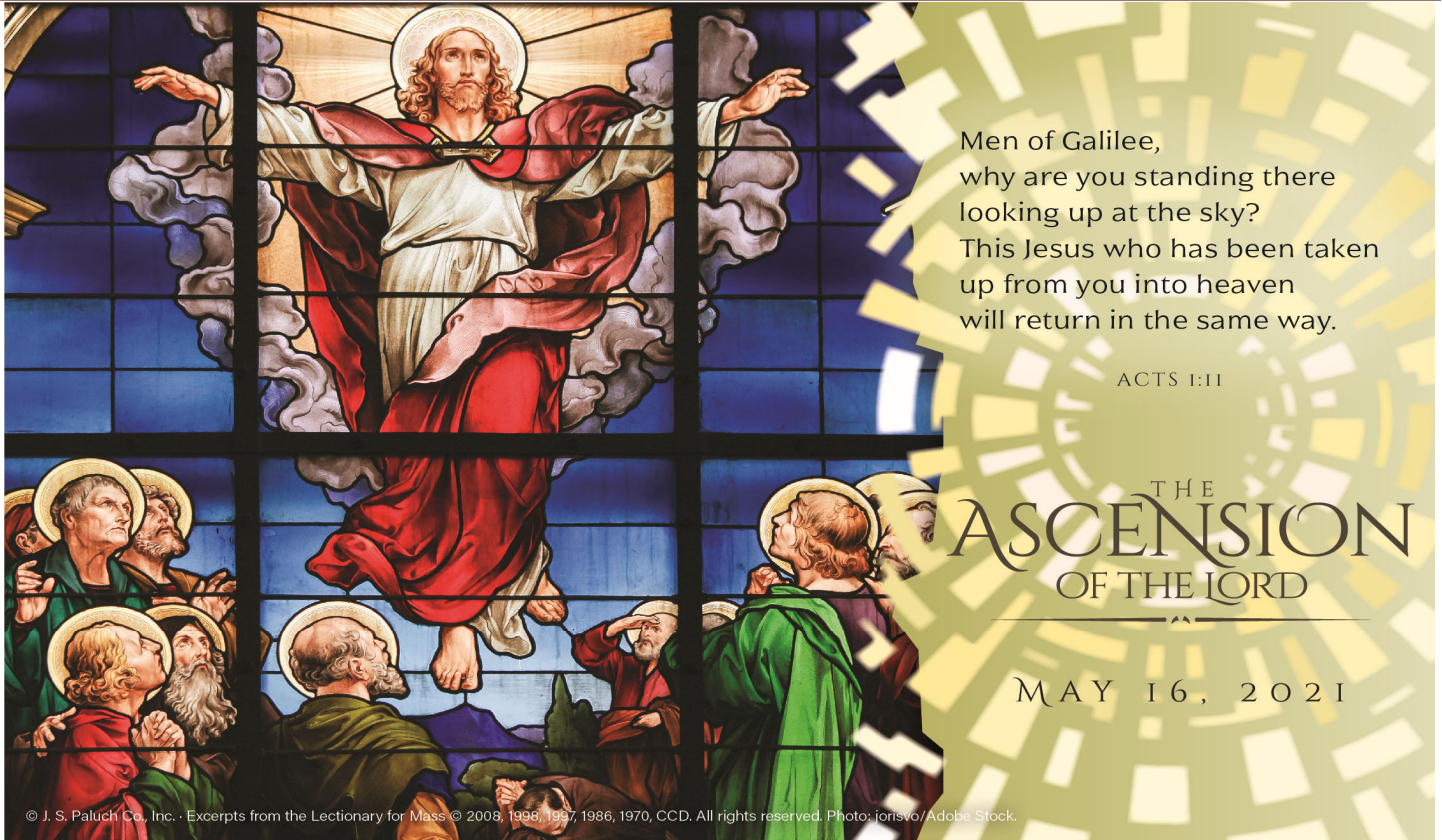


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## SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

May 16 **Teresa Myers †**  
May 17 **Dan Vuletich, birthday blessings**  
May 18 **Marge & Dominic Mammola,  
Anniversary blessings**  
May 19 **John George**  
May 22 **Margherita Battaglia †**  
May 23 **St. Stephen & CTK Parshioners**

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Monday - Friday 9 am to 5 pm**

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Youth Ministry: (925) 676-0979  
CTK School: (925) 685-1109

## CTK UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

May 17 **Rebecca Roy †**  
May 18 **Keira Peralta & Nora Sumangil**  
May 19 **Lisa Burrows  
John Pons †  
Charles Pons †**  
May 20 **Mary Taggart †**  
May 21 **Steffi Robert**  
May 22 **Todd Kettwig †**

Saturday, May 22 and Sunday May 23

**Carl Drammis †  
Mines & Kikay Vivas †  
Mario, Leopoldo & Norma Vivas †  
Christina & Vincent Iorfida †**

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for your prayers for India, and your concern for my family. My family is doing well, by the grace of God. What is happening in India is a catastrophic tragedy. I was planning to visit India in early August, which I have canceled. I needed to go to India to resolve estate issues arising from the death of Archbishop Dominic and Fr. Mathew Vellankal, to carry out the court mandate.

Reports of people struggling to find hospital beds, dying due to lack of oxygen or not being able to procure life-saving drugs have invited legitimate criticism from the national and international press. Grief is a powerful emotion. In Gujarat the sons of a woman who lost the Covid battle tried to set the hospital on fire. In Maharashtra, relatives gathered in anger at a hospital after the death of 7 patients, blaming the doctors for the lack of oxygen supply. There is real fear today. The country is in complete meltdown. The complacency that 'it doesn't happen to us' has finally been pricked.

Amid thousands dying daily of COVID-19, even in rural areas of India, the pandemic has taken a heavy toll on church leaders. Dozens of priests, scores of nuns and hundreds of laypeople have died during the second surge since mid-April. Bishop Basil Bhuriya, 65, of Jhabua became the first serving bishop victim of COVID-19 when he died at St. Francis Hospital at Indore the 6th of May. He was ordained a bishop 5 years ago. Retired Archbishop Antony Anandarayar of Pondicherry died May 4 of COVID-19. Close to my own home in India, the Thrissur Archdiocese was stunned when half a dozen retired priests died during the May 1 - 2 weekend of COVID-19.

Please continue to keep our brothers and sisters in India, Sri Lanka and other adjoining countries in your prayer. Thank you so much for your compassion and love. It is always the poor who takes the brunt of every tragedy including this one. They have given up on hospitals and medicine, and left everything in the hands of the Almighty.

Archbishop Cordileone made national and international news when he stated that "those who reject the teaching of the church on the sanctity of human life and those who do not seek to live in accordance with that teaching should not receive the Eucharist." The archbishop spoke directly to Catholics in public life on this topic, urging them to "please stop pretending that advocating for or practicing a grave moral evil—one that snuffs out an innocent human life, one that denies a fundamental human right—is somehow compatible with the Catholic faith. It is not."

McElroy, in a statement published Wednesday by the Jesuit magazine *America*, assailed the campaign to exclude Biden and other like-minded Catholic officials from Communion. "It will bring tremendously destructive consequences," McElroy wrote. "The Eucharist is being weaponized and deployed as a tool in political warfare. This must not happen."

The differing viewpoints of the two bishops exemplify how divisive this issue can be even among Catholics here and outside. Some of you have spoken to me about how you agree or disagree for various reasons. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in the Vatican has urged the U.S. bishops to proceed with caution in their discussions about formulating a national policy "to address the situation of Catholics in public office who support legislation allowing abortion, euthanasia or other moral evils."

Cardinal Luis Ladaria, congregational prefect, reiterated that "the effective development of a policy in this area requires that dialogue occurs in two stages: first among the bishops themselves, and then between bishops and Catholic pro-choice politicians within their jurisdictions." The cardinal also suggested the discussion "would best be framed within the broad context of worthiness for the reception of holy Communion on the part of all the faithful, rather than only one category of Catholics, reflecting their obligation to conform their lives to the entire Gospel of Jesus Christ as they prepare to receive the sacrament."

God bless our Church!

Fr. Paulson



## The Ascension of the Lord May 16 , 2021

### First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Today's passage takes us back to the beginning verses of the Acts of the Apostles and sets forth the themes that Luke is going to develop throughout this, the longest book of the New Testament. His major theme is the role of the Holy Spirit, who enables the apostles to be effective witnesses to Jesus. The Holy Spirit is mentioned 57 times in the Acts of the Apostles.

### Second Reading: Ephesians: 1:17-23

Ephesus is located on the western coast of what is today Turkey, and Paul visited there several times. Today's passage, which is near the beginning of the letter to the Ephesians, is a prayer asking God's blessings upon that community. Many thoughts in this prayer are connected to today's feast of the Ascension.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

**CTK: Monday - Saturday:**

**9 am Mass ~ Indoor (church) and live streamed on face-book/YouTube**

**6 pm Thursday Mass indoor (church) includes devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.**

### **Christ The King Weekends**

**Saturdays ~ 3 pm - 3:30 pm Private Confessions are available. Please meet in front of the church.**

**Saturdays ~ 4 pm Vigil Mass indoor**

**Sundays ~ 7:30 am indoor, 9 am outdoor, 10:30 am outdoor, 12:00 noon Spanish indoor and 4 pm indoor mass.**

**Note: While communion will be available at all the Outdoor Masses, we will also offer Drive through Communion from 11:30 am - 12 pm Sundays in front of the church.**

### **Saint Stephen Weekends**

**Saturday Mass ~ 5 pm indoor mass**

**Sunday Mass ~ 9:30 am indoor mass**

## **St. Stephen Corner**

Join us for our **Town Hall Meeting after the 9:30 am Mass** this Sunday. Lunch will be provided to those that signed up in advance.

This weekend we will have a **2nd collection for Catholic Charities**, helping those who struggle with poverty and other complex issues.

The following weekend, May 22-23, there will be a 2nd collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign to help spread the Gospel message in the U.S. and in developing countries using modern media tools to inform, inspire, and enlighten.

Now that we are back in the church, our ushers will resume our separate 2nd collection following our regular collection.

Our current office hours are Monday and Wednesday from 11 am - 2 pm.

*Dear Fr. Paulson, Fr. Timoney, Fr. Lee, and Parishioners;*

Thank you to everyone who attended or viewed my 70th Jubilee Liturgy at Christ The King Church on May 2nd. I am most grateful for the congratulations cards, greetings and gifts. I appreciated the 10:45am choir for their wonderful singing. Blessings to all who made it a special occasion.

~Sr. Joanne Clare Gallagher



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEEDS YOU!

In "The Great Commission," Jesus said, "Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." These are our "marching orders," direct from Jesus himself. And they are issued to everyone, not just the clergy and religious.

As we prepare to return to in-person classes for next year's Religious Education program, **we need teachers**. That means we need YOU! If you doubt that you can teach, think again! God doesn't call the equipped; he equips the called! Our materials include complete lesson plans that make the process easy, even for those with limited experience, and we will provide any training you need. So pray on this, think about it and remember that one special teacher who brought Jesus to life in your heart and mind. And then, become that teacher for the next generation!

Please call or email Deacon John at [faithformation@ctkph.org](mailto:faithformation@ctkph.org) or call him at (925) 686-1174 to let him know what level you'd be available to teach.





C A T H O L I C  
**WOMENPREACH**

### CATHOLIC WOMEN PREACH

Catholic Women Preach: **Megan Effron** preaches for the Solemnity of the Ascension, May 16, 2021.

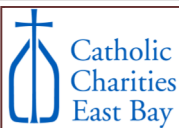
Megan Effron is the Director of Faith Exploration at La Lumiere School, an independent, Catholic boarding and day prep school in La Porte, Indiana.

Megan is the daughter of **CTK parishioners Fred and Patty Beck**. She is a graduate of CTK Catholic school and Carondolet High School. She graduated summa cum laude from UCLA and she earned a Master of Divinity degree at the University of Notre Dame. Megan will return to Notre Dame in the Fall of 2021 to pursue her Doctorate in Systematic Theology.

[www.catholicwomenpreach.org](http://www.catholicwomenpreach.org)

**Retrouvaille a Marriage program** that helps couples in struggling marriages restore and rebuild a healthy and loving marriage. The Oakland Retrouvaille Program will be hosting a VIRTUAL Weekend Program starting Thursday, June 24 - Sunday, June 27, 2021. For more information or to register, please check the website at [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com) or leave a message at (510) 709-6063.

Retrouvaille provides marriage help! You are not alone!



This weekend our second collection supports Catholic Charities of the East Bay. Last year, 36,000 people received essential services, including food, rent, Visa cards for necessities, training, counseling and case management. They also helped 914 households with assistance to prevent homelessness and provided food assistance to 23,570 people. Thank you for your continued support.

*Thank you to all our parishioners who have continued to support Christ the King and St. Stephen. We very much appreciate you.*

There are many ways to donate including text giving. Text giving is fast, easy and versatile. Give in the moment - all in a matter of seconds.

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You can also scan this QR code on your phone to connect with our donation site. Thank you for your continued generosity!



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**Joann Kurpinsky/Nancy Gizdich**  
[Bookkeepersp@gmail.com](mailto:Bookkeepersp@gmail.com)  
**Maria Banson, Music Director**  
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