

Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

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

MARCH 21, 2021

*Unless a grain of wheat
falls to the ground and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies,
it produces much fruit.*

John 12:24

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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Excerpt from the Dictionary for Mass

SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

March 21 **Tom Saguin-Vuletich,**
Birthday Blessings
March 28 **Theresa Narodzonek †**

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

Easter Schedule Inside!

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

CTK UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

March 22 **Phil & Mary Telucci †**
Olga Prado †
March 23 **Anna & Martin Dias †**
Dolores Capiral †
Horacio Pires †
March 24 **Amparito Guilatco †**
Cristina Guilatco †
March 25 **Eileen Radding †**
March 26 **Michael Hollenhorst †**
March 27 **Concepcion Barbante †**

Saturday, March 27 and Sunday, March 28
Deogracias Ramos III †
CTK & SS Parishioners
Eugenia Dinatale †
Gerald McGhee †
John McGhee †
Mary McGhee †
Mario Que †

Dear Friends,



In this week of reflection on a year amid the pandemic, we plan to close a chapter in our Covid ministry... our amazing tent. Among all the other miracles that helped us continue our ministries this year, we saw the hand of God in the form of a large tent.

Seven months ago, a Catholic woman executive prepared for her imminent passing, down to how her loved ones could grieve together at her funeral during a global pandemic. CTK had a beautiful “meadow” where we had begun outdoor services and livestreams in an evolving series of EZ Ups and shade structures. Her parish was unable to accommodate. We were. We invited them to CTK.

What soon arrived were installation cranes, electricians, inspectors and many other professionals. After this devout woman’s funeral, our faith community was gifted the use of this unique ability to minister outside, truly from Above. For seven months, under the tent, we’ve been able to offer hundreds of masses outside, socially distanced... as well as communions, baptisms, confirmations, weddings, youth ministry, musical concerts, sadly, many many funerals and much more. To our community, and to others as needed.

Now, on April 21, it will be time to return this gift to its owners, so they can once again use it for their business. And we are grateful. Very grateful. We pray that their business may prosper. I could not ask them for more time, as I felt that they needed it more than us. **We shall continue to offer services outdoors as the weather continues to be good, and as long as we need to.**



It may be quite an understatement to say that these past 12 months have been full of surprises and challenges for all of us. Just over a year ago we faced the sudden realization that we needed to stay apart physically in order to

stay safe and we wondered how we’d be able to continue all our ministries. By quickly experimenting with livestream technology on Facebook & YouTube, we found a way to bring Sacramental celebrations into your homes so we could all “Hear the Gospel and make a difference” together again. Video announcements to keep the information flowing to all, Zoom meetings for both staff and volunteers to keep important projects on target, phone calls and emails to keep in touch with parishioners sheltering in place at home.... We’ve learned SO much together about how to “be church” online and remotely, and that we don’t always need a church building to be a thriving parish community!

As we look forward to gathering again inside our worship space, we have every intention of keeping this “digital” part of our community experience going strong; and even building upon the initiative so we can always connect wherever and however you are! To that end, we’ve been working hard to build a robust Livestream & video recording/editing system inside our church. Discretely placed High-Definition cameras throughout the church interior (7 of them actually!), all run from a Control Room where we can capture every kind of celebration and the various elements involved. This includes not just the Mass, but also the potential for Weddings, Funerals, Adult Ed & CTK School events i.e. Christmas programs and Graduation. We have also re-wired all the cable paths to our video projectors with the goal of replacing and modernizing those to HD image quality and be able to incorporate that content into the broadcasts for remote viewers/participants. **Some of you have sent in large donations with the note, “use it where you need it most” and I am grateful. Your continued support AND participation is what makes all this possible and of value – thank you!**

I would like to wish everyone a happy feast of St. Patrick today. And I invite you to the feast of St. Joseph on Friday at 6.00pm CTK (outdoors) and 7.00pm St. Stephen (indoors).

Fr. Paulson

Fifth Sunday of Lent March 21, 2021

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The prophet Jeremiah ministered at a difficult time in Jewish history. Jerusalem, their beloved capital city, had been destroyed, and most of the people taken captive to far-off Babylon. In this gloomy setting, Jeremiah expresses the conviction that the Lord will raise up a new leader from the line of David to restore and rebuild their native land.

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

The Letter to the Hebrews was written to a Christian community that had become dispirited and whose faith was faltering. Jesus is presented in today’s passage as a model of suffering and a source of strength in time of need. (This passage is also part of the second reading on Good Friday.)

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

CTK: Monday - Saturday:

9 am Mass ~ Indoor (church) and live streamed on face-book/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 in front of the church.

Saturdays ~ 4 pm Vigil Mass Outdoor (note time change)

Sundays ~ 7:30 am indoor, 9 am outdoor, 10:30 am outdoor, 12:00 noon Spanish outdoor and 4 pm outdoor mass.

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

Saint Stephen Weekends

Sunday Mass ~ 9:30 am Outdoor mass

Communion only - please arrive at the end of mass.

Holy Week/Easter Services

Holy Thursday-April 1

CTK 6pm Mass – Outdoors

St. Stephen-6pm Mass – Indoors

Good Friday-April 2

1pm-Stations of the Cross

1:45pm-Reflection/Talk

2pm & 6pm-Liturgy of the Passion

7:30pm-Liturgy of the Passion (Spanish)

All Outdoors CTK

St. Stephen-Stations of the Cross-5pm – Outdoors

Easter Vigil Saturday-April 3

7pm Mass – Outdoors CTK

St. Stephen-7pm Mass – Indoors

Easter Sunday Masses-April 4

7:30am – Indoors

9am, 10:30am, 12 noon (Spanish), 4pm

All Outdoors CTK

St. Stephen-9:30am – Outdoors

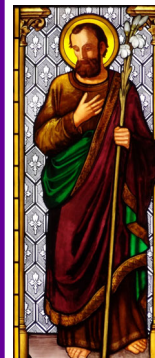
St. Stephen Corner

This is our last week of Lent before we head into Palm Sunday and Holy Week next Sunday. You can start returning your CRS Rice Bowls any time after Palm Sunday. We will have a large basket available to collect your Rice Bowls.

Since the weather has been cooperative, we continue to have our Sunday Mass outdoors, although looking ahead to Holy Week - all evening Masses will be indoors.

Our outdoor Stations of the Cross continue to be a success, especially on Fridays.

Remember to monitor our website (<https://saintstephenparish.org/>) for all Holy Week activities.



**Friday, March 19 -
Feast of St. Joseph
6 pm outdoors at
Christ the King**

**7 pm indoors at
St. Stephen**

- Please bring your own chairs to all outdoor services. Masks and social distancing are required.
- If you prefer-stay in your car, tune into FM 106.7 and listen to mass on your car radio. Or bring tablet/smart phones to view live.
- Live streaming links to our services can be found at ctkph.org.



Prepare for the Fifth Sunday in Lent with Grace Salceanu, Director of the Ignatian Spiritual Life Center in San Francisco, a participant in the Catholic Women Preach Program.

www.catholicwomenpreach.org

Grace has been steeped in Ignatian Spirituality her whole adult life, and is currently training to be a spiritual director for the 19th Annotation, the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. Prior to her position at the Ignatian Spiritual Life Center, Grace was co-director of Casa Bayanihan, USF's alternative study abroad program in Manila, Philippines, for over six years. She holds degrees in Theology and Anthropology from Fordham University and her Master's degree in Interdisciplinary Education from Santa Clara University. Grace is the mother of a vibrant 4-year-old daughter and happily partnered with her husband, Alex.

Triduum Retreat - Live at San Damiano

San Damiano's Holy Week retreat returns for 2021. Fr. Rusty Shaughnessy & Fr. Charlie Smiech, the Gibsons, and staff of San Damiano welcome you.

It will be on-site at San Damiano and limited to 25 people due to Covid guidelines.

There will not be an on-line option.

Check-in is available beginning at 3:00 PM on 4/1. The retreat starts at 6:00 PM. We end with brunch on Easter.

You also have the option to add on Wednesday 3/31.

****If you prefer to pay your retreat using your credit card by phone or mail us a check, please call Kateri at 925-785-9850 or any questions. Thank you!**

Our CTK Office staff will soon be ordering our **next cycle of contribution envelopes**. If you currently get envelopes and would like to continue, you don't need to do anything. However, if you get them and you no longer use them, please send us an email at office@ctkph.org indicating that. Alternatively, if you do not receive them and would like to, please send an email to that effect at office@ctkph.org. Any questions, please call the office M-F between 9 am and 1 pm.

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.

There are many ways to donate including 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
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To give, text the dollar amount to 833-361-4156

You can also scan this QR code on your phone to connect with our donation site. Thank you for your continued generosity!



PARISH STAFF CONTACTS

Fr. Paulson Mundanmani,
682-2486

paulson.ctl@gmail.com

Fr. Lee Chompoochan
lleescj49@hotmail.com

Sr. Dominic Bonnici OP,
246-1122

sisterdominic.marie@gmail.com

Joe Silveira, Principal
685-1109

jsilveira@ctkschool.org

Deacon John,
faithformation@ctkph.org 686-1017

Phyllis Gurnett, Music Director
pgurnett6@aol.com

Robin Morley, Office Mgr
682-2486

ctl.robin@gmail.com

Helen Christian, Office
682-2486

hchristian326@gmail.com

Kathy Ridgway, Office
682-2486

kridgway02@gmail.com

Nelson Gonzales, Youth Minister
ngonzales@ctkph.org
686-1017

Rosa Panelli, RE Office Staff
Rpanellictkre@gmail.com

CTK Office: office@ctkph.org

ADDITIONAL ST. STEPHEN

CONTACTS

SS Office:

saintstephenwc@gmail.com

Chris Lang, Bulletin Info.
274-1341

Joann Kurpinsky/Nancy Gizdich
Bookkeeperssp@gmail.com

Maria Calderazzo, Music Director
274-1341

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