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## Second Sunday of Easter Sunday of Divine Mercy April 27, 2014

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### Pastor's Column

*Rev. Michael Ratajczak  
(760) 758-4100 x100  
michaels@stmoside.org*

#### **"If Good Comes Out of This, Please Let Me Know!"**

If you happened to be a part of the assembly in one of the three Masses at which I presided Easter weekend, you heard my homily about Mindy Corporon and her family and their deeply moving witness of their Christian Faith in the face of the shooting deaths of her father and her son at the Jewish Community Center in Kansas a number of days ago.

The family, in the midst of their grief, took the opportunity through a series of interviews to witness to their Christian Faith and family values, and spoke about how their faith would get them through this tragedy.

Mindy's father and son were shot to death by a man with a history of anti-Semitism. He went to the Jewish Center to kill Jews, and ironically, he killed two Christians there. Then he went on to the Jewish Assisted Living Facility and killed Terri LaManno, who happened to be visiting her mother there. She too was Christian.

The family described this man as "an idiot with a gun." In my mind, this was a very appropriate description.

Why were Christians at Jewish facilities? Because that is what we, people of faith, do in America! No matter our faith, if it is "good" religion, we are open to all people, and we work together for the betterment of the entire community.

Mindy Corporon, her father, Dr. William Lewis Corporon, and her son, Reat Griffin Underwood, and her family are Methodists. Terri LaManno and her family are Catholic.

My Resurrection experience this past week happened when I watched the interview that Mindy and her family gave. They renewed my faith as I prepared my homily for the Easter weekend. Through their witness, I once again believed that Jesus did suffer, die, and rise, and that he is alive today in us, in our flesh and blood when we are willing to unite our crosses to his. Jesus suffers, dies, and rises in and through our flesh today and in this moment if we say "yes."

Mindy Corporon asked: "If something good comes of this, please let me know." This is our opportunity to let her know that her faith is not in vain. That out of her pain, and suffering, good is coming forth! Good that will strengthen our world.

I ask as many people as possible to please send a note to the Corporon family and to the LaManno family. Let them know that your pastor was renewed by their experience, that he preached about them at all his Easter Masses.

Give them support and encouragement. Let them know that good is coming out of this senseless tragedy! This is the heart of our Christian Faith...

Mail can be sent to:

The Corporon Family  
c/o The Jewish Center of Greater Kansas City  
5801 West 115th St.  
Overland Park, KS 66211

The LaManno Family  
c/o The Jewish Center of Greater Kansas City  
5801 West 115th St.  
Overland Park, KS 66211

Contributions can be made in the victims' honor at [www.jcckc.org](http://www.jcckc.org).

Good will come out this senseless tragedy!

*Fr. Mike*