted most everyone from him. He held out his hand and in it was a small polished white pebble. He looked at me and with a serious voice said, "Millions of years ago, God put this rock here just so I could find it and give it to you."

The most recent event was more broad and needs some set up. After our ordinations we both got busy in our work and didn't see each other for many years. I always regretted not keeping more in touch. I was in the older student program so I was in the seminary only six years and Mark was nine years. My last year at St. Patrick, the major seminary in Menlo Park, Mark and I had another one of our serious, deep talks. We knew I was being ordained soon and he still had three years to go and believed that our visits would diminish and would be missed.

Somehow, I always felt a sense of unfinished thoughts and follow-ups from that talk. While Mark was still vocations director, I contacted him and we tried to find time to have dinner or at least get together for a visit. That time only came to fruition on April 7th of this year. He was coming to a parishioner's condo at Rio Del Mar for Easter vacation and we planned to have dinner in Aptos. After dinner we had a great visit, I was able to put closure to my unfinished feeling of our seminary discussion. We talked about politics, church, his parish, his dreams for retirement and it was the best evening for me getting to reconnect with an old friend. Two weeks later I got a call from him that he had been in an accident. I went up to see him in the hospital the following day and we again had a great visit. As in the past, we parted with, I love you. I kissed his forehead and he asked me for a blessing. I spoke with him two more times and the day after our last phone call, I received a call from the parish that he had died. I believe that God brought us together just in time to put closure on a part of our lives and for me to be able to tell Mark how much I loved and appreciated him.

Anne Hashimoto

He didn't want to be so much remembered for his homilies (although they were superb) as for the way he celebrated the Eucharist. He would do it with such care and reverence; I know that he believed that the Lord was truly present in the Eucharist. It was no stretch of the imagination to see his love for our Lord when he celebrated mass (which he did EVERY day, even when he was in the hospital recovering from his surgery.) Actually, he was the same when he celebrated all of the Sacraments, and prayed, and taught. It seemed to be so natural and necessary to him, like breathing.

He loved the Church, even though he had a hard time with some of her members, he never spoke ill of any of them, especially of the hierarchy/clergy. I know he was praying for them though. I know when I spoke to him about my having trouble "loving" some people...he said, if it was a woman, he would imagine that they were the Blessed Mother, and if a man, Christ. I told him that my imagination was not as good as his was.

As for the homilies, they were almost always committed to memory, or I like to say he knew them "by heart." I know that it was memorized because we would often do music ministry for back-to-back masses and occasionally he said both of them and I noticed very little, if any, difference in the two homilies. I also asked him once and he said that if he expected the Faithful to remember anything he said it was the least that he could do was remember it himself.

Father Mark had a special devotion to our Blessed Mother. He listened to or prayed the rosary while riding his bike. He prayed 15 decades every day.

Rosalyn Moorhouse

Father Mark loved to sing. He would sing anytime, anywhere. He often sang many parts of the mass. He would sometimes sing “Yahweh I know you are near,” but change the words to, “Yahweh I know you drink beer.”

While on a silent retreat during his senior year at St Francis, he received a very special letter from his father. The primary theme of the letter was telling Mark how much he loved him. A few weeks later, his father died.

Years later, he used the letter as the subject of a Holy Thursday homily. He drew a parallel with Jesus talking to his disciples just before he died and how what Jesus most wanted to impart to his disciples was how much he loved them.

The Drocco family was very active at St Joseph. In 2012, one of their sons (Brian) died in a car accident. Brian had started a company that was bought out. He had a bright future. Father Mark presided at Brian’s funeral. He gave the best homily that I have ever heard at a funeral. He talked about how Brian had belonged to God since birth and he was going back to where he belonged. He also talked about faith being tested and how everyone would “set their faces like flint.” He talked about having dinner with the Droccos. Many of Brian’s peers were at the funeral.

When Father Mark delivered his homily, the depth of his belief was evident. After the homily, he broke down and cried. This brought to my mind Jesus weeping at Lazarus’ tomb.

At the internment, Father Mark was unable to do any of the prayers. Father Paul Soukup took over for him and read the prayers.

The tenderness with which he dealt with it and the depth of his relationship with the Droccos was evident. I chatted with Father Mark during the reception. He said he loved being at St Thomas of Canterbury.

I invited Father Mark to a “grill the priest” session with my youth group. He loved it and the kids loved him. A 16-17 year old boy, not a church member came with friends. At the end of the session, he asked me, “Do you think Father Mark would talk to me?” I asked him what he wanted to talk about and they boy said there were some things he wanted to confess.

Father Mark sat with him in some bleachers and talked to him. Afterwards, the boy said to me, “that was good.” While he was at Saint Joseph (Cupertino), he had an accident on his bike. He was cut off by a driver in a minivan making a right turn. He was only slightly injured, but his helmet was destroyed. Mary Lyons had him give a talk to the school kids about the importance of wearing a helmet while riding a bike. He talked about the accident in his homily the following week.

Father Gregory Kimm

I knew Father Mark for more than 27 years. I first met him when we were both seminarians. He was just starting at St Patrick’s and I was preparing for ordination to the priesthood. At first, I was primarily interested in giving support to a younger man who was studying for the priesthood for our diocese. I guess we just hit it off. We also shared mutual friends in the diocese. I asked

him to be the master of ceremonies for my “first mass,” which took place at St. Catherine’s in Morgan Hill on June 14, 1986. I also like to recall the simple times when we got together for dinner and maybe a movie, just the two of us.

Claudia Buchner

Mark was a regular apheresis blood donor at the Stanford Blood Bank in Mountain View. I would often see him there when I was present to donate whole blood. My donations are once every 2 months, and as I would see him almost every time I was there, I got the impression that he unselfishly spent that 2-hour period to donate his precious cells very often. During the lengthy donation process, he watched episodes of “I Love Lucy” to pass the time.

Apheresis is a time consuming process that allows a donor to give critically needed blood products not available through regular blood donations. Beneficiaries include transplant recipients, hemophiliacs, and newborn babies. (Explanation added by author).

Dolores Kloss

I had two grandsons attending St Francis High School when Father Mark was chaplain there. My grandsons once told me that with every graduating class, Father Mark gave each student a cross medal. He told them, if they ever needed help, or had a problem, or got into trouble, to send the cross and their name back to him and he would try to help. My grandsons knew of three students who asked Father Mark for help.

Our grandsons are now married. Whenever our paths crossed, Father Mark always asked about them – by name! He was truly a holy, spiritual and loving priest.

Jeff Maggard

I was dating a woman who was very pretty and charming. Father Mark got a chance to talk to her at a little gathering I had. They talked for a while and he was initially quite impressed with her. But then she asked him what he did for a living. After he told her he was a priest, she had difficulty even composing a complete sentence. He knew that something was amiss but told me nothing at the time. I stopped seeing her after a rocky year and a half. Afterwards, I asked him why he never shared his doubts about her with me; it could have saved me a lot of headache and heartache. He told me that he thought I had already decided to marry her and didn’t want to harm our friendship. I asked him if he had seen the error of his ways and he laughed and said, “of course.”

Father Mark believed that on Easter Sunday, everyone should have “Easter joy”. He started all his Easter Homilies with three jokes. Most of his homilies began with a story, some funny, some serious, which helped parishioners to understand and remember the point he was trying to make.

If anyone would like to share any other thoughts or feelings about Father Mark, please contact Mike Hoffman. My email is: mikeahoffman@yahoo.com. My cellular phone number is 408-315-1463.

Worship Song Sudoku

By Lorinda Rodrigues

A word-based Sudoku puzzle uses the same logic as the number Sudoku. For number Sudoku, you fill in the puzzle so that each row, column and 3x3 block contains the numbers 1 to 9 once.

In this 'Word Sudoku' Puzzle – it solves like a number Sudoku puzzle but uses letters: fill in the puzzle so that each of the 9 unique letters in the phrase 'WORSHIP SONG' appears exactly once in each row, column and 3x3 block. For the solution, see our Parish website: <http://www.stjoscup.org/newsletter.php>

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Parish Calendar			
Sep. 27	6:30 pm	Comm. Center	Movie: <i>The Assassination of Jesse James</i> . Facilitated by Deacon Ron who wrote the book.
Sep. 28, Nov. 23		Comm. Center	Book Club meetings
Oct. 24 – 25		Comm. Center	Cemeteries presentation on services offered, following masses
Oct. 25	2:00 pm	Comm. Center	Movie afternoon
Oct. 31 / Nov. 1		Comm. Center	Dia de Los Muertos, following masses
Mondays	6:30 pm	Hall	Bingo
Tuesdays	2:00 – 3:00 pm	Comm. Center	Meditation with Sr. Dorothy
Wednesdays	7:15 – 8:45 pm	Rectory	RCIA
Wednesdays	12:15 pm		Eucharistic adoration
Thursdays	Noon	Comm. Center	Prayer Group
Thursdays	7:00 – 9:00 pm	Comm. Center	Bible Study, starting Oct. 8
4 th Thursday	Noon	Comm. Center	Prayer Group
1st Saturday	8:30 am	Comm. Center	Talk by Fr. Athanasius on Mary
Saturdays	6:30 pm	Hall	Bingo
Saturdays	6:30 – 7:30 pm	Young Adult Rm.	Young Adult Ministry
2 nd Sunday	12:30 pm	Rectory	Grief Support
Sundays	10:30 – 11:00 am	Front of church	Video Lending Library
1 st Sunday	Morning masses	Comm. Center	Hospitality after mass – coffee and donuts

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The Flyer, with color photos, is posted on the parish web site.

Articles for the Flyer are welcomed from parishioners.
Contact the Communications Ministry with a topic before writing it, communications@stjoscup.org