

Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

(925) 682-2486 ctkph.org
(925) 274-1341 saintstephenparish.org

AUGUST 16, 2020

*O woman,
great is
your faith!*

MATTHEW 15:28

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TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

August 15 5:00 pm Johanna Pauplis †
August 16 9:30 am Paul Des Rosiers †
August 19 7:30 am Joselito Asuncion †
August 23 9:30 am Madeline Gomes †

*all weekend intentions prayed for at the
Saturday 5 pm vigil mass

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

Masses: Drive-in / lawn: schedule inside

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

CTK UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

Aug. 17 9 am Vic Remorini †
Aug. 18 9 am Robert Sholaas †
Aug. 19 9 am Violeta Adorable †
Aug. 20 9 am Lawrence Fulgencio
Aug. 21 9 am Erane Garret †

Saturday, August 22

8 am Ondreea Powers †
5 pm Carondelet High School

***Sunday, August 23**

7 am CTK & SS Parishioners
9:15 am Matt Medeiros †
10:45 am Esther Deocarenza †
12:15 pm Mary Lou Zabala †
Thomas Guevarra †
6 pm Joseph F. Almeida †

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

Dear Friends,

This Saturday, August 15th we shall celebrate the **Feast of the Assumption outdoors. We will do two masses in the morning. (7.30am and 9.00am)** During this pandemic, we need the blessings of our blessed mother. In 1950, in the Apostolic Constitution *Munificentissimus Deus*, Pope Pius XII proclaimed the Assumption of Mary a dogma of the Catholic Church in these words: "The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven."



Over the last few months, churches around the world went to a digital-only service in response to the situation and government recommendations on social distancing. The looming question of whether or not digital content could replace a church service was answered in a moment of crisis.

Digital will never replace the value of physical, in-person connection with a church community, yet at the same time, it will forever be an experience for those in our communities who are sick or unable to attend services for other reasons. That is why CTK and St. Stephen are embracing a combined alternative of both digital and in person services. I want to thank you for all the support you have given me, the number of thank you notes that you sent us at the office.

As a leader, I have embraced every opportunity offered to unite people and reach the community through the power of digital outreach. In my conversation with our Core Team, we have looked at a number of options, as we get ready for the fall and the winter months. You are more than welcome to give me your feedback or comments.

1. **We will be expanding our Wi-Fi to cover all our parking lots**, so that those of you with smart phones or tablets can see and hear the Mass as you sit in your cars regardless of the season - hot, cold or rainy. The Church intends to buy a few smart tablets for those who need assistance with technology. They will be programmed to view the services while you are in the parking area. Our ushers will distribute them on request, and collect them back after the service.
2. **Improve the current transmission of online services.** This is being done as we speak. We have purchased cameras and laptops, and other accessories needed.
3. To set up a **large TV on the lawn**, that can be used for PowerPoint presentations during Mass and Funerals. This can also be used for outdoor Bible Studies, Movie nights and so much more. Even our School and Faith formation Students can benefit from this technology. This is still in discussion.
4. **Set up two covered areas for drive through communion** during the rainy season. During the rains, we can still attend parking lot masses through smart phones or tablets, and then drive through for communion.
5. **We will offer one more mass on Sunday at 12.00 noon to accommodate our Spanish community** in Concord and adjoining areas who have little opportunity for masses. We will offer this until the pandemic is over, and they can go back to their home churches.

While most of these ideas are still at an early stage of planning and implementing, we feel that this will definitely help us prepare for the months to come. **Today, Wednesday I will be a panelist on Pleasant Hill City Zoom conversation on Social Justice.** More information will be given. The Pastors of Pleasant Hill have worked closely with the city on a number of social justice concerns, and the leaders have been very collaborative.

Fr. Paulson

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 16, 2020

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

The last part of the book of Isaiah contains the words of a prophet who lived after the Jews returned from exile. Today's passage speaks of salvation being offered to all, regardless of ethnic origin or social condition. Christians have seen in this an anticipation of the message that Jesus will preach.

Second Reading: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Today's reading is the conclusion of Paul's thoughts about how Jewish people are going to participate in the saving grace of Jesus. Paul was Jewish and he loved his own people. He was disappointed that most of them had not accepted the Gospel. Paul hoped that his success in converting the Gentiles would encourage the Jewish people to take a second look at the message of Jesus.

Prayer Works!

Do you have a need that requires Divine intervention? Let us add our prayers to yours. Send confidential prayer requests to:

prayerline@ctkph.org



WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

CTK: Monday - Saturday:

9 am Mass ~ Live streamed from our chapel on facebook.

**6 pm Thursday Outdoor Mass includes devotion to
Our Mother of Perpetual Help.**

Christ The King Weekends

Feast of the Assumption ~ Saturday, Aug. 15 : 7:30 am, 9 am

Saturdays ~ 5 pm Vigil Mass Drive-In/Lawn

New! Sundays 7:30 am outside on patio in front of church

Beginning Aug. 16, 12 noon Spanish mass

Sundays ~ Masses Drive-In/Lawn at 9 am, 10:30 am and 6 pm

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

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

Have you checked out our new St. Stephen website

(www.saintstephenparish.org)? If you have, you might have noticed a new tab for "Music". Okay, you are not necessarily a part of the choir so why should you click on this tab? Our music director, Maria, writes a weekly newsletter, "The Cecilian", which appears on this page. She fills it full of wonderful tidbits including information on the following weekend's readings, a musical meditation for the week, and following it up with some of her favorite food ideas and wine pairings. Check it out regularly as it changes weekly. Members of the choir are able to dig down into another link that gives them more specific information that they need on specific songs for upcoming Masses.

Email or call the parish office if you would like a Mass said for your deceased or sick loved ones, or to celebrate special intentions like birthdays and anniversaries.



CTK Parish Registration Update!

Here at CTK, we are conducting a parish-wide update of our parish-

ioner database. Did you know that many parishioners who generously give on-line are not registered? Are you one of them? Many parishioners have disconnected their land line, yet our records still show it as their primary contact number. How many parishioners have moved, gotten married, had children, etc. and our records have not been updated. Let's fix all of these! Included in today's Staying Connected email, is a link to update your parish record. Please fill it out and email it back to us. We also have forms available in the parish office M-F 9 am -1 pm. If you are not sure whether you are registered or not, give Kathy a call at 925-246-1121. She will let you know your registration status. If we haven't heard from you, don't worry. In a few weeks, you will receive a phone call from our office staff. We will be happy to update your registration right over the phone! Thank you so much for your cooperation in our registration update!

Virtual Faith Sharing!

You are invited to join a "virtual" Faith sharing group on Zoom. We meet every Friday morning at 9:30 am to share our faith through reading and praying with the readings for the following Sunday. Everyone in the parish is welcome to participate in this opportunity to deepen your faith and increase your understanding of scripture. To try it out, email Diana Mackinson at dijoed@comcast.net and she will send you the Zoom invitation to enable you to join us on Friday morning.

Contemplative Prayer Thursday, August 13

Join Sr. Celeste on August 13, 2020 for Contemplative Prayer. Sr. Celeste will share a reading and invite participants to respond in silent sitting, centering prayer, or contemplative writing. No prior experience required. No Cost for the virtual offering, but please register at

<https://sandamiano.org/events/contemplativeprayer/> to receive the Zoom information.

San Damiano "Sisters in Spirit Series"

Join Jan Stegner's monthly series for women: Sisters In Spirit (SIS). All meetings will be live on Zoom from 11:00 to 12:30pm. Note the following 2020 dates:

August 18, St. Clare

September 29, Thea Bowman

October 20, Women Mystics

For more information and to register visit

https://sandamiano.org/events/sisters_in_spirit/



A personal retreat provides an opportunity to get away from hectic life. All rooms equipped with WiFi. Special retreat events on August 28-30, October 9-11, November 6-8 and December 4-6 with Sr. Celeste Crine with contemplative prayer, reflection and Tai chi. For more information visit <https://sandamiano.org/retreats-programs/personal-retreat>

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.

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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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