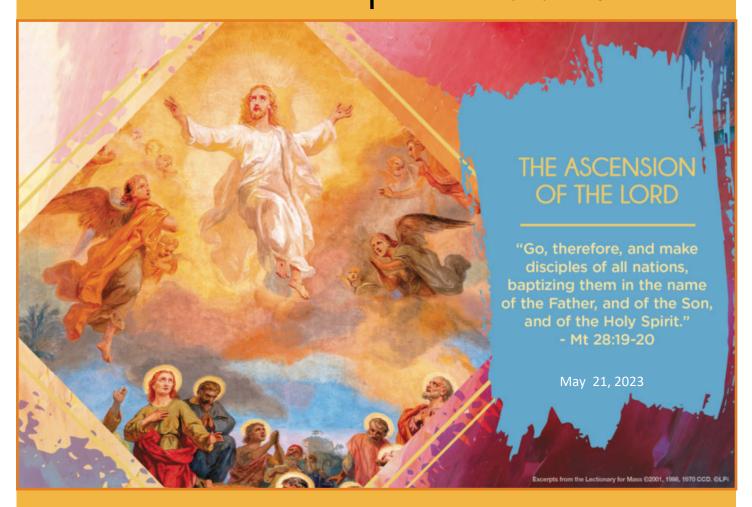
# Christ the King - St. Stephen Parish

Christ the King Church 195A Brandon Road Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 925-682-2486 ctkph.org

St. Stephen Church 1101 Keaveny Court Walnut Creek, CA 94597 925-274-1341 saintstephenparish.org



Daily Mass Monday-Saturday 9am (Also Livestreamed)

Thursday
5:40pm Rosary, 6pm Mass
(Also Livestreamed)

Every First Friday
5pm to 6pm Exposition
6pm Mass

**Weekend Mass Times** 

Saturday 4pm Vigil ( Also Livestreamed)

Sunday 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, & 4pm (10:30am – Also Livestreamed)

> St. Stephen Mass Times Saturday: 5:00pm Sunday: 9:30am

Private Confessions
Saturday 3pm to 3:30pm
In the church

Drive-Thru Communion 11:30am to 12 noon In front of the church

Livestream Links
Can be found at ctkph.org

"TO HEAR THE GOSPEL AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE."

Dear Friends,

We have all probably managed the care of someone close to you who is dying. You may wonder how you can comfort the person, prevent suffering, and provide the best quality of life possible in their remaining time. If the person can no longer communicate, you may be asked to make difficult decisions about their care and comfort. This can be overwhelming for family members, especially if they have not had a chance to discuss the person's wishes ahead of time or if multiple family members are involved and do not agree.



I would like to invite you to a session on End-of-Life decisions on Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at St. Stephen Parish Hall. The session will involve Catholic teaching, assistance with preparing Advanced Medical Directive as well as planning one's Catholic funeral.

There is a long tradition in Catholic moral theology that is as relevant today as when it was developed over 500 years ago. It speaks of "reasonable" care in terms of the benefits of such treatments being proportionate to the burdens that

the treatments impose. The tradition does not prescribe a hard-and-fast rule regarding specific medical procedures but rather urges prudent decisions regarding the benefits and burdens of medical treatments for the patient. In doing so, the Catholic tradition offers a middle ground between two extremes, on the one hand intending the death of a patient by euthanasia or assisted suicide, and on the other hand continuing useless or excessively burdensome treatments, often against the patient's wishes.

Modern medical technology has given us wonderful opportunities to bring about cures, slow the process of disease, and alleviate symptoms. This same technology, however, can at times create hard decisions for patients and their families about continuing its use when treatment becomes burdensome to the patient without providing benefit. Patients and their families may fear an impersonal prolonging of the dying process in an intensive care unit, surrounded by tubes, wires, and machines. At the same time, they may also fear that refusing such treatment will make them seem to be "hopeless" cases, that others will not respond to their needs and that they will be abandoned. Family members may even feel that not doing everything possible is to abandon their loved one, even though this is not the case. Such competing concerns about continuing or refusing treatment complicate end-of-life decisions, making them seem almost impossible to make.

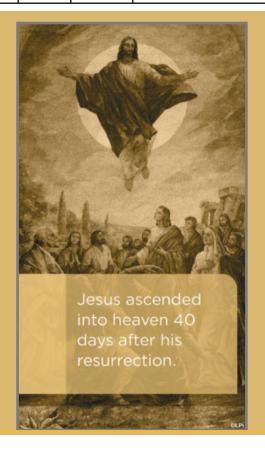
Catholics believe that human life is a gift from God, a sacred gift that no one may dispose of at will. All persons, regardless of their medical condition, possess inherent dignity and are worthy of respect, protection, and care. Respect for human dignity and human life demands that we will take reasonable care of our lives. Such respect, however, does not mean that we must do everything possible to prolong physical life, especially when death is inevitable or when treatments would be too burdensome for the patient.

Fr. Brian Timoney and I worked with Dr. Terry Heywood in preparing our Advanced Medical Directive forms and uploading them on our doctor's website. We have also notified people who need to take care of us when decisions have to be made. This is important whether you are young or old, because we do not know how life will unfold before us. More than anything else, pray for a Happy Death. Growing up in a Salesian house, it was an important part of my spirituality. Don Bosco strongly believed that a person consecrated to God should be prepared for the time when s/he meets the divine bridegroom for the eternal wedding feast.

#### Fr. Paulson

# UPCOMING CTK MASS INTENTIONS

May 22	Mon.	9:00am	Mercedes Gomez † Bob Reiley †
May 23	Tue.	9:00am	Margarita Gomez † Kendall O'Connell †
May 24	Wed.	9:00am	Jim & Phyllis Pitlick
May 25	Thurs.	9:00am	Gregoria Dizon †
May 26	Fri.	9:00am	Roque Ebalo Sr. † Katherine Chapman †
May 27	Sat.	9:00am	Frank O'Neill †
May 27	Sat.	4:00pm	Tom Robinson † Arthur Quintans
May 28	Sun.	7:30am	Jack Cardoza †
May 28	Sun.	9:00am	Betti Family †
May 28	Sun.	10:30am	Ana DelMul † Renato Sumangil † Gilbert Baumgartner †
May 28	Sun	4:00pm	Angelica & Raechelle Astudillo Marcelino Dusaban Noelle Rivera †



# ST. STEPHEN CORNER "To Live and to Love in Christ"

# St. Stephen Church - Mass Times Monday - Friday - 8am Saturday - 5pm and Sunday - 9:30am



# SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

May 20	Sat.	5:00pm	St. Stephen Parishioners
May 21	Sun.	9:30am	Marie Anne Deschatelets †
May 22	Mon.	8:00am	John Pauplis †
May 23	Tues.	8:00am	Gail Haux, Healing
May 24	Weds.	8:00am	Johanna Pauplis †, and Robin Gigoux, Birthday Blessings
May 25	Thur.	8:00am	Shirley Ann Agnew, Healing
May 26	Fri.	8:00am	Mary Jo Nuxoll, Healing
May 27	Sat.	5:00pm	Annette Roux, Special Intentions
May 28	Sun	9:30am	John Vuletich †

# ST. STEPHEN NEWS

With our merger with Christ the King, we are now one. Having a separate section for St. Stephen defeats our new oneness so this will be the last time you will see our St. Stephen News in this form. In the future, anything we need to tell you about will be included in with other events.

All events are worth looking at and considering whether hosted at Christ the King or St. Stephen. You are encouraged to participate in events at both churches.

Office hours - Monday & Wednesday 11am-2pm



# Helping the Poor in Our Community: A Town Hall Meeting Tuesday, May 23, 6:30pm to 8pm CTK's Parish Hall

Please join the Christ the King - St. Stephen Parish community for a town hall meeting to discuss ways in which our community can support people in need, following the closure of our on-campus food pantry.

Join us for a presentation by the St. Vincent de Paul staff regarding the needs of our community, and engage in a robust brainstorming session to explore ways in which we can answer the call to serve the poor.

This meeting will serve as a listening session for the Parish's Pastoral Council and the St. Vincent de Paul staff. We want to hear all of your ideas – big and small – about how we can support our brothers and sisters in need.

All are welcome. For meeting logistics and facilitation, we need to know how many people plan to participate. Please register if you plan to attend at ctkph.org.

This meeting will be held in-person only; there will not be a virtual/Zoom option.

If you have any questions, please contact CTK's office at 925-682-2486.



# Parish Festival

Fri., June 2: 5 pm to 9 pm Sat., June 3: 2 pm to 9 pm



Games, Food, Entertainment, Family Fun! Raising money for our ministries and our school!

#### CTKFestival.org

Facebook at Christ the King Festival for our entertainment line-up and food vendors!

#### **Donations needed:**

**Starbooks:** books in good condition (no textbooks), CDs, and DVDs (no VHS) can be placed in the designated bin in front of the school by May 31<sup>st</sup>. We also need copy paper/office storage boxes with lids for book storage. Contact Suellen Noland at <a href="mailto:snnoland@hotmail.com">snnoland@hotmail.com</a> with questions.

<u>New:</u> Wine: for the wine toss can be dropped off in front of Room C after weekend masses or at the school office during the week by May 30th.

**Gently used, clean stuffed animals**: can be placed in the designated bin in front of the school by June 2<sup>nd</sup> in the morning.

**Kid-focused prizes for gift baskets:** contact Madeira Fountaine at <u>deiradeira@hotmail.com</u> for more information

Baked Goods (Nut Free) for Cake Walk: Contact Jacqueline Hanley <a href="mailto:jacchai@yahoo.com">jacchai@yahoo.com</a> for more information

**Sponsorships:** Contact Stacy York at: stacyleeyork@gmail.com

#### Volunteers needed:

**Starbooks:** help sort books before Festival. Contact Suellen Noland at snnoland@hotmail.com to volunteer.

Game booths, ticket sales, set up, clean up: signup.com/go/rfDzScz

## **Pre-orders:**

Pre-order wristbands and wine tickets at a reduced rate and game tickets and **KOC's Ball Tip Combo Meal** on our website: **ctkfestival.org**. Pre-order discount ends May 26<sup>th</sup>. NO CASH will be accepted at Festival for wristbands or tickets. Skip the line and pre-order! Food vendors will accept cash.





The International Rosary that was scheduled for Thursday, May 25th is cancelled.

We will try and reschedule it for the fall. Thank you for your understanding.

# End of Life Decisions Teaching Tuesday, May 30th at 7pm

New Location: St. Stephen Parish Hall

Everyone involved in a patient's care should understand how a person's history and cultural and religious background may influence expectations, needs, and choices at the end of life. The natural law and the Fifth Commandment require that all ordinary means be used to preserve life, such as food, water, exercise, and medical care.

#### The following will be addressed at this meeting:

- Catholic Teaching on End-of-Life decisions Fr. Paulson
- Preparing an Advanced Medical Directive with Forms supplied –
   Dr. Terry Heywood
- Preparing for one's funeral Forms supplied Sr. Dominic
- How to go about taking care of your loved ones, after he/she dies –

- Donna Bradshaw



"For Such a Time as This"

Monday, June 26th, at 7pm

CTK Parish Hall

Speaker: Kathy Roberts

"Who knows that you have been called... for such a time as this?"

Esther 4:14.

This verse resonates from ancient days into our own time. There have always been challenging "times," and it helps to know that the Bible gives us both insight and practical advice as we face them.

Come for an evening of sharing some ways that we can count on God's Word to give us hope in trying times!

#### **CTK STAFF CONTACTS**

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Chris Lang, St. Stephen Liaison saintstephenwc@gmail.com 925-274-1341

Joann Kurpinsky/Nancy Gizdich 925-274-1341 Bookkeeperssp@gmail.com

# Weekly Prayer

# Sunday's Readings

#### First Reading:

All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer,

together with some women,

and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. (Acts 1:14)

#### Psalm:

I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living. (Ps 51)

Or Alleluia.

#### Second Reading:

If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you,

for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. (1 Pt 4:14)

#### Gospel:

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said,

"Father, the hour has come.

Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you." (Jn 17:1)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

# Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

When the world sees us, do they see to whom we belong? In what ways are we most manifestly Christian? In prayer, in service, in sacrifice? Whatever it is, let us devote ourselves to it with one accord, so that Jesus Christ may be glorified in all that we do.

# Observances for the week of May 21, 2023

Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord: 7th Sunday of

Easter; World Communications Day

Monday: St. Rita of Cascia, Religious

Thursday: St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor

of the Church; St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, Virgin

Friday: St. Philip Neri, Priest

Saturday: St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

Next Sunday: Pentecost Sunday



## Saint of the week

Servant of God Fr. Emil Kapaun was an American military chaplain who served heroically on the battlefield as well as inside of a POW camp in North Korea until his death. While a POW, he cared for other prisoners bodily with stolen food and medicine, and spiritually as a priest.

# Prayer

Lord Jesus,

In the midst of the folly of war, your servant, Chaplain Emil Kapaun, spent himself in total service to you on the battlefields and in the prison camps of Korea, until his death at the hands of his captors. We now ask you, Lord Jesus, if it be your will, to make known to all the world the holiness of Chaplain Kapaun and the glory of his complete sacrifice for you by signs of miracles and peace. In your name, Lord, we ask, for you are the source of peace, the strength of our service to others, and our final hope.

Amen.

(Prayer Source: www.FatherKapaun.org)

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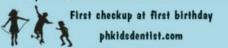
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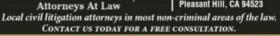
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