

Letter from Pastor Gary

From the Pastor's Desk

We are living in uncertain and difficult times, not unlike the experience of the early Christians, who Peter describes as "having had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials" (I Pet 1:6). Like them, our world has been turned upside-down. Fear, insecurity, and anxiety concerning how COVID-19 will affect us, those we love, and our communities, consume us.

Yet our faith in Christ commends us to do otherwise, to not be consumed by fear, insecurity and anxiety.

As Christians, we have placed our trust in God who raised Jesus from the dead and glorified him (I Pet 1:21). Therefore, we will not be afraid. Instead, we will be about God's mission of reaching and caring for those in need.

There are several calls in Scripture to care for those in need. The most recognizable comes from James 1:27. "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." Is there someone God wants you to look after - an out-of-work neighbor; an elderly relative; a stressed-out coworker? Let us seek to cultivate and express a heart of love for others, not to earn God's favor, but as a way to be the hands and feet of Jesus to a dying world.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES (Apr.10) (each service will be live streamed at 7:00 PM)

Spanish Service: "What Happened Here?" John 19:1-30 Pastor Adolfo Ocampo: Watch Live at <http://www.facebook.com/Primera-Iglesia-Bautista-de-Flushing-NYC-Ministerio-Hispano-103654884345775/>

Chinese Service: "The Lord Jesus is Still in Control" Luke 23:33-43; Jer 29:11-13 Pastor Shih Wei Chiang: Watch Live at <http://www.facebook.com/fbcflushingchinese/>

English Service: "Forgiven because Christ was Forsaken" Matthew 27; Psalm 22 Pastor Aaron Chan: Watch Live at [www.facebook.com/fbcflushing/](http://www.facebook.com/fbcflushing/)

We will celebrate the Lord's Supper in each of our Good Friday services. If you would like to participate, just have some bread and juice on hand.

EASTER SUNDAY (April 12)

Spanish Service (9:00 AM): "Lives Removed by the Stone" John 20:1-20 Pastor Adolfo

Ocampo. Watch Live at <http://www.facebook.com/Primera-Iglesia-Bautista-de-Flushing-NYC-Ministerio-Hispano-103654884345775/>

Chinese Service (11:00 AM): "The World's Response to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ" Matthew 28:1-20 Pastor Shih Wei Chiang. Watch Live at <http://www.facebook.com/fbcflushingchinese/>

English Service (11:00 AM): "The Agony and Ecstasy of the Empty Tomb" Mark 16:1-8, Pastor Gary Domiano. Watch Live at [www.facebook.com/fbcflushing/](http://www.facebook.com/fbcflushing/)

We are very sensitive to the needs of the congregation at this time. We have created a task force called, FBCF Ministry of Mercy (M.O.M.) If you are you aware of any in the FBCF community that are in need of groceries and unable to get them, or if you are you able to help do grocery shopping and/or delivery, please contact our Minister of Congregational Life, Maria Cheung at maria@fbcflushing.org; 646-915-6075.

One of our members, Lauren Moy, has graciously offered two free job search webinars for FBCF members (18 years and older). If you have a friend or family member who can benefit, you may invite them also. Lauren, a certified Career Coach and Associate Director of the Graduate Business Career Relations at Hofstra University, has coached hundreds of business professionals to land jobs. For more information and to register, click here: <https://forms.gle/ankryCMRwGN9Fod2A>

We are grateful for your faithful giving to the work of the Lord. Your faithfulness and generosity help us to maintain our day to day operations and our missionary obligations during this season of limited gatherings. Those who are able can donate through any of these options:

a. FBCF app: <https://tithely.app.link/first-baptist-church-of-flushing>

b. FBCF website: <https://fbcflushing.org/give>

c. Send your check or money order to: First Baptist Church of Flushing, 142-10 Sanford Avenue, Flushing, NY 11355, or simply drop it off at the church during office hours, M-F, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Choosing Faith Over Fear,

Pastor Gary Domiano

Mark 4:40