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St. Stephen | 1101 Keaveny Court | Walnut Creek, CA 94597

OCTOBER 25, 2026 | THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Welcome!

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses -CTK

Saturday | 4pm Vigil also livestreamed
Sunday | 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, & 4pm
10:30am Mass is also livestreamed

Weekend Masses -St. Stephen

Saturday | 5pm Vigil
Sunday | 9:30am

9am Daily Mass Schedule

St. Stephen
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
Christ the King
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday

Confession

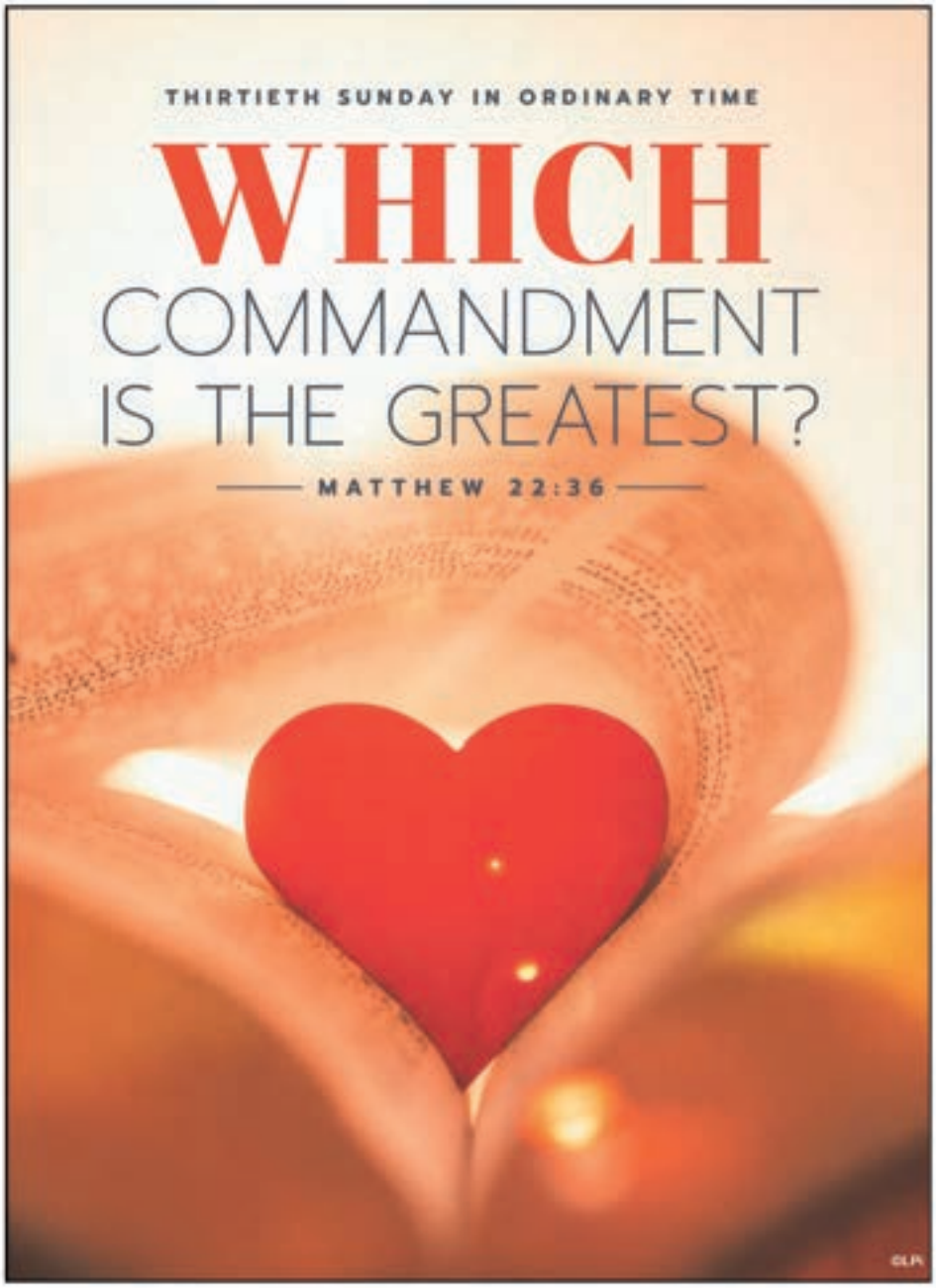
Christ the King | Saturday 3pm-3:30pm
St. Stephen | Saturday 4:30pm
Or | By Appointment

GET IN TOUCH

Christ the King | 925-682-2486
Office Hours Mon. - Fri. 9am to 5pm
ctkph.org
St. Stephen | 925-274-1341
Office Hours Mon. & Weds. 11am -2pm
ctkph.org

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Our Mission Statements

To Hear the Gospel and Make A Differnce
To Live and Love In Christ

HALLOWEEN: THE EVE OF ALL SAINTS

Reclaiming the Christian meaning of Halloween

Dear friends,

When we hear the word Halloween, our minds may immediately go to costumes, candy, pumpkins, ghosts, and children knocking on doors. But behind all of that is a name with a surprisingly Christian meaning.

The word Halloween comes from All Hallows' Eve. "Hallow" means holy or saint, and "e'en" is an old shortened form of evening. So Halloween literally means the evening before All Hallows – All Saints' Day.

In other words, Halloween points us toward November 1, the Solemnity of All Saints, when the Church celebrates all those who have reached the fullness of life with God.

From the early centuries of Christianity, Christians honored the martyrs and saints, often keeping prayerful vigils connected with their feasts. Candles have long been part of Christian prayer and vigil. When the world seems dark, the saints remind us that darkness does not have the final word. Light does. That is the Christian story we want to tell our children.



WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN!

This year, on **October 25 Sunday**, we will have a special Mass connected with our Halloween celebration. Our children are invited to come in their Halloween costumes and will march into the church to the tune of **"When the Saints Go Marching In."**

Yes, we will have costumes. Yes, we will have fun. And knowing our children, I suspect we may have everything from superheroes and princesses to a few creatures whose theological classification may require further study! Adults are invited to dress up as well.

But at the heart of our celebration is something much deeper: our children are called to become saints. Holiness is not just for people in stained-glass windows. It is their calling too. Every act of kindness, every choice to forgive, every prayer, every defense of someone who is lonely or left out, and every effort to do what is right is another step along the road to sainthood.

Jesus tells us, **"You are the light of the world."** The saints took those words seriously. They allowed Christ's light to shine through their lives – sometimes in extraordinary ways, but more often through ordinary acts of courage, kindness, forgiveness, generosity, and faithfulness. And that is the invitation for us as well.

Light overcomes darkness. Love overcomes sin. Hope overcomes fear. Life overcomes death.

If Halloween gets costumes, decorations, treats, and excitement while All Saints' Day gets nothing, children naturally learn which day matters more! Make November 1 special. Attend Mass, have a family meal, tell saint stories, light candles, or let the children choose a saint to celebrate. Perhaps that is the best way to "wean" our children away from the darker side of Halloween: not by taking away all the fun, but by giving the fun a deeper meaning.

Instead of making Halloween primarily about ghosts, demons, fear, and death, let us point our children toward saints, courage, love, resurrection, and eternal life. Let us teach them that darkness is never stronger than light, fear is never stronger than faith, and death never has the final word. Halloween can become an opportunity to remind them that they belong to Christ, that they are surrounded by a great communion of saints, and that they too are called to lives of holiness.

So amid the costumes, pumpkins, laughter, and candy, let us give our children something even sweeter: the joyful assurance that they are children of God, called to walk in the light and, one day, to join all the saints in heaven.



"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."
— John 1:5

Fr. Paulson

MASS INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, October 26
9:00am | Mary Ellen Dalgaar †
9:00am | Rose Roque
Tuesday, October 27
9:00am | Fr. Jack Russi †
9:00am | Josephine Velasco †
9:00am | Raymundo Ramirez
Wednesday, October 28
9am | Tom Wernholm & Family †
9am | Daniel Cruz †
9am | Carole Beeton †
Thursday, October 29
9:00am | Policarpio Vallero †
9:00am | Patrick B. Higgins †
Friday, October 30
9:00am | Mary Muhlenkamp †
Saturday, October 31
9am | John Baptist †
9am | Joselito Asuncion †
9am | Sarah Siervo Kintifanar †
9am | Crista Parages Canares †
9am | Angelita Esperanza †

Saturday, October 31
4:00pm | Francis, Emmanuel & Ronnie Tesoro †
4:00pm | Gem Sahagunt †
4:00pm | Estefanio Gacad †
5:00pm | (SS) CTK-SS Parishioners
Sunday, November 1
7:30am | Jack Cardoza †
7:30am | Pacita Marile Austrio †
9:00am | Celedonia Platon †
9:00am | Reynaldo & Vilma Ordonez †
9:30am | (SS) Nico & Pasqualina Mammola †
10:30am | Hernandez & Ang Family †
10:30am | Diosdado Simsuangco, Sr. †
10:30am | Mai Nguyen †
10:30am | Dinh Tran †
10:30am | Dante Biong †
10:30am | M&M Ernesto Go-Alcantara †
4:00pm | Tamie Jiang †
4:00pm | Bill Ta †



NEED PRAYER?

Confidential Prayer requests can be sent to: prayerline@ctkph.org

NEWS AND EVENTS

thank you

Dear CTK-SS Parish and School Community,

On behalf of the SVDP Hillcrest Layette Program, the Gabriel Project and Birthright of Concord, we thank our wonderful CTK-SS community for working together and bringing in so many useful items for our babies and mothers in need. Your generosity resulted in over 1,000 items of clothing and baby supplies being donated to these charities! Just, wow!

We were overwhelmed by the kindness of so many and we know that these charities wouldn't be able to offer as much tangible help and support to local women and children without this generosity.

Thank you for standing with us and respecting life. You truly made an impactful and positive difference in our community!

Sincerely, Joyce Cardoza and Jodie Russi,
Walking with Moms in Need Parish Coordinators

SECOND COLLECTIONS

November 1 - Catholic Education

November 8 - Jubilee Year

November 22 - Hungry & Homelsss

November 29 - St. Vincent de Paul

NEWS & EVENTS



Pope's October prayer intention: 'For mental health ministry'

Pope Leo XIV dedicates his October prayer intention to mental health ministry, calling on the Church to listen without judging and accompany those who suffer without excluding them.





Mass of Remembrance

A special Mass of Remembrance will be held on Sunday, November 8 at 10:30am. At that Mass we will pray specially for all who have died during this past year and whose funeral was held at Christ the King-St. Stephen.

Do you have a loved one who died during the past 12 months? Were they not buried from Christ the King-St. Stephen Parish? Would you like their name included? Please call the parish office at 925-682-2486 and leave their name. Deadline to submit names is October 31.

Questions? Sr. Dominic Marie at 925-246-1122.



Save the Date

Healing Mass
Saturday, December 5
10:30am | St. Stephen Church

NEWS & EVENTS



Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Join us every Friday at CTK's Ministry Ctr. Chapel. 2:30pm to 5pm



Faithfulness to the Suffering Messiah:

Reading the Gospel of Mark Today

The central question of every gospel—and the central question for us as Christians—is Jesus' query, "Who do you say that I am?" (Mark 8:29). More than just a matter of words, Jesus tells us that "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Mark 8:34). In this brief exchange we discover the heart of the good news of Christ, as well as the unique perspective that the Gospel of Mark offers to Christian life.

This four-week class will prepare us for a year of listening to Mark every Sunday in Mass, by exploring his insights on the topics of Christology (who is Jesus?) and Discipleship (what does it mean to follow Jesus?).

Bringing your Bible is encouraged. *All are welcome!*

CLASS DATES & TIME

Tues, October 27
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Tues, November 3
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Thurs, November 12
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Tues, November 17
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Christ the King Church



Speaker: **Zach Flanagin**

Professor of Theology & Religious Studies at Saint Mary's College (23 years), and director of the Bishop John S. Cummins Institute for Catholic Thought, Culture, and Action.

GriefShare

Have you recently lost a loved one and are anticipating difficulty when holiday time is here?

On Saturday morning, Oct 31 from 10-12 noon in Room C of the CTK Parish Hall, we will be holding a GriefShare meeting called, Surviving the Holidays.

At a Surviving the Holidays seminar, you hear personal stories from those who have lost a loved one, and teaching from grief experts on how to journey through this season. This is one step you can take to get the support you need. Mark your calendar and join us for this encouraging and supportive group meeting where you can connect with people who understand. To sign up, go to GriefShare.com and sign up under Surviving the Holidays.

Questions? Email Diana Mackinson, dijoed@comcast.net.



IMMIGRATION INFORMATION NIGHT

HOW CAN WE HELP
OUR IMMIGRANT BROTHERS AND SISTERS?
FAITH- BASED REASON TO SUPPORT IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS.
WHAT IS THE SITUATION TODAY WITH IMMIGRANTS?
WHAT CAN WE DO?



DISCUSSION

SISTER ANNE CARRABINO, SSS
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF OAKLAND CATHOLIC WORKER

REVEREND DEBORAH LEE
- CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INTERFAITH FOR HUMAN INTEGRITY

KIONA MEDINA
- SOCIAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR, OAKLAND DIOCESE

NELSON MEEKS
- IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY, SALGADO IMMIGRATION LAW

JUDI JEWETT
- SOCIAL JUSTICE CHAIR, WCUMC

PATRICK SHANDONAY
- CRS CALIFORNIA COALITION CO-LEADER;
- JUST FAITH PROGRAM FACILITATOR, BOARD MEMBER

QUESTION AND ANSWER

OPPORTUNITY TABLES

CHRIST THE KING CHURCH
199 BRANDON ROAD
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CHRIST THE KING PARISH HALL
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2026
7:00 - 8:30 PM

RSVP Suggested but not Mandatory

Click here to RSVP

Scan the QR code to RSVP



Information Meeting for Medicare

In CTK Parish Hall - Rooms A/B - 10am
Meeting on Thursdays, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, or 19

Are you turning 65? Or just want to know a little bit more about Medicare?
Want to review and compare plans during open enrollment?

Come and get all your questions answered.

CTK STAFF CONTACTS

CTK Office: office@ctkph.org

Fr. Paulson Mundanmani
925-682-2486
frpaulson@ctkph.org

Fr. Lee Chompoochan
925-682-2486
frlee@ctkph.org

Deacon Nelson Gonzales
ngonzales@ctkph.org

Deacon Wynn Norona
wnorona@ctkph.org

Sr. Dominic Bonnici OP
925-246-1122
srdominic@ctkph.org

Dr. Joe Silveira, Principal
925-685-1109
jsilveira@ctkschool.org

Helen Christian, Office Manager
925-682-2486
hchristian@ctkph.org

Kathy Ridgway, Parish Office
925-682-2486
kridgway@ctkph.org

Rick Grand-Lejano
Religious Education Director
925-510-2259
rgrandlejano@ctkph.org

Phil Tafoya, Confirmation Coordinator
925-246-1128
ptafoya@ctkph.org

Rosa Panelli, RE Office
925-686-1017
rpanelli@ctkph.org

Jennifer Bennett, Music Ministry
jbennett@ctkph.org

ST. STEPHEN STAFF CONTACT

Chris Lang, St. Stephen Liaison
saintstephenwc@gmail.com

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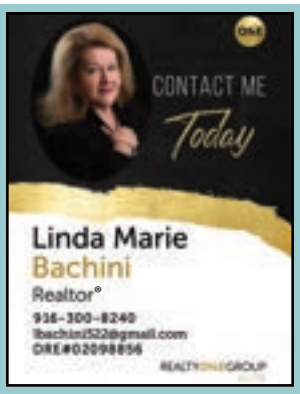
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