

Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

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(925) 274-1341 saintstephenparish.org

The cup of salvation
I will take up,
and I will call
upon the name
of the Lord.

Psalm 116:13

June 6, 2021



The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Weekday Mass Times

Monday—Friday 9am/Indoors

Thursday—6pm/Indoors

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday —9am/Indoors and 4pm/Indoors

Sunday—7:30am/Indoors, 9am/Outdoors, 10:30am/Outdoors,
12 noon-Spanish/Indoors and 4pm/Indoors

A Letter From Fr. Paulson



Dear Friends,

Some of you have been traveling to high school and college campuses to celebrate graduations during the past weeks. After a year of hybrid sessions, our own 8th graders will graduate this Thursday. While all family members and friends won't physically be present to celebrate this momentous occasion, they will watch virtually. I want to congratulate our graduating class of 2021, and I wish them a bright future, without the hassles of the pandemic. I thank our school leadership and all our teachers and faculty who have done their best during the pandemic. Oscar Wilde said, "Success doesn't rush. The greatest reward is the journey!" I pray the experience of the past year will stay with you as you move on to higher education or a dream job.

California is moving forward with a dramatic reopening of the economy on June 15 that will remove nearly all of the restrictions we have been living with for more than a year. The move comes as daily coronavirus cases have plummeted and vaccinations have increased. At CTK, we will continue to offer the 9.00am Mass outdoors, while moving the 10.30am Mass indoors from June 20th Sunday. At St. Stephen, both masses are now held indoors. We will follow the guidelines from the state after June 15th. I am excited as the pandemic is very much under control and we can soon be more back to normal.

Pope Francis on 'Laudato si' Platform: 'What world will we leave our children?' With a video released on Tuesday May 25th, the pope invited all Catholics on a journey "to create the future we want: a more inclusive, fraternal, peaceful and sustainable world." He highlighted the fact that "the current pandemic has now brought to light in an even stronger way the cry of nature and that of the poor who suffer most the consequences, highlighting that everything is interconnected and interdependent and that our health is not separated from the health of the environment in which we live." It is for this reason that we need "a new ecological approach," says Pope Francis. In this way we can "transform our way of dwelling in the world, our styles of life, our relationship with the resources of the Earth and, in general, our way of looking at humanity and of living life."

A top Vatican official confirmed that the pope is pondering a journey of his own — a possible trip to COP 26, the next major United Nations climate summit, set for November in Glasgow, Scotland. The ambitious churchwide initiative outlines seven categories of sustainability goals in the spirit of Francis' 2015 encyclical, "*Laudato Si*", on Care for Our Common Home." The goals include:

- Adopting renewable energy;
- Achieving carbon neutrality;
- Defending all life;
- Solidarity with Indigenous peoples and vulnerable groups;
- Adopting simpler lifestyles;
- Fostering ecological education and spirituality;
- Advocating for sustainable development;

Following ethical investment guidelines, including divestment from fossil fuels and other industries that harm the planet.

The platform includes goals for families, parishes and dioceses, schools and universities, businesses and farms, religious congregations, and hospitals and other health care facilities. At CTK and St. Stephen, we will soon offer in-person and online sessions on this new platform launched by the church.

Happy Summer to all of you! I pray that this summer will be a relaxing time for all of you. May this Summer provide you ample opportunities to re-focus your life on God.

Fr. Paulson

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

June 6, 2021

First Reading: Exodus 24:3-8

Today's passage from the book of Exodus describes the covenant between God and the Israelite people. A covenant is a solemn agreement made between two parties and was usually sealed in blood. In ancient times, blood was considered the source of life. To sprinkle two people with the same blood bonded them as closely as if they were blood relatives.

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:11-15

On Yon Kippur, the high priest sacrificed a goat on the altar in the temple. Then he took some of the blood into the holiest place in the temple sanctuary where only he was allowed to go. There, he sprinkled that blood as a renewal of the covenant made at Mt. Sinai, and prayed that God would forgive the sins they had committed during the previous year. This ritual is the backdrop for today's reading from the letter to the Hebrews.



CTK UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

June 7 Melencio Morales †
June 8 Orlando Villanueva †
 Michael Carpenter †
June 9 Frank O'Neill †
June 10 Lauren Mello, Birthday Blessings
June 11 Maxine Higgins †
Saturday, June 12 and Sunday June 13:
 Ambrosia Perera and Lupe †
 Ollie Sharretts †
 Bryan Humm †
 Wilfredo Orpiano †
 Castelli Family
 Angelica & Rachel Astudillo - Healing

SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

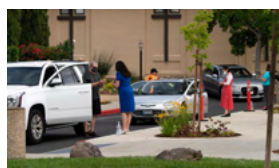
June 5 Jim & Jeanie McGraw †
June 6 Jim Vranesh †
June 9 Connie & John Banker,
 (37th Wedding Anniversary)
June 12 Carl & Viola Nagel,
 (57th Wedding Anniversary)
June 13 Connie Scott †



STAYING CONNECTED

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Drive-Thru Holy Communion

Every Sunday
 11:30am to 12 noon
 In front of the church



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Private Confessions will continue
 every Saturday from
 3pm to 3:30pm.

Please meet in front of the church.



Thursdays, 6pm - Indoor Mass

Honoring Our Mother of
 Perpetual Help

ST. STEPHEN CORNER



St. Stephen Church-Mass Times

Saturday - 5pm/Indoors
Sunday - 9:30am/Indoors

As churches are opening up, there is less need for live-streaming both of our Masses. Starting next Sunday, June 13, we will only be live-streaming our 9:30 am Mass. We apologize to those of you that have been enjoying the 5:00 pm live-stream.

In the past, we have listed on our Church bulletin boards names of those asking for prayers on an ongoing basis. We are going to start with a clean slate since so much has changed since the start of the pandemic. If you would like prayers for yourself or family or friends, please contact the St. Stephen office. Also remember to let us know when those prayers are no longer needed so that we can remove them from this list.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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As we prepare to return to in-person classes, we need teachers! Our materials include complete lesson plans that make the process easy! Please call or email Deacon John at:

faithformation@ctkph.org or 925-686-1174.



Live Streaming Events



Join us on Facebook or YouTube
 (links can be found at ctkph.org)

To view the following:

Daily Mass

9am (Monday through Saturday)

Pray the Holy Rosary with the Clergy

5:40pm (Mondays, Tuesdays, Weds. & Fridays)

Weekend Masses

4pm Saturday Mass

9am Sunday Mass

Diocese of Oakland



The **Gabriel Project** offers immediate, practical assistance with pregnancy. By employing our individual talents, collaborating with various ministries in the parish and diocese, we utilize community resources, and stand ready to provide assistance as needed in caring for mothers and their babies-to-be.

The **CTK Faith In Action Ministry** will once again be collecting **baby items** for our friends at **THE GABRIEL PROJECT** at Queen of All Saints Church in Concord.

Collection will take place at CTK on Sunday June 13 after the 9, 10:30 and 12:00 Masses. There will NOT be a collection on Saturday. There will be someone hosting the tables from 8:45-1:30 on June 13. The items will be picked up before 2pm.

We **cannot accept toys, strollers, car seats, or furniture.** We would prefer gift cards from Target, Safeway or Costco to give to moms for food or other items they need. We will take all **"gently used and spotless" baby clothing and items acceptable for their own child or grandchild.** Baby clothing sizes 0-24 months, maternity clothes for moms, diapers in all sizes, baby toiletries, wipes, bassinets, Pack N Play, and similar items.

Questions? Email Teresa at bollawoman@gmail.com



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2 days per week in Pleasant Hill. For more information, visit www.triacorda.org. Student and teacher applications are now being accepted for 2021-2022. Scholarships may be available.

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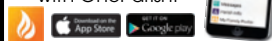
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