



Christ the King - St. Stephen Parish

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

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

Christ the King Church

Daily Mass Times

Monday - Saturday 9am

Every First Friday

5pm to 6pm Exposition
6pm Mass

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: 4pm Vigil
(4pm Mass is also livestreamed)

Sunday

7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, & 4pm
(10:30am Mass is also livestreamed)

Private Confessions

Saturday 3pm to 3:30pm

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm

St. Stephen Church

Daily Mass Times

Monday - Friday 8am

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: 5pm Vigil
Sunday: 9:30am

Private Confessions

Saturday Before the 5pm Mass

Office Hours

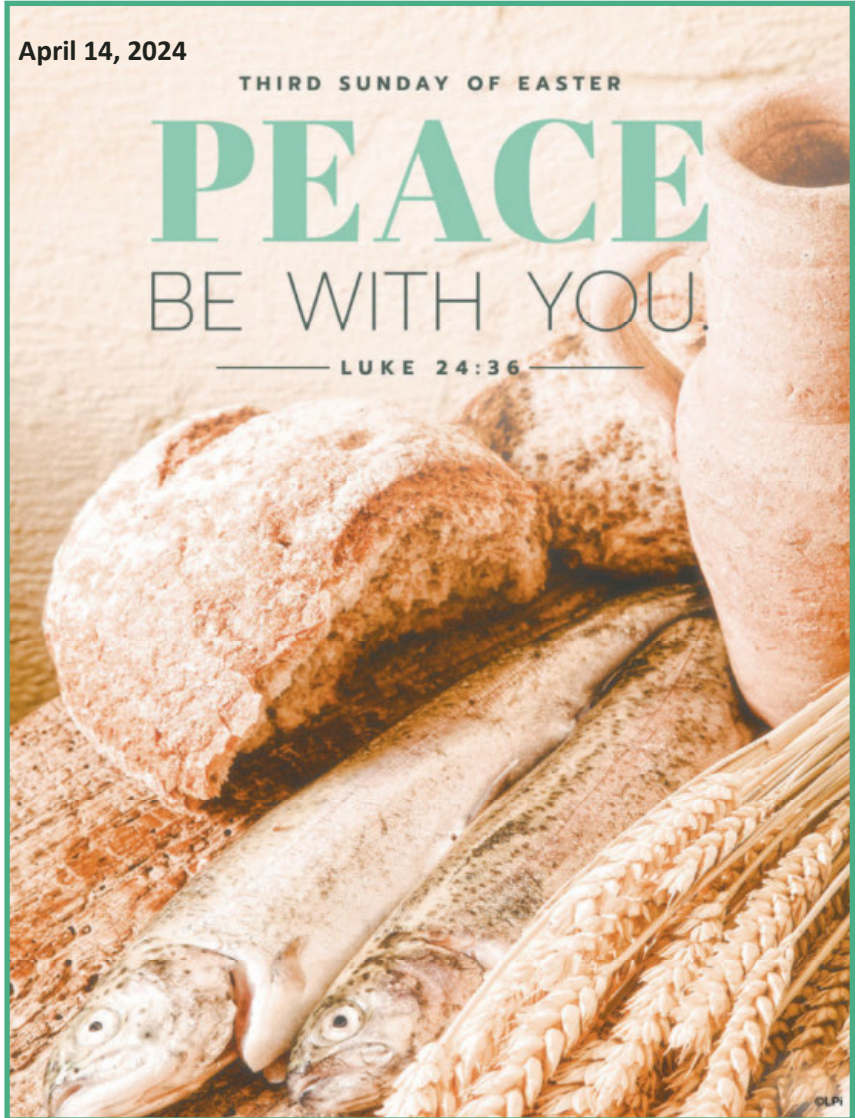
Monday & Wednesday 11am to 2pm

April 14, 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

PEACE
BE WITH YOU.

LUKE 24:36



Mission Statement

To Hear the Gospel and Make a Difference
To Live and to Love in Christ

Dear Friends,

We continue to celebrate the Easter Season. The Easter Season is fifty days, not forty days, like Lent, or four weeks or slightly less, like Advent. The Easter Season extends from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. It is sometimes known as the “Festival of Weeks,” seven weeks of seven days (49 days), plus one, the fiftieth day, Pentecost.



The foremost symbol of Easter is the Christ Candle, also known as the Easter Candle or the Paschal Candle. It represents the Risen Christ who is the Light of the World (Jn 8:12; see also 1:4-5,9 and 12:46). The candle is given a prominent location during the Easter Season, usually in the sanctuary or somewhere in the front of the church, and after Pentecost it is moved back to its usual place.

Bill Ritter, a great Christian preacher writes, “Resurrection means the worst thing that happens is not necessarily the last thing that happens. The resurrection is God’s ‘yes’ to life and God’s ‘yes’ to us.” “But the ultimate argument for resurrection,” says Ritter, “always consists in the change the resurrection produces in the lives of those who believe it.”

On Monday after Easter, the world will still be pretty much the way it was on Friday—the homeless will still be homeless, mean-spirited and fear-mongering political rhetoric will still fill the air waves and war will still ravage our world. But because of Easter, on Monday the people who believe in resurrection will go back to work to change all that. Would you go out there to change the world?

On Easter Sunday we came together to witness to the hope of new life coming out of death. On Easter Sunday, we came together to say, “Yes, death still stalks us and darkness still surrounds us, but we have found hope in the one who has been through it all and has come back to give new life. Easter has changed us, now we will go about the business of changing the world.”

In all honesty, I can’t vouch for it. Human as we are, change and transformation is hard, unless one is intentionally committed to it. But we must commit to it. We are an Easter people. Alleluia is our song.



This month Sr. Noreen O’Connor CSJ, who was one of our pioneer nuns who worked at Christ the King School is celebrating her 70th (Platinum Jubilee) of her religious calling as a nun. I sent her the following note on behalf of our community. “God has blessed you. **Congratulations to you as you celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of your religious profession. Wow! Amazing!** When we look around us in this contemporary society today, we are indeed bewildered at the rate of break-ups in relationships and divorce in marriages. Permanent commitment in the relationship or in any other aspect of life is unfortunately becoming irrelevant – a thing of the past.”

“You are a living testimony of ‘Remaining in Love’ ‘Perseverance in calling’ and ‘Perpetual commitment’. Your first love is Jesus and that first love has remained till today the only love and that is what we celebrate with you today – Remaining in Jesus in these last 70 years. You have put your hand to the plough and not looked back since then. Praise be to God!”

I wish we all could be like Sr. Noreen, fully committed to Our Lord. Jesus is our First Love and He should always be. Let us celebrate the life-changing feast of Easter every day.

~Fr. Paulson

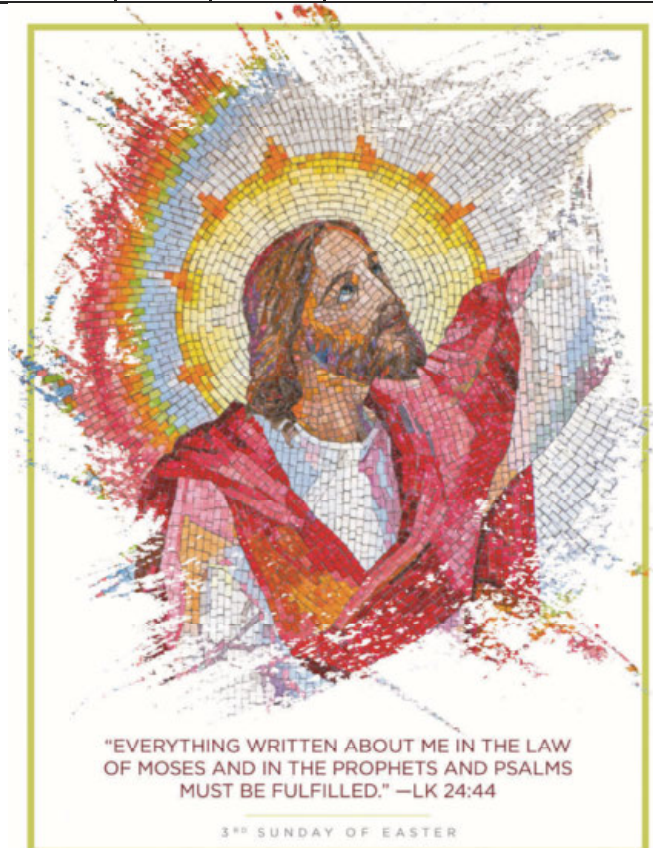


UPCOMING CTK MASS INTENTIONS

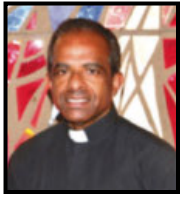
April 15	Mon.	9:00am	Lucia Baban † Richie Concepcion †
April 16	Tues.	9:00am	Julian Lim, Jr. † Minnie Almeida † Kristan Magat
April 17	Weds.	9:00am	Vilma Ordonez † Jude Quingco
April 18	Thurs.	9:00am	Alexander Racela †
April 19	Fri.	9:00am	Fr. LaSalle Hallissey
April 20	Sat.	9:00am	Jane Matthews †
April 20	Sat.	4:00pm	Ida Scodeller † Nellie McFarland † Fred Rossi †
April 21	Sun.	7:30am	Jack Cardoza † Leofrido, Sr. Corpuz † Mary Corpuz †
April 21	Sun.	9:00am	Janet O'Connor †
April 21	Sun.	10:30am	Sotera Quintans † Gem Amog † Leopoldo Lejano, Sr. † Minna Caro †
April 21	Sun.	4:00pm	Dale Ambler †

UPCOMING SS MASS INTENTIONS

April 13	Sat.	5:00pm	Randall Puchalski †
April 14	Sun.	9:30am	The Walton Family, Living & Deceased
April 20	Sat.	5:00pm	Randall Puchalski †
April 21	Sun.	9:30am	The Walker Family, Living & Deceased



To Hear the Gospel and Make a Difference



Presentation of "Our Father"

By: Fr. Paulson

In this presentation Fr. Paulson examines the six petitions of the Lord's Prayer.

This series is specifically designed for the Catholic community and will provide a deeper understanding and appreciation of this important prayer.

On Thursdays: (Beginning this Thursday)
April 18, 25, May 2, 9 and 16.

**St. Stephen Parish Hall - 10am and
CTK Church - 7pm**



**Sunday Coffee & Donuts begin s
this weekend, April 14
at CTK and St. Stephen.**

At CTK: Join us after the 7:30am, 9am and 10:30am masses on the outside patio.

At St. Stephen: After the 9:30am mass.

If you are interested in volunteering please call the office.



**Cinco De Mayo Celebration
Sunday, May 5th 2023
5pm to 8pm**

**Come join us on Christ the King
lawn for our Annual
Cinco De Mayo Celebration
(If it rains - it will be in the gym)**

Tickets are \$30/each: Each ticket comes with:
Entry to event, Mexican cuisine, 1 Margarita ticket,
Live entertainment from a mariachi band
(you are welcome to bring in your own beer and wine)

The event is open seating. However,
groups of 10 can have reserved seating.

You can purchase tickets at ctkph.org.
Or come by the office to purchase your tickets.

Adult Education Opportunities

Join us for a discussion of Raymond E. Brown's "A Once and Coming Spirit at Pentecost: Essays on the Liturgical Readings between Easter and Pentecost".

Mondays: 10:30am - 11:30am

April 15 - Chapters 3 & 4, and April 22 - Chapter 5.

Beautiful Eucharist, the free Dynamic Catholic book given at Christmas, will be discussed on

April 29, 10:30am - 11:30am.

Reflections on the upcoming Sunday readings continue on Mondays

Monday, April 15, 9:45am - 10:30am.

In May we will discuss Pope Francis's The Joy of the Gospel.

All will be held in the CTK Ministry Center Chapel.



Upcoming Second Collections

April 20-21 - Hope Solutions

April 28 - St. Vincent De Paul

May 4-5 - Catholic Education



**You believe in Christ,
you are worthy to serve Him!**

Eucharistic Ministry is a way to serve your community during your attendance at Mass. You choose how often you'd like to serve and at which Masses.

**Please consider joining us on
Monday, April 15, 7 pm in the Church at CTK**

Questions- Kieran Chan, kierank@pacbell.net,
925-212-9035



To Live and to Love in Christ

Special Second Collection Next Weekend April 20-21

What does "Home" mean to you? Unhoused clients defined home as "safety, healing, and sanctuary." Losing one's home often means isolation and a loss of community.

Hope Solutions, formerly known as Contra Costa Interfaith Housing, is a leading homeless services provider that provides permanent housing to over 750 households and provides professional supportive services to over 3000 clients annually in Contra Costa County. Hope Solutions has become a proven partner that seeks to end homelessness in our area. 98% of their residents remain housed, 75% maintain or grow their income, and 100% of children in their enrichment move to the next grade level.

Over the past two years, Hope Solutions in partnership with faith communities, cities, the county and housing development partners has embarked on a new and innovative solution to help address our homelessness: Cottage Communities on Faith Owned Land.

Faith partners all around the county are supporting Hope Solutions with land, volunteerism, advocacy and philanthropy. While Christ the King is not planning to build affordable housing on their land, there are hundreds of other faith institutions that are preparing to do so, and we are already working with several to create cottage communities for the unhoused.

CTK-St. Stephen parish can, however, make a meaningful impact through donations to the building and support of these cottage communities. Please support Hope Solutions in their goal to raise a final \$1M to close their \$7M Capital Campaign to provide unhoused individuals and families with hope, new possibilities, and new beginnings by creating new permanent affordable housing with critical supportive services.

To give please designate your gift by writing "Hope Solutions" on your envelope or in the memo line of your check. We shall take the second collection during the weekend of April 20-21.



Over the last few years, there has been a greater emphasis on the social teachings of the Catholic Church, often referred to as "the Church's best kept secret."

The U.S. Catholic Bishops have restated the Catholic Social Teaching (CST) Principles.

They are: Life and Dignity of the Human Person. Call to Family, Community, and Participation. Rights and Responsibilities. Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers. Solidarity. Care of God's Creation.

Join us in Faith In Action as we work towards that solidarity. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm in Room C of the Parish Hall. For more information contact Carolyn Peters :

peterscaja@protonmail.com

We meet this month on Tuesday April 16th at 7 pm in Room C.

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Chris Lang, St. Stephen Liaison
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925-274-1341

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

The author of life you put to death,
but God raised him from the dead; of this
we are witnesses. (Acts 3:15)

Psalm:

Lord, let your face shine on us. (Ps 4)
Or: Alleluia.

Second Reading:

He is expiation for our sins,
and not for our sins only but for those of the
whole world. (1 Jn 2:2)

Gospel:

"Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer
and rise from the dead on the third day." (Lk 24:46)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

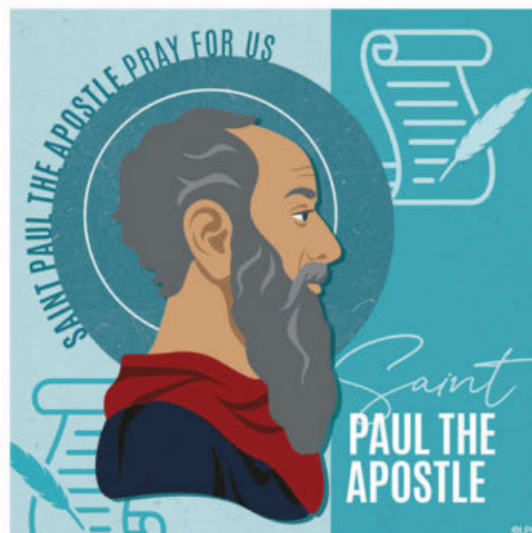
Sometimes when God appears in our path, we do not recognize him. In these moments, Jesus invites us to reach out and touch him. Remember that Christ is real, Christ is alive, and Christ stands before each one of us — so reach out. Touch him.

Observances for the week of April 14, 2024

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Easter

Monday: Tax Day

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer
for Vocations



Saint of the week

St. Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, was the most prolific Christian missionary of all time. Due to a miraculous experience that he had on the road to Damascus, he went from persecuting early Christians to traveling all over the region preaching the Gospel of Jesus.

Prayer in Times of Darkness

Dear Jesus,
When I feel troubled, alone,
frightened, be with me. Be a
flicker of flame in this darkness.
Help me to know you in the stark
seasons as I do in times of elation.
You are the light I seek.
Amen.

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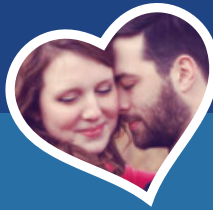
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