

Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

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

September
18
2022

God wills everyone
to be saved and to
come to knowledge
of the truth.

1 Timothy 2:4

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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Daily Mass Monday-Saturday

9am (Also Livestreamed)

Thursday

5:40pm Rosary, 6pm Mass
(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,

Thank you for your prayers and kind words, messages during this difficult time for our family. Your love and compassion meant so much to me. My sister lived a full life with three boys and a great husband. The boys worked together as a team with their father in a family business, while my sister acted as the very fiber of what held them together as a family. She faced many tribulations in life especially after her marriage, and she could have grown to be the most bitter person I have known, instead, she became the most joyful, grateful human being I know. There was something about her humanity that surprised me always.



Although strange to some, the connection between siblings with big age gaps can be incredibly strong, with many older siblings taking on an important parental role in their younger siblings' lives. And that is my story when it comes to my sister Elsy who is 14 years older than me. As a child, I grew up very much in her arms as my mother had nine children and often seemed overwhelmed. My sister Elsy would carry me around, study and do her school lessons while keeping me over her shoulders. As an adult, she was my inspiration and she taught me patience and perseverance. Patience is one of those virtues that we all strive to maintain in our everyday lives. Trials and tribulations are part of our humanity, but they do not define who we are. That's where I would often remind myself about Elsy and take a chapter from her life for myself. I am just grateful for her life, and may God bless her with eternal bliss.

The weather here has been one I wish we had in California. It has been heavily raining every day. Two nights ago, I was awakened by a cyclonic storm, a tornado of sorts that lashed out on the school where I am staying with my brother priest Fr. Santhosh. We are all safe and sound. The school suffered some damages around, but no one was hurt. In the neighborhood several houses were damaged, and trees uprooted after the storm. My brother reminded me that weather patterns have changed in the country, and extreme weather conditions have appeared in recent years, causing anxiety and worry among people.

Recently I read an article in the local newspaper titled, *From furnace to flood: World's hottest city in Pakistan now under water*. A southern city in Pakistan, Jacobabad was the hottest city in the world in May this year, where students passed out in their classrooms. Now, after heavy monsoon rains submerged large parts of the country, these classrooms are flooded and many of the 200 students homeless, struggling to get enough food and caring for injured relatives. Such extreme weather events in a short space of time have caused havoc across the country, killing hundreds of people, cutting off communities, wrecking homes and infrastructure and raising concerns over health and food security.

Pope Francis has called on world leaders to heed the Earth's "chorus of cries of anguish" stemming from climate change, extreme weather, and loss of biodiversity. Pope Francis said rich countries have an "ecological debt" because it is they who had caused the most environmental pollution over the past two centuries, marring nature's song. "Tragically, that sweet song is accompanied by a cry of anguish. Or even better: a chorus of cries of anguish. In the first place, it is our sister, Mother Earth, who cries out. Prey to our consumerist excesses, she weeps and implores us to put an end to our abuses and to her destruction," he wrote.

Finally, I would like to thank our parish clergy, staff and volunteers who have stepped up to take care of our communities. I am grateful for your patience and understanding as several funerals and other events that I was involved in had to be changed at the last minute.

I am reading a book loaned to me by one of our parishioners titled *The Pope at War: the secret history of Pius XII, Mussolini and Hitler*, authored by David I Kertzer. It is an interesting read which shines a light on why the Pope stayed silent in the face of the mass murders of Jews. It challenges a number of my own assumptions about the evils of today, and awakens in me a sense of accountability to protect and nurture life at all costs.

Fr. Paulson

CTK UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

Sept. 19	Mon.	9am	James Spur† Anna Lan Mary Hue
Sept. 20	Tues.	9am	Brenda Kerby†
Sept. 21	Wed.	9am	Noel Cabral† Frank Cabral† Loredo Cabral†
Sept. 22	Thurs.	9am	James Thelen† Ester Banzon Parungao† Steven Feeley†
Sept. 23	Fri.	9am	Thomas Frasier†, Mary MacConville†
Sept. 24	Sat.	9am	Brian Orpiano† Larry Agnello
Sept. 24 & Sept. 25	Week- end	All- Masses	Bernadette DeCosta † John Robert Keating† Brian Orpiano† Louis† Bienvenido Sr., Charito Paula, & Bienvenido Jr. Ferrer† Orlando Lasam† Elsy Anthony† The Castelli & Rozario Families

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING



Safe Environment
Protecting God's Children
Are you involved in
ministry at CTK?

Diocesan policy requires Safe Environment training every three years for every adult engaged in ministry. If you have trained on Virtus you will be notified by email when to recertify. **If you are involved in ministry in any way at CTK and have not trained, please go online to www.virtus.org and follow the instructions for Safe Environment training.** For more information contact Helen Christian in the parish office at 925-682-2486.

Next Weekend—Mission Cooperative Plan



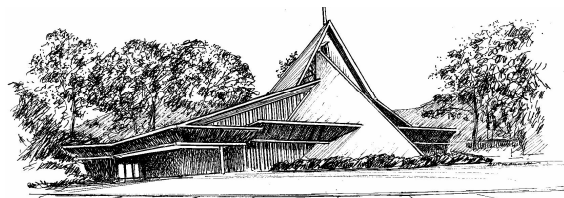
Next weekend, September 24-25 we will have a second collection for the Mission Coop Plan. This year we will be visited by Fr. Alano Williams from the Diocese of Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines (Eastern Caribbean).

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

Sept. 17	Sat.	5:00pm	Barbara Vuletich, Healing
Sept. 18	Sun.	9:30am	Pasqualina & Nick Mammola †
Sept. 24	Sat.	5:00pm	St. Stephen Parishioners
Sept. 25	Sun.	9:30am	Carl Nagel †

ST. STEPHEN NEWS

Our paving has been delayed until October 10 - 14, so it will be business as usual here at St. Stephen this week. Our morning Mass will continue and our office will be open.

Our parish survives because of our volunteers. As you noticed at our Ministry Faire, we have many volunteer opportunities available here at St. Stephen. Each week we are going to concentrate on one in more depth.

Our immediate need is for our C.L.O.W. program. This stands for Children's Liturgy of the Word. Each Sunday our school age children gather at the beginning of Mass and are led to a classroom where they get a better understanding of the Gospel at their level. Materials are given to the volunteer to help guide the children. After the Gospel, they are brought back into church to join their families. After an hiatus due to the pandemic, we are ready to start this program again in October - but we need volunteers to teach them. You do not have to be a teacher, just someone with a love for children and ready to help teach them about Jesus. Commitment would be once a month. As you would be going over the readings with the children and be back in church for the Liturgy of the Eucharist, this would still allow you to attend Mass on that day. In order to continue this valuable program, we need at least two more volunteers to come forward. Please contact our office if you are interested in helping.

Office hours - Mon & Wed 11 am - 2 pm.



THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL:

REFLECTIONS ON CREATIVITY, BEAUTY, AND PRAYER A ONE DAY BIBLE STUDY RETREAT FOR WOMEN

**Sponsored by the Women of
Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes**

Retreat Director: Toinette M. Eugene, Ph.D.

Date: Saturday, October 15, 2022

Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Place: St. Stephen Parish Hall
1101 Keaveny Court, Walnut Creek

Tickets will be sold the weekend of Sept. 24/25 & Oct. 1/2
Or by calling the parish office after Sept. 25



Grief Ministry

Feeling the pain of loss of a loved one? You are not alone. CTK provides a caring and supportive Grief Ministry Group that meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month on Zoom and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome! For more information, please call Donna at 510-381-3615.



Donating to Christ the King

We have an easy way to give! You can scan this QR Code and it will take you to our safe and secure Realm Site where you will find a convenient way to give for both first and second collections.

Thank you for your generosity!



New Musical Opportunity - CTK Family Choir

Do you enjoy singing? Would you love to share the joy of singing with your children, grandchildren, or other kids in your extended family? We are looking to launch a Family Choir at CTK later this fall, to sing at our 9:00am mass on selected weekends. The Family Choir is open to all children and their families (children must come with an adult), and will feature fun and learnable music that the whole family can enjoy. No formal musical training necessary - just a love of music and the ability to attend rehearsal one evening per week.

If you'd like to learn more, please e-mail Jennifer Bennett at jenniferbennett1011@gmail.com.



CANTORS

Join Our Cantor Ministry!

We are seeking strong and spirit-filled vocal leaders to join our Cantor ministry. Cantor responsibilities include proclaiming the psalm, announcing and leading the congregation in hymns and acclamations, and occasionally leading hymns solo when a choir is not present. An ability to read music is strongly preferred, but plenty of training and rehearsal will be available in order to accommodate singers at various levels. Please contact Jennifer Bennett at jenniferbennett1011@gmail.com to learn more.

JOIN US FOR CTK/ST. STEPHEN MEN'S RETREAT

COMING HOME TO CHURCH
MEN SHARING THEIR FAITH AND HOPE
DURING CHALLENGING TIMES

OCTOBER 22, 2022
9 AM TO 3:30 PM
CTK'S PARISH HALL

RETREAT LEADER: FATHER PAULSON

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

SOCIAL HOUR WILL FOLLOW THE RETREAT

SIGN UP BY GOING TO OUR WEBSITE AT CTKPH.ORG

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