

Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

(925) 682-2486 ctkph.org

(925) 274-1341 saintstephenparish.org

Fourth SUNDAY of Advent

December 20, 2020

The angel Gabriel said to Mary,
"Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favor with God.
Behold, you will conceive in your womb
and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus."

Luke 1:30-31

SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

Dec. 19 5:00 pm Joselito Asuncion †
Dec. 20 9:30 am Jack & Maryann Connolly,
50th anniversary
Dec. 24 3 pm St. Stephen & CTK Parishioners

**All CTK Masses streamed live with videos
available to watch later**

***CTK Parish Office is open
Mon-Fri ~ 9 am to 1 pm***

Religious Education: (925) 686-1017
Youth Ministry: (925) 676-0979
CTK School: (925) 685-1109

CTK UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

Dec. 21 9 am Alfredo Quintans Jr. †
Dec. 22 9 am Ann Obschernings †
Horace & Angel Wang †
Dec. 23 9 am Taylor Faith Almeida †
Anna Mangini †
Eugene Mangini †
Anna McKillip †
Dec. 24 **Merry Christmas Eve** (full schedule inside)
Masses at 1 pm, 3 pm, 4:30 pm, 6 pm
Dec. 25 **Merry Christmas**
Masses at 9 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm

Saturday, December 26 & Sunday, December 27
Paul Pabelico †
Vic Steil †
CTK & SS Parishioners
Ferdinand Navarro
Reynaldo Ordonez †

“Let Me Be Your Bethlehem”

When we reflect on this year, many will see it as the most difficult journey of our collective lives. As the pandemic continues, we try to manage the natural concerns it brings. So, we have had to learn what it means to wait, to hope, to become more focused on the present moments since the future is uncertain. There is much grace to be found in these moments, and this week’s readings remind us that God has always been at work in our lives and in our history.

We have arrived at the fourth Sunday of Advent, a week celebrating the prequel to Christmas, the moment of Mary’s consent to be mother of the promised Messiah. We see a young woman facing a mystery, with an open heart, accepting her amazing place in history without knowing what was ahead.

We are now at another moment in history, in our time, in our world desperately in need of hope. Where does our hope come from? What can we learn from the one we call, “Full of grace?”

Mary said “Yes.” Her response came from a living relationship of trust in God. Her life must have had many such moments of trust, so that at this moment, she was free to say, “Yes.”

How free are we to say “Yes” to the invitation to allow Christ to be born in us?

Six hundred years ago, Meister Eckhart wrote the following:

“What good is it to me that Mary gave birth to the Son of God fourteen hundred years ago, and I do not also give birth to the Son of God in my time and culture? We are all meant to be mothers of God. God is always needing to be born.”

We all experience moments of grace in which we connect with the Sacred. In such moments, all things are possible. Light breaks through darkness.

In our own time, Danielle Rose, an inspired singer/songwriter, wrote the song, ***“Let Me Be Your Bethlehem,”*** a song that has become an Advent prayer for me. I am quoting some excerpts here and invite you to listen to the complete song online. She begins:

***“Is there no room in this world for you? Oh, let me be your Bethlehem ...
It’s cold outside, see I’ve opened up my door. Let my life be your Bethlehem
Unto my life may you be born.”***

The refrain includes the words:

***“Born in a stable with the angels close at hand
Strength became weakness that we might understand
A God who was hungry, a king without a throne,
Immanuel, a child is born.”***

Her final verse never fails to move me:

***“Is there no one who will hold you, Lord? Oh, let me be your mother,
Let me be your mother. Heaven cannot hold your glory, Lord.
Yet I hold you in my arms. I hold you in my arms.” ****

The very notion of being a dwelling place for the divine seems highly fanciful yet ultimately recognizable as it awakens in us our deepest longings for a connection with God.

Every generation in every age has found this to be true: Each year we celebrate the coming of Christ, not only as a newborn baby, but as the presence of the divine in each of us. Christmas is both a beautiful celebration commemorating an earth-changing event and an ongoing reality.

God embraces us and Christ is born. We are his Bethlehem.

Blessings to all,

Carol Alonso

*Excerpts from “Let Me Be Your Bethlehem” by Danielle Rose: Copyright © 2001, Danielle Rose Skorich, pub. by World Library Publications, a div. of GIA Publications, Inc. ~giamusic.com~ All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 20, 2020

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12,14,16

This passage refers to the “Ark of God” which was a wooden chest overlayed by gold where the stone tablets of the 10 Commandments were kept. King David, rich and comfortable in his palace felt the Ark deserved to be housed in similar splendor. God will tell David that a physical building is not as important as the “house” (that is, the dynasty) of David. Christians have seen this prophecy fulfilled in Christ, who was born of the House of David.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Today’s passage concludes Paul’s long letter to the Romans. It is one sentence, and it is very much like a toast offered to God. In effect, Paul is saying that it all comes down to this: We should give thanks to God that salvation is available to *all people* through faith in Jesus Christ.



WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

CTK: Monday - Saturday:

9 am Mass ~ Live streamed from our chapel on facebook/YouTube

**6 pm Thursday Mass 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 Drive-In/Lawn (note time change)

**Sundays ~ 7:30 am, 9 am, 10:30 am and 4 pm
drive-in/lawn mass**

12:00 noon Spanish drive-in/lawn 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

Sunday Mass ~ 9:30 am Outdoor Mass

**Communion only - please arrive at the end of mass,
approximately 10:10 am.**

St. Stephen Updates

Our **2021 Calendars** have finally arrived. You can pick up your copy as you leave Mass on Sundays or Christmas, or contact our office to find an alternate time to pick one up.

Because our Masses are currently outside, note that our **Christmas Eve Mass** has been moved to **3:00 pm** so that you don't have to worry about coming out when it is darker (and colder). We will also have our **9:30 am Christmas Morning Mass** if that is your preference. Also plan on joining us for **New Year's Day at 9:30 am.**

Contact the St. Stephen office (by email or phone) to get your choice of **Mass Intention times** for 2021. Most dates are still available. Remember your deceased loved ones, prayers for healing, or for special occasions like birthdays and anniversaries with a Mass Intention.

CTK and SS Christmas/New Year's Schedule



CTK Christmas Eve Masses: 1 pm, 3 pm, 4:30 pm, 6:00 pm
with drive -thru communion from 2 pm to 2:30 pm.

St. Stephen Christmas Eve Mass at 3 pm

CTK Christmas Day Masses: 9 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm (bi-lingual mass)
with drive -thru communion from 11:30 am to 12:00 pm.

St. Stephen Christmas Day Mass at 9:30 am

CTK New Year's Day Mass at 10:00 am
St. Stephen New Year's Day Mass at 9:30 am



Christmas Masses: Help Needed

We are working together to help make Christmas a wonderful celebration for all! If you are able and willing ~ we would need USHERS at our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. You would greet people, facilitate parking, take collections We would very much appreciate a few new people stepping forward to help on this special day.



SIMBANG GABI -- The Filipino Society of Christ the King invites you to join in the continued celebration of "Simbang Gabi", a nine-day novena in preparation for the birth of Jesus, at Christ the King Church ending Dec. 23. Remaining masses begins at 6:30 p.m. every night **except** Dec. 17 mass at 6 pm and Dec. 19 and 20 mass at 4 p.m. Because of limitations brought on by Covid-N19, masses will be held outdoors inside a large tent and will be live stream. You can view it on CTK Facebook Page or CTK YouTube Channel. For additional information, please contact Abe Miralles (925-381-5898) or Imelda Santos (925-623-7340).

Are you or anyone you know, curious about the process of becoming Catholic? The program is called Rite of Christian Initiation, or RCIA. As an adult, you receive Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation. There is no commitment, simply come and see! During the pandemic we are meeting through email. Contact: Mary McCarthy (maryjane.mccarthy@gmail.com).

This weekends **second collection is for Christmas Flowers**, which also helps to decorate our entire tent, Christmas lighting, Christmas trees, etc.
As always, thank you for your generosity.

A **huge thank you** to all our parishioners who have continued to support Christ the King and St. Stephen during this Covid-19 pandemic. 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.

- Easy card registration on your phone
- Option to make your gifts recurring

To give, text the dollar amount to
833-361-4156

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



PARISH STAFF CONTACTS

Fr. Paulson Mundanmani,
682-2486

paulson.ctl@gmail.com

Fr. Lee Chompoochan
lleescj49@hotmail.com

Sr. Dominic Bonnici OP,
246-1122

sisterdominic.marie@gmail.com

Joe Silveira, Principal
685-1109

jsilveira@ctkschool.org

Deacon John,
faithformation@ctkph.org 686-1017

Phyllis Gurnett, Music Director
pgurnett6@aol.com

Robin Morley, Office Mgr
682-2486
ctl.robin@gmail.com

Helen Christian, Office
682-2486

hchristian326@gmail.com

Kathy Ridgway, Office
682-2486

kridgway02@gmail.com

Nelson Gonzales, Youth Minister
ngonzales@ctkph.org
686-1017

Rosa Panelli, RE Office Staff
Rpanellictkre@gmail.com

CTK Office: office@ctkph.org

ADDITIONAL ST. STEPHEN

CONTACTS

SS Office:

saintstephenwc@gmail.com

Chris Lang, Bulletin Info.
274-1341

Joann Kurpinsky/Nancy Gizdich
Bookkeepersp@gmail.com

Maria Calderazzo, Music Director
274-1341

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

KEN SMITH ROOFING

All Your Roofing Needs

New Roofs • Re-Roofs • Repairs

20 Years Experience 925-788-0262
Lic #645964 • Bonded

catholicmatch®

California



CatholicMatch.com/myCA

BILL LEONE | 925.260.7877
With over 30 years of
experience, call me today for
any of your real estate needs.
DRE# 00704057 bleone@McGuire.com



Advanced Eyecare Optometry
ROBERT TURCIOS Jr., O.D.

PARISHIONER

Comprehensive Eye Exams

LASIK Consultation

Fashion Eyewear Boutique

Contact Lenses

(925) 676-8365

advancedoptometry.net

395 Civic Drive, Suite G,
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

PLEASANT HILL COLLISION

(925) 939-1160 • 939-1280 FAX



All Insurance Claims Welcome
• Autobody • Refinishing • Frame • Glass

1581 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill

HILLENDALE
HOME CARE
Caring and Professional Help
RN Care Management

Personal Care • Meal Preparation • Transportation
Exercise • Shopping & Errands • Companionship
1 Hour Wellness Check • 1 Hour Bathing Visit
925.933.8181 • www.hillendale.net
1777 N. California Blvd., #210, Walnut Creek
Family Owned & Operated Since 2002 • State License #07470001



Nurse Next Door™
home care services

24/7 Care Available • Positive Happy Aging Approach
Our Talent is Caring! • Elizabeth & Robert Lobron
925.494.1111 • www.nursenextdoor.com Lic. #074700015

- Companionship
- Personal Care
- End of Life Care
- Meal Preparation
- Homemaking
- Transportation
- Respite Care



No one has more
ways to help protect
the people and things
you love than ADT

ADT has Medical Alert
systems to fit your lifestyle

Medical Alert Plus System
Perfect for when you're around the house

- Home temperature monitoring
- 24/7 professional monitoring
- Fall detection pendant
- No landline required
- No long-term contracts

On-The-Go System
Perfect for when you're out and about

- GPS location capabilities
- 24/7 professional monitoring
- Fall detection pendant
- No landline required
- No long-term contracts

Call 833-238-3585 today Get a \$50 credit* + a FREE* gift with any Medical Alert System purchase



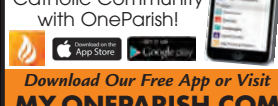
Sandalwood Health Center

DR. BOB SCHAEFER, D.C.
101 Gregory Lane, Ste. 37, Pleasant Hill
FREE Ideal Protein Weight Loss Consultation
(925) 827-9223

Grow Your Business, Advertise Here.
Support Your Church & Bulletin.
Free professional ad design & my help!
email: kwiatkowski@jspaluch.com www.jspaluch.com

ONE PARISH
Grow in your faith,
find a Mass,
and connect with your
Catholic Community
with OneParish!

Download Our Free App or Visit
MY.ONEPARISH.COM



TRINITY

Call us for your transportation needs!
Wheelchair • Gurney
Medical Appointments • Dialysis
Hospital Discharges
Long Distance Transports

Dispatch: (925) 428-2790
Hours: Mon-Sat 4:00AM-10:00PM
Mention this ad/parish for a 15% Discount.



Call Marcy Kwiatkowski
925.239.1401

Gil's Carpets
For All Your Flooring Needs

Carpet • Linoleum • Hardwood
Vinyl Plank • Laminate

982 Howe Rd. • Martinez 925.685.1818
www.GilsCarpets.com
FREE ESTIMATES Parishioners Since 1974



QUEEN OF HEAVEN
CEMETERY & FUNERAL CENTER FD1959

Start planning today:
Funeral | Cremation | Cemetery | Family Estates
(855) 894-6540 | cfcsoakland.org

cfc
Living Our Mission:
CATHOLIC FUNERAL & CEMETERY SERVICES
A MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

APPEL
LAW FIRM LLP

Representing Victims Of
Personal Injury | Auto Accidents
Workers' Compensation | Trip/Slip & Fall
Elder Abuse | Defective Products | & More

Free Consultation For Christ The King Parishioners!
www.appellawyer.com • 925-938-2000



**Get this
weekly bulletin
delivered by
email - for FREE!**

Sign up here:
<https://www.jspaluch.com/BulletinSubscribe.aspx>

Courtesy of J.S. Paluch Company, Inc.



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

FINANCIAL STRATEGIES.
ONE-ON-ONE ADVICE.

AMY M. WASSER
Financial Advisor
367 Civic Drive
Suite 8
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
925-798-5297
www.edwardjones.com
Member SIPC



Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Diablo Valley
CREMATION & FUNERAL SERVICES
Cremation From \$1295 and Burial From \$1695
Concord, CA | Phone: (925) 998-0303
www.DVCFs.com

Heating & Air Conditioning
COMPARE
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1963
Sales & Service **686-1366**
Mark Fraschieri, Parishioner • Contractor's License #220289

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

HULL'S
Walnut Creek Chapel
FD250 • COA538 • CR196
FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Crematory On Site
Family Owned & Operated Since 1892
All Facilities are onsite
925-934-5400
1139 Saranap Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA
"Serving the Catholic Faith Since 1892"

HENNESSY PAINTING
Quality Workmanship • Clean & Courteous
Joe Hennessy, Parishioner
(925) 689-3418 Lic. #608348

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

DOLAN'S
WINDOWS Andersen, Milgard, Marvin
DOORS
LUMBER
www.dolanlumber.com

Pinole	(510) 724-8753	990 San Pablo Ave.
Walnut Creek	(925) 927-4662	2450 Camino Diablo
Concord	(925) 686-1734	2231 Monument Blvd.

Oak Park Hills Chapel
Funerals and Cremations
925-934-6500
www.OakParkHillsChapel.com
"Serving Catholic Families Since 1961"

DUDUM REAL ESTATE GROUP
MARISA COX
Your Local Realtor,
CTK Parishioner & Mom!
Ranked in the Top 4% of
Realtors in the East Bay.
Selling homes since 2002!
Buying or Selling a
House in the Easy Bay?
Call Me & Let's Chat
925.383.3084
mcox@dudumhomes.com

Law Offices of Patricia A. Rowe, Attorney & CPA
Individual, Business, & Trust Tax Returns • Probate • Trust Accountings
Trust Litigation • Wills & Trusts • IRS Audits • Incorporations, LLC's
925-256-1000 • www.PatriciaRowe.com • Pleasant Hill

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

OUR EMPHASIS IS ON CARING AND PERSONALIZED SERVICE.
Investment Management • Financial Planning • Retirement Planning
Portfolio Reviews • Retirement Income Strategies • Long-Term Care
Frank X. Aceves, Jr., CFP®
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ | President | Wealth Advisor | LPL Registered Representative
Parishioner since 1996
925.357.8320 Ext. 103 • www.oakwm.net
Frank X. Aceves, Jr. is a Registered Representative with, and offers securities through, LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC.
Investment advice offered through Strategic Wealth Advisors Group, A Registered Investment Advisor, Oak Wealth Management, LLC and Strategic Wealth Advisors Group are separate entities from LPL Financial.

ds DESIGN SAVVY
KITCHENS & BATHS
Molly Marshall Wilson
CKD & CBD | Parishioner
CERTIFIED KITCHEN & BATH DESIGNER
www.designsavvy.us
molly@designsavvy.us
925.262.8534

THE MOULDING COMPANY
Architectural Mouldings
Parishioners
Designer Showroom
5117 Commercial Circle
Concord
(925) 798-7525

Ernie's
PLUMBING & SEWER SERVICE
Since 1965
925-228-5242
www.erniesplumbingandsewer.com
Lic# 802333
Plumbing • Trenchless Sewer Replacement
Drain Maintenance & Septic Service • Water Heaters

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

GROCERY OUTLET
Bargain Market!
Pleasant Hill
1671 Contra Costa Blvd.
(925) 676-3660
8am - 10pm Every Day!
facebook.com/PleasantHillGroceryOutlet

MORE Kale FOR LESS Cabbage.
WELCOME TO Bargain Bliss

Stand out with a professional résumé!
HEIDI HOWELL
Marketing
Certified Professional Resume Writer
209/597-5597 • heidihowell.com

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

Michael E. Huguet DDS & Associates
Family and Cosmetic Dentistry
710 Grayson Rd., Pleasant Hill
925.945.6205 • www.pleasanthillsmile.com

PREVENTATIVE
RESTORATIVE
COSMETIC
INVISALIGN

JACK'S RESTAURANT & BAR
BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER • DRINKS
60 Crescent Drive | Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 | (925) 849-6195
ILOVEJACKS.COM

élan NAILBAR
925.687.5802
2243 MORELLO AVE.
PLEASANT HILL, CA 94523
ELANNAILBAR
ELANNAILBAR@GMAIL.COM
We offer Vegan Mani • Pedi • Waxing
Facial • For all services upon request
Private Parties • Weddings • Birthdays • Events

FINDaPARISH.com
Check It Out Today!
The Most Complete Online National Directory of Catholic Parishes