

Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

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(925) 274-1341 saintstephenparish.org

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 11, 2021

Jesus summoned
the Twelve
and began to
send them out
two by two
and gave them
authority over
unclean spirits.

Mark 6:7

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CTK WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

CTK: Monday - Saturday:

9 am Mass ~ Indoor (church) and live streamed on facebook/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 inside the church.

Saturdays ~ 4 pm Vigil Mass (live-streamed)

Sundays ~ 7:30 am, 9 am, 10:30 am (live-streamed), and 4 pm mass.

We also offer Drive through Communion from
11:30 am - 12 pm Sundays in front of the church.

All Masses are now indoors!

Dear Friends,

I would like to share with you some important sections of the letter our Bishop Barber wrote with regard to the Eucharist. The dispensation that was given at the beginning of the pandemic from the obligation to attend mass will be lifted on August 15, 2021.



"We are coming off a year and a half of "fasting" from full, personal, and active participation in the Eucharist because of the Covid pandemic precautions. Hence the Lord says again to us, as He did to the Apostles at the Last Supper, "How I have longed to be with you!" And how we priests have longed to be with you also to celebrate together the Lord's passion, death and resurrection.

I cannot tell you how happy I was to see so many people coming back for Holy Week and Easter and since the June 15 lifting of most COVID restrictions, for daily and Sunday Masses. I felt like St. Peter at the Transfiguration, when he said, "Lord, it is good for us to be here!"

By participating in the Mass, we can be with Jesus at the moment He lays down His life for His friends. You and I are those friends. Jesus loved His Apostles "to the end" (Jn. 13:1), and He will love us "to the end."

When Christ said, "Come to me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest," I believe He was encouraging us to come to Him where He is most intensely present, in His own Body and Blood on the altar of sacrifice at every Mass. Maybe that explains the sociologists' study that found all socio-economic groups of people suffered more anxiety, more stress, and more depression during the pandemic, except one group - those who attend church regularly.

When Christ said to the Apostles at the Last Supper, "Do this in memory of me," He was not only giving a command to the Apostles to celebrate the Eucharist - He was also inviting all of us, Christian brothers and sisters, to come together at the altar, to listen to Him speaking to us in the Scriptures, and to receive Him inside our bodies and our hearts.

Bishop Barber is reinstating the law which was dispensed because of the pandemic. **"Our solemn obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation will come back into force in the Diocese of Oakland on Sunday, August 15, 2021, the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven."**

There are valid reasons why a catholic can miss Sunday Mass. Here are the words of the bishop taken from his letter:

"While it is true that illness, infirmity or truly serious reasons may impede and therefore always dispense us of our obligation to come to church for Mass, any casual absence from Mass without serious reason carries the burden of a willful sin against God and neighbor and should be brought to Confession before receiving Holy Communion. Long before this pandemic, the Church has always recognized that there are "serious" or "grave" reasons that prevent Catholics from attending Mass. For example, if a person is sick or home-bound, or living/visiting areas of the world where access to the Mass is limited, or a situation arises that prevents travel (snowstorm or flat tire), such persons would not be bound by the obligation. In the case of this pandemic, serious or grave reasons would include:

- Anyone who is sick, symptomatic, or has been recently exposed to the coronavirus. Protecting the health of others is an act of Christian charity and our moral duty to one another.
- Anyone with significant health risk factors that requires them to avoid public spaces, or if you care for someone with significant risk.
- Anyone who cannot attend Mass through no fault of their own, for example, a parent caring for a sick child, or if the priest is sick."

Fr. Paulson

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 11, 2021

First Reading: Amos 7:12-15

Amos preached about 750 years before Christ and was the first prophet whose words were put into writing. At the time, the Jewish people were split into two kingdoms: Israel in the north and Judah in the south. Amos was not a prophet by occupation, but was sent by God to preach in the northern kingdom at the shrine of Bethel. Our reading begins at that point.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

Today and for the next few weeks, we will be reading consecutively from the letter to the Ephesians. Ephesus, a major seaport on the western coast of what is today Turkey, was a center for early Christians. Today's passage is the beginning of the letter and is a prayer praising God for the good things God has done for us.

CTK UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

July 12 **Marciana Zabala †**
Andres Pascua †
 July 13 **Jeffrey Brogan †**
Wilfredo Orpiano †
 July 14 **Anthony Dalagan †**
 July 15 **Matias Rodgers †**
 July 16 **Isiah Gonzalez †**
 July 17 **Larry Copp †**

Saturday, July 17 and Sunday July 18
Michael Volpicelli †
Giuseppa Iorfida †
Anna Quezon, birthday blessings
Amaury & Corazon Velez †

ST. STEPHEN CORNER

St. Stephen Church-Mass Times

Saturday - 5pm ~ Indoor

Sunday - 9:30am ~ Indoor



SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

July 10 **St. Stephen Parishioners**
 July 11 **Jean Portello †**
 July 17 **St. Stephen Parishioners**
 July 18 **Dorothy Neill †**

Next weekend, July 17-18, will be a 2nd collection for our annual Mission Appeal. Speaking to us will be Rev. Christopher Beyuo of the Archdiocese of Tamale in Ghana, currently serving in the Diocese of Charleston, SC. Because the date is not set in advance, there is no envelope for the Mission Appeal in your packets. Please be generous.

We currently have very few spots taken for Mass Intentions, so this is a great time to get your preferred dates. Contact the St. Stephen office for assistance.

You Are Invited to celebrate the Feast of St. Mary of Magdala on Thursday, July 22, 2021, at Christ the King Church, 9 a.m. Mass.

Celebrating The Feast of St. Mary Magdalene
"Today's Resurrection: Picking Up the Pieces"



Back-2-School Backpack Drive 2021

Canisters will be here this weekend



Backpack Supply List (Middle/High School)

- 1- New Sturdy Backpack (no solid **RED** or **BLUE**)
- 2- Spiral Notebooks (college rule)
- 1- Package of #2 Mechanical Pencils
- 1- 12" Ruler
- 1- Pencil Eraser
- 1- Pack of Pens (Blue or Black)
- 2- Highlighters
- 2- Pocket Folders
- 1- Package fine line colored markers (no Sharpie type)
- 1-box of colored pencils
- 1 pack of 3 X 5 index cards

**Please pack supplies separately
in a zip lock baggie**

Backpack Supply List (Kindergarten - 5th grade)

- 1- New Backpack (no solid **RED** or **BLUE**, no mini backpacks)
- 2- Spiral notebooks (wide rule)
- 1 package of #2 Pencils
- 1- 12" Ruler
- 1- box of Crayons (24 count)
- 2- Pocket Folders
- 1- Box Colored Markers - Wide tip
- 1- large Eraser
- 1- Pencil Sharpener
- 1- box of Colored Pencils
- 2- Glue Sticks

Containers will be in our church vestibule **through July 12**. Donations by check made out to Monument Crisis Center can also be put in the collection basket with note: backpacks.

Each Donation of \$50.00 will provide a new backpack filled with school supplies for an at-risk student.



**Donate your Car, Truck, Boat,
RV or Motorcycle
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Christ the King Parish has teamed up with Car Donations Services, Inc. to provide you with the easiest way possible to donate your vehicle whether it is running or not! Get rid of that unneeded vehicle and receive a tax deduction! It's easy!

Call 1-888-686-4483



Save the Date!

**SAN DAMIANO EVENT:
SUMMER JAZZ & WINE
RECEPTION**

Sunday, July 18, 2021, 3:30 PM

Location: San Damiano Retreat Center

Cost: \$40/person - The CoolTones Big Band, Presenter

Enjoy music and delicious food and wine in the courtyard.

Our traditional celebration of summer returns. Enjoy toe-tapping tunes from the CoolTones along with wine and delicious appetizers. Dancing is optional, but it may be hard to resist.

[Register at sandamiano.org/events](https://sandamiano.org/events)



Emails have continued to be sent out **pretending to be Fr. Paulson** requesting a favor, or sometimes to buy gift cards for him or asking for a special request.

These emails are a scam!

Please do not respond to these emails.

There are many ways to donate. Scan this QR code on your phone to connect with our donation site.



You can also use 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

Thank you for your continued generosity!

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