

# Christ the King - St. Stephen Parish

**St. Stephen Church**  
1101 Keaveny Court  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
925-274-1341  
saintstephenparish.org

**Christ the King Church**  
195A Brandon Road  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
925-682-2486  
ctkph.org

## Christ the King Church

### Daily Mass Times

Monday - Saturday 9am

### Every First Friday

5pm to 6pm Exposition  
6pm Mass

### Weekend Mass Times

**Saturday:** 4pm Vigil  
(4pm Mass is also livestreamed)

### Sunday

7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, & 4pm  
(10:30am Mass is also livestreamed)

### Private Confessions

Saturday 3pm to 3:30pm

### Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm

## St. Stephen Church

### Daily Mass Times

Monday - Friday 8am

### Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: 5pm Vigil  
Sunday: 9:30am

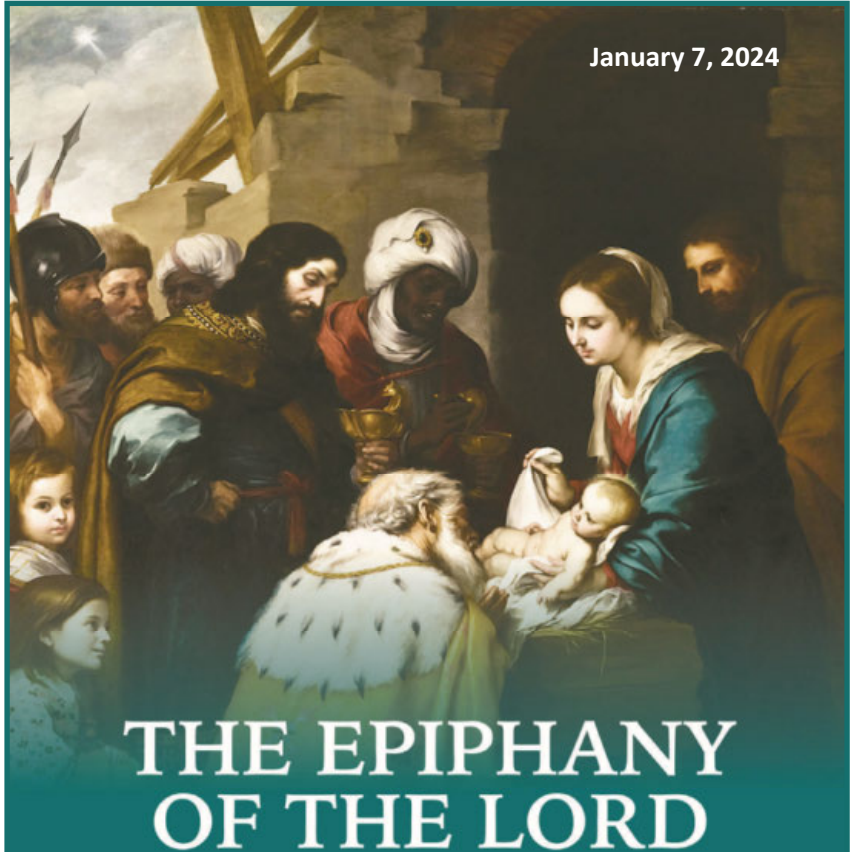
### Private Confessions

Saturday Before the 5pm Mass

### Office Hours

Monday & Wednesday 11am to 2pm

January 7, 2024



They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

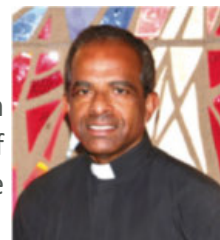
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

**TO LIVE AND TO LOVE IN CHRIST**  
**TO HEAR THE GOSPEL AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



Dear Friends,

**Christmas Day may be Dec. 25, but it's not the end of the Christmas story.** In our Christian traditions, there are 12 days of Christmas, culminating around Jan. 6, known as the feast of the Epiphany. That's when many believe the "Magi" or "wise men" or "three kings" arrive to see the newborn baby Jesus.



The word "Epiphany" and the events recorded in Matthew's Gospel have come to mean a manifestation or a showing forth of the Christ-child to the nations. It reveals how God enlightens the hearts of all people and how he helps them to discover Him.

For generations, these wise men represent the whole of humanity whose thirst for truth propels them forward and is at the beginning of every religious quest. They are symbolic of the pull, the fascination being exerted on them by God's objective truth and unfolding plan. In the words of Pope Benedict XVI, "These figures are forerunners, preparers of the way, seekers after truth, such as we find in every age. . . . They represent the inner aspiration of the human spirit, the dynamism of religions and human reason toward Christ."

The feast of the three Kings makes us aware of the primary "mover" in the story, God. He is not specifically mentioned, but the presence is obvious. The "star" had guided the wise men to Bethlehem. The prophecy had recorded exactly where the Messiah should be born, and the dream warned them to return home a different way. Without this divine intervention they would never have come, the scribes would not have known where to send them if they had arrived, and they would certainly have fallen into Herod's trap without the warning. The supernatural element moving in the lives of the Magi is the true cause of their actions.

But the critical word to define in this story is the word **worship**. They came to worship Jesus. And after they received confirmation from the Bible and from the Star, they knew this was of God, and so they came and worshiped him. The evidence of their worship came in the gifts they gave, gifts fit for a divine king.

You might also want to consider why gold, and incense, and myrrh were brought to Jesus by the Magi. Biblical commentaries often see symbolic meanings in the specific gifts; they say that gold was a gift for a king (but in the Old Testament gold was also the proper setting for the sanctuary where God dwelt among His people), the incense was for deity (as the sacrifices in the Old Testament were sprinkled with it), and the myrrh was a preparation for His suffering.

The feast of Epiphany is filled with meaning at so many levels. What strikes me at the core is the fact that the Kings left their politics and ideologies behind in search of Truth. They allowed themselves to be led by a star, the God of all truth. A political snare awaited them in Herod who tried to woo them into falsehood. But their eyes were set on the star, the light that comes from above.

Brian McLaren said, "People can't see what they can't see. Their biases get in the way, surrounding them like a high wall, trapping them in ignorance, deception and illusion." May the Star that illumined the pathway for the Wise Kings lead us to all Truth.

*~Fr. Paulson*





### UPCOMING CTK MASS INTENTIONS

Jan. 8	Mon.	9:00am	Bill Vanderklugt †
Jan. 9	Tues.	9:00am	Kevin & Mary MacConville Christopher Wijekoon
Jan. 10	Weds.	9:00am	Hoan Phung † Spencer Swann
Jan. 11	Thurs.	9:00am	Mary Burn Rope †
Jan. 12	Fri.	9:00am	Charles Sherwood †
Jan. 13	Sat.	9:00am	Frank O'Neill †
Jan. 13	Sat.	4:00pm	Michael Calilan † Lucky Dias † Steve Una †
Jan. 14	Sun.	7:30am	Jack Cardoza †
Jan. 14	Sun.	9:00am	Albert Haggett † Caroline Underwood †
Jan. 14	Sun.	10:30am	Amy Guarino †
Jan. 14	Sun.	4:00pm	Michael Grey †



**Thank you for your donations and generosity throughout the year!**

We have an easy way to give! You can scan this QR Code and it will take you to our safe and secure Realm Site where it will lead you to a convenient way to give.

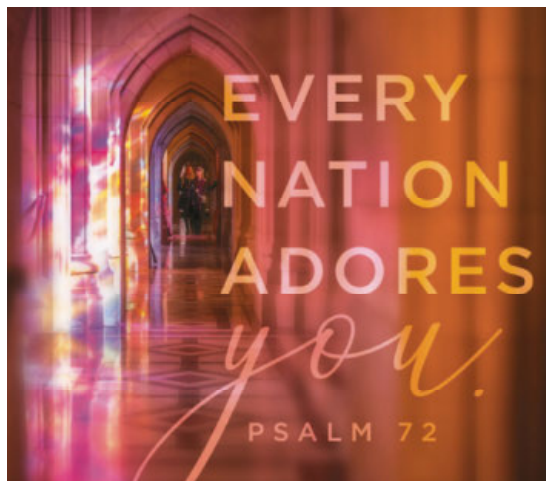
Or you can text CTKPH to 73256.

Thank you for your generosity!

### UPCOMING SS MASS INTENTIONS

Jan. 6	Sat.	5:00pm	CTK-SS Parishioners
Jan. 7	Sun.	9:30am	Jim Vranesh †
Jan. 8	Mon.	8:00am	Tony Romano, Personal Intentions
Jan. 13	Sat.	5:00pm	CTK-SS Parishioners
Jan. 14	Sun.	9:30am	Jim Vranesh †

**Parishioners who attend Mass at the St Stephen campus and make donations** by check should continue to make the checks payable to "St Stephen" or "St Stephen Church". Although the new collection envelopes are titled Christ the King - St Stephen, we have not yet combined the banking operations. Parishioners who contribute online should also continue to use the existing donation process.



# The Epiphany of the Lord



## Happy 93rd Birthday Fr. Brian Timoney!

We wish you another year full of good health and happiness.

Fr. Brian celebrates his birthday on January 12th.

Dear Friends,

Over the past couple of weeks, I have received a whole lot of Christmas cards and all kinds of very nice gifts. I want to thank everybody for their gifts and cards. Normally, I would like to send individual thank yous, but I find it very difficult to do that. My writing has become so squiggly that I'm ashamed of it. In fact, I cannot even read my own writing. So please excuse me for not acknowledging your cards and your gifts personally. I really do appreciate your kindness and your support. May God reward you and may you have a happy New Year.

Brian Timoney

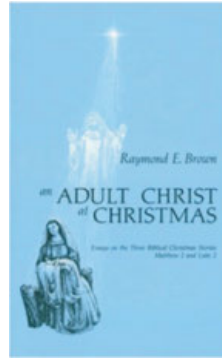


## The Knights of Columbus 2024 Basketball Free Throw/ Competition Sunday, February 4th in the Christ the King Gym-7:30am-11:30am

No fee or preregistration required.

Registration forms will be available on the day of the event. Girls and boys ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the Free-throw competition. Questions? Contact Roberto Bracamontes [rbracamontes@mac.com](mailto:rbracamontes@mac.com)

Prizes for this competition donated by Nadine Masarweh,  
Realtor with Compass Realty  
[www.compass.com/agents/nadine-masarweh/](http://www.compass.com/agents/nadine-masarweh/)



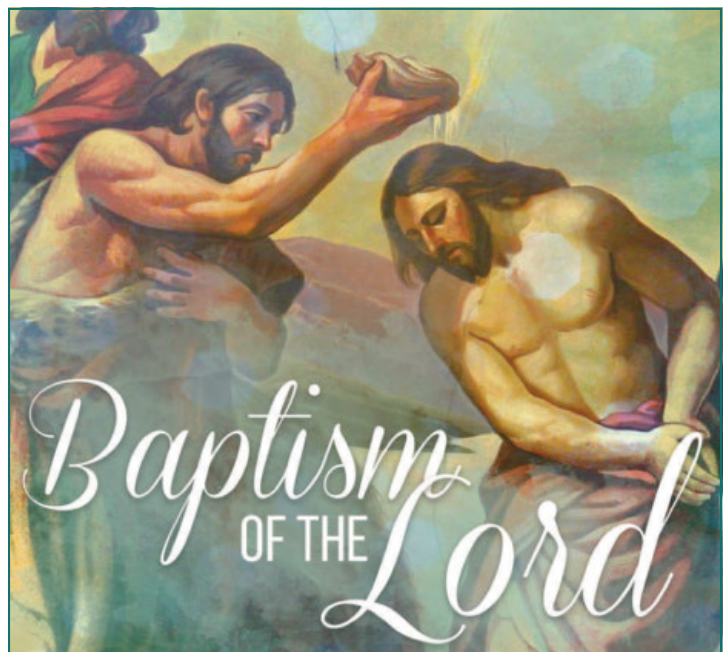
## Adult Education Mondays, January 8 & January 15 CTK's Ministry Center Chapel - 10:30am

Although the Christmas season officially ends with the Epiphany and Ordinary Time begins on January 14th, we will take two sessions to discuss Raymond E. Brown's "An Adult Christ at Christmas: Essays on the Three Biblical Christmas Stories – Matthew 2 and Luke 2" on January 8th and 15th. Fr. Brown treats the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke as the entire Gospel story in miniature.



## CYO CTK-St Stephen/St. Catherine Track and Field Team Signups: Thursday, January 11th, 6-7:00 pm and Wednesday, January 17th 6:00pm -7:00pm in Christ The King Parish Hall

Children in grades 2nd-8th from any school (public, private or home schooled) within the parish are welcome! More information and signup forms at [ctktrack.org](http://ctktrack.org), or please email any questions to [info@ctktrack.org](mailto:info@ctktrack.org).



Join us for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord  
Monday, January 8th  
Mass Times: 9am at CTK and 8am at St. Stephen







## CTK STAFF CONTACTS

**CTK Office:** office@ctkph.org  
195A Brandon Rd.  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

**Fr. Paulson Mundanmani**

925-682-2486  
paulson.ctk@gmail.com

**Fr. Lee Chompoochan**

925-682-2486  
lleescj49@hotmail.com

**Deacon John Ashmore**

925-686-1174  
faithformation@ctkph.org

**Sr. Dominic Bonnici OP**

925-246-1122  
sisterdominic.marie@gmail.com

**Dr. Joe Silveira, Principal**

925-685-1109  
jsilveira@ctkschool.org

**Helen Christian, Office Manager**

925-682-2486  
hchristian326@gmail.com

**Kathy Ridgway, Parish Office**

925-682-2486  
kridgway02@gmail.com

**Mike Aliscad, Youth Minister**

925-246-1128  
maliscad@ctkph.org

**Rosa Panelli, RE Office**

925-686-1017  
rpanellictkre@gmail.com

**Jennifer Bennett, Music Ministry**

jenniferbennett1011@gmail.com

## ST. STEPHEN STAFF CONTACTS

**St. Stephen Office:**

saintstephenwc@gmail.com  
1101 Keaveny Ct.  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

**Chris Lang, St. Stephen Liaison**


saintstephenwc@gmail.com  
925-274-1341

**Joann Kurpinsky/Nancy Gizdich**


925-682-2486  
Bookkeepersp@gmail.com

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2024 • CIVIC CENTER PLAZA • SAN FRANCISCO

**Rally: 12:30PM**  
**CIVIC CENTER PLAZA**  
**Info Faire: 11:00AM**  
**Saturday, January 20, 2024**



Rally starts at Civic Center Plaza, walking down Market Street (2 miles). Walk ends at Embarcadero Plaza.  
BART stations at both locations. Ample parking.



Register and info:  
(415) 658-1793 | email: info@WalkforLifeWC.com

## WalkforLifeWC.com

Parishioners are cordially invited to join again this year.  
The walk begins at the Civic Center Plaza, SF, Jan. 20 at 12:30pm  
more information [www.WalkforLifeWC.com](http://www.WalkforLifeWC.com)  
This is America's second largest pro-life event.

# Pasta feed fundraiser

PLEASE JOIN THE **5pm to 7:30 pm**

**DIABLO VALLEY**

**LIONS CLUB**

## JANUARY 13TH

**\$25.00** Per Person, (Youths) 12 and under **\$10.00** Per Person

TO GO is available upon request at the event

*Location: Christ the King Church 199 Brandon Road, Pleasant Hill*

Meal includes: Pasta with beef meatballs & meat sauce with ground beef and pork  
Meatless sauce also available (upon request)  
Parmesan cheese, salad, rolls and butter plus dessert

★ **THERE WILL BE A DOOR PRIZE  
AND RAFFLE PRIZES TOO!!** ★

Purchase tickets by January 9th

Checks written to "Diablo Valley Lions Club"

Send to: Harry Styron 20 Calle Este

Walnut Creek, CA 94597

OR pay with PayPal [dvlcwalnutcreek@gmail.com](mailto:dvlcwalnutcreek@gmail.com)

**100% OF THE PROCEEDS WILL HELP THOSE IN NEED**

**WE FEED THE HUNGRY**

**WE ADOPT A FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS**

**WE HELP THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED IN MANY WAYS**

**WE PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LOWER INCOME CHILDREN**

**WE SPONSOR A COMPETITIVE STUDENT SPEAKERS CONTEST**

**WE HOST A SPECIAL DAY FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

**WE PROVIDE SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR CHILDREN IN NEED**

**WE PROVIDE MOST NEEDED SUPPLIES**

**FOR THE "FISHER HOUSE" WHO HELP OUR VETERANS**



## Saint of the week

St. Tarcisius was a 12-year-old boy who lived in 3rd-century Rome. Although much of what is known of him is from a poem written by Pope Damasus (366-384), he is considered an important martyr who protected the Eucharist from desecration with his life.

## Prayer for the New Year

Dear Lord,

With thanksgiving we entrust our year to You: whatever it holds, whoever we encounter, wherever we traverse. What You supply is gift. May our comings and goings be aligned with Your will. Amen.

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

Your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)

### Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)

### Second Reading:

It was not made known to people in other generations  
as it has now been revealed  
to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:  
that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the  
same body,  
and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus  
through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)

### Gospel:

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews?  
We saw his star at its rising  
and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)



## Upcoming Second Collections

Jan. 7 - Catholic Education

Jan. 14 - Diocesan Seminarians

Jan. 21 - Social Justice Project



## MOULDING MASTERS

FAMILY OWNED FOR 21 YEARS

**MARK BENDA, USHER**  
**925-689-7322**

1070 Detroit Ave., Concord, CA  
ACROSS FROM COSTCO | OPEN 7 DAYS

### WE SELL:

Crown Moulding • Base Boards  
Door & Window Casing • Mantels  
Assorted Trim • Chair Rail • Pre-Primed

Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship  
of the Sea of the United States of America  
**Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.**

Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email  
eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com  
**www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com**

# MEDICARE

We're Local!

OPEN ENROLLMENT begins Oct. 1

## What you need to know

Call us or schedule appointment today!

**(415) 517-6700**

**www.goldsuminsurance.com/schedule**

Not affiliated with the U.S. government or federal Medicare program.



LAW OFFICE OF  
**THOMAS J. DAWSON**  
1806 Bonanza St., Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
ThomasJDawson@mail.com

Business & Commercial Law; Commercial  
& Tort Litigation; Estate Planning;  
Probate: Wills or Intestate (no will)  
*Long Time Parishioner ~ (Fr. Paulson's Lawyer)*

Tel: 925.930.8745 Fax: 925.935.8522



## THE MAHER LAW GROUP

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

**VINCENT R. MAHER**

ATTORNEY AT LAW

CERTIFIED CRIMINAL LAW SPECIALIST

**www.themaherlawgroup.com**

Tel: (925) 489-1500 | vince@vincemaherlaw.com

724 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533

## LOU AGGETTA INSURANCE

AUTO • HOMEOWNERS • LIFE • BUSINESS • HEALTH • LONG TERM CARE  
VERY COMPETITIVE RATES • MANY COMPANIES

2637 Pleasant Hill Rd. • Pleasant Hill • 945-6161

*Denia Aggetta Shields, Parishioner*

WE APPRECIATE OUR  
ADVERTISERS!

## DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?

Engaging, ad-supported  
print and digital newsletters  
to reach your community.

Visit **ipicommunities.com**

OUR COMMUNITY  
NEWSLETTER



# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



## ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide

**833-287-3502**



## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME Joanne Sullins**

**jsullins@4LPi.com • (800) 950-9952 x2662**



**FREE  
AD DESIGN**

with purchase  
of this space

**CALL  
800-950-9952**



**Brasas  
do Brazil**  
CHURRASCARIA  
BRAZILIAN STEAKHOUSE

**Brasas Do Brazil Churrascaria  
Brazilian Steakhouse**

**1631 Willow Pass Rd, Concord CA**

**925-822-3474 • brasasbrazil.com**

**Present Bulletin Coupon to receive 10% off entire bill.**

One per bill. Not valid with any other discount or offer. No cash value. Coupon must be present at the time of purchase, picture of the coupon is acceptable. Valid for dine in only. Coupon not valid on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day or New Years Eve. New Years Day. Expires 03/29/2024



General Contractor  
Custom Homes ♦ Additions ♦ Remodeling

**FRANZ P. GORSKI & SON**  
Family Owned and Operated / Parishioners

OVER 45 YEARS EXPERIENCE

**(925) 457-1688**

**fpgorski@yahoo.com**

# catholicmatch®

California



**CatholicMatch.com/CA**



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • **www.4lpi.com**

Christ the King Church, Pleasant Hill, CA

B 4C 05-4159



**Diablo Valley Funeral Group**  
**DIABLO VALLEY CREMATION & FUNERAL SERVICES**  
 CONCORD FD 2235 - ANTIOCH FD 2331 - PINOLE FD 2333  
 Diablowalleycremation.com • 925-998-0303

**DIABLO VALLEY FUNERAL HOME**  
 CONCORD FD 873 - SERVING THE DIABLO VALLEY AREA SINCE 1949  
 Diablowalleyfuneralhome.com • 925-682-1100

**SUPPORT OUR PARISH**

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

**OUIMET BROS. FD1006** **CONCORD FUNERAL CHAPEL**  
*Serving Concord and the surrounding area since 1958*

**Cremation and Burial Services**  
 4125 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521  
 925-682-4242 • www.ouimetbrothers.com

**FREE AD DESIGN**  
 with purchase of this space

**CALL 800-950-9952**

**JENNIFER MARTIN, D.D.S.**  
 ORTHODONTICS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS  
 Please Call For Complimentary NEW Patient Examination  
**(925) 676-8485**  
 401 Gregory Lane, Ste 126 drjennifermartin.com

**Heating & Air Conditioning**  
**COMPARE**  
 FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1963

**Sales & Service (925) 686-1366**  
 Mark Frascieri, Parishioner • Contractor's License #220289

**KEN SMITH ROOFING**  
 All Your Roofing Needs  
 New Roofs • Re-Roofs • Repairs  
 20 Years Experience 925-788-0262  
 Lic #645964 • Bonded

**ADT-Monitored Home Security**  
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide

833-287-3502

**catholicmatch® Louisiana**  
 CatholicMatch.com/LA

**State Farm**  
 You never know who you're going to run into.  
**Christine Sampson**  
**925.685.9752**  
 1920 Oak Park Blvd.  
 HOME • LIFE • AUTO • BANK

**French Bros. FlooringAmerica**  
 MOHAWK  
 TWO BAY AREA LOCATIONS:  
 Oakland & San Francisco  
 (510) 444-5244 | (415) 621-6627  
 www.frenchbros.com  
 IG @frenchbros

**SHORT STAFFED?**  
 Place an ad here to find new local talent for your business.  
**CALL 800-950-9952**

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**

**PARKSIDE PEDIATRIC DENTISTS**  
**Don Do DDS**  
**(925) 689-2800**  
 www.parksidepediatricdentists.com  
 In Network: Delta, MetLife, Cigna, Guardian, BlueShield

**PLEASANT HILL DENTISTRY RANDY B. BAUTISTA, INC.**

Family Dentistry • Invisalign  
 Same Day Crown Cerec  
 Implant & Cosmetic Dentistry  
 www.pleasanthilldentistry.com  
 pleasanthilldentistry@gmail.com  
**925-685-8587 • PARISHIONER**

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

**Judy Mullen Olvera**  
 Realtor, Windermere Diablo Realty  
 BRE Lic. #01332121 **(925) 323-3628**  
 Top Performer, Trusted Partner and 20 Years Experience

**TRANQUILITY HEALTH**  
 Onsite Dental Care For Residents of Senior Living Communities  
**Amanda Amaro, DDS Founder**  
 Certified Dementia Provider Doctors  
 Bedside Care Available  
**925-644-2700**  
 tranquilityhealth.com • info@tranquilityhealth.com

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

**RKL BUILDERS Building Relationships**  
**RON LUCIDO General Contractor Parishioner**  
 Kitchens, Baths, Additions, New Homes, Windows, Doors, Trim  
**RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL**  
**Cell 510-453-6547 Phone/Fax 925-685-2031**  
 We do Handyman & Plumbing repairs too  
**RKLBuilders.com Over 30 Yrs. Exp! • Lic# 1012424**

**MARK ROLANDELLI CONSTRUCTION**  
 New Homes • Kitchens • Baths • Additions  
 Home Improvements • Repairs • Remodeling  
 Ins. Work Lic. #507081 (925) 935-3100

**ADT-Monitored Home Security**  
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide

833-287-3502

**Dawson Law Offices, Inc.** 3480 Buskirk Avenue, Ste. 205  
 Attorneys At Law Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
 Local civil litigation attorneys in most non-criminal areas of the law.  
 CONTACT US TODAY FOR A FREE CONSULTATION.  
 TEL: (925) 718-1040 | darmanini@dawsonlawoffices.com

**Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!**  
 Instantly create and purchase an ad with  
**AD CREATOR STUDIO**  
 4lpi.com/adcreator