



# 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

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## St. Stephen Church

### Daily Mass Times

Monday - Friday 8am

### Weekend Mass Times

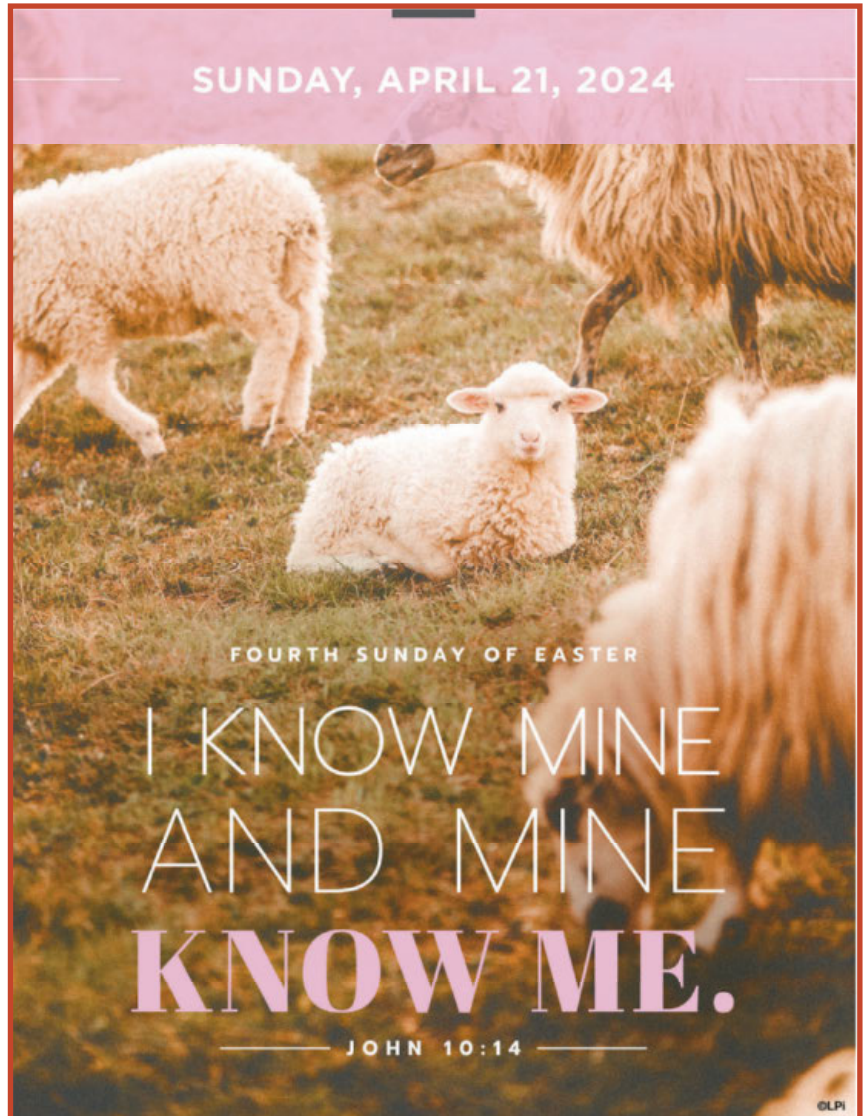
Saturday: 5pm Vigil  
Sunday: 9:30am

### Private Confessions

Saturday Before the 5pm Mass

### Office Hours

Monday & Wednesday 11am to 2pm



## Mission Statement

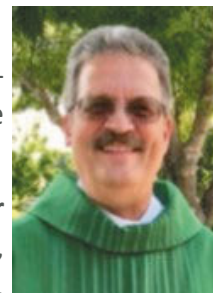
To Hear the Gospel and Make a Difference  
To Live and to Love in Christ

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Happy Easter! I hope you continue celebrating this holiest of all days when our Lord overcame death and conquered the grave. Jesus' Resurrection should fill everyone with a sense of awe!

**As we usually do during the Easter Season, we will celebrate First Holy Communion for students in our parish on May 4th and May 11th.** While receiving Jesus, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity is always awe-inspiring, there is a special grace in one's First Holy Communion.

This is one of the most memorable moments in the Catholic faith journey, and it is a gift and a blessing for every individual and family. Parents and teachers partner in the process of Sacramental Preparation, so First Communion is a true community celebration.



CTK-St. Stephen Religious Education and CTK School are in the final stages of preparing students for First Holy Communion. The first retreats for students were held last Saturday, with others to follow this Saturday, April 20 and Saturday April 27. During the retreats we discuss the importance of the Eucharist in the life of every Catholic, and how greatly Jesus desires to be everyone's friend, the one everyone can turn to, no matter what. During the retreat, children also enjoy the Church tour, especially their trip into that "mysterious" room behind the altar, the Sacristy. They have many questions and they're so much fun to answer. It is always a joy to witness children's growth in the faith. Thank you, parents, for passing on this most precious gift to your children and allowing us to be part of their journey!

We owe a huge debt of thanks to RE First Sacraments Catechists, Daniel Robinson, Wynn Norona, Sherry Cartmill, Julie Marietti, Karen Seto and Mike Aliscad, as well as our CTK School 2nd Grade teacher, Mrs. Dana Urbina. Their dedication is a gift to all students, families, and the CTK-SS community.

On a completely different topic, I want to call your attention to a bill that is being proposed in our state legislature. As Catholic Christians, we are called to participate in government and to advocate for the most vulnerable among us.

**In 2015, California legalized assisted suicide for adults with illnesses of 6 months or less to live. I'm mystified that proponents of these bills think they can truly predict how long a person will live. That aside, now, a Senator is pushing a bill, SB 1196, to allow all chronically ill Californians to receive assisted suicide, as well as people with dementia.** Right now, millions of Californians don't have health care and can't find doctors or hospitals. The State needs to ensure people have good and accessible healthcare so that people with chronic illnesses don't feel coerced into dying prematurely. No one should feel compelled to use assisted suicide due to a scarcity of housing, food, pain management, mental health treatment, home health, or psycho-social support.

The most effective way to fight this bill is by calling your State Senator. Senator Bill Dodd represents District 3, that includes Pleasant Hill and Martinez. His Capitol Office phone number is (916) 651-4003, and his Napa Office phone is (707) 224-1990. Senator Steven Glazer represents District 7, that includes Antioch, Concord, Lafayette and Walnut Creek. His Capitol Office phone number is (916) 651-4007, and his Orinda Office phone number is (925) 258-1176. Your Senator must hear from you. Please call them and tell them that this law goes too far and has the potential to harm you, your loved ones, and especially those with vulnerabilities like dementia.

**Have a blessed week remembering and celebrating that we are an Easter people, and "Alleluia" is our song!**

**Deacon John**

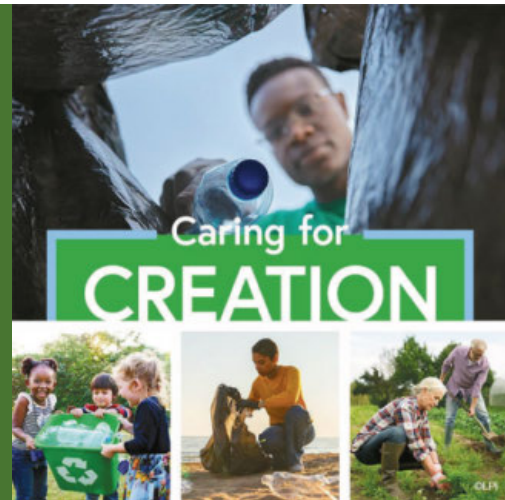


### UPCOMING CTK MASS INTENTIONS

April 22	Mon.	9:00am	James Pugh † Andy Gandolfo † Gem Amog † Monica Racela †
April 23	Tues.	9:00am	Val DaVanzo †
April 24	Weds.	9:00am	Dolores Collins † Danny Ennis † Angela Baban †
April 25	Thurs.	9:00am	Minna Caro †
April 26	Fri.	9:00am	Fred Dickson † Maria Ann Estacio
April 27	Sat.	9:00am	Nguyen Lai † Ricardo Deocareza †
April 27	Sat.	4:00pm	Clara Dacosta †
April 28	Sun.	7:30am	Jack Cardoza † Catherine Costanza †
April 28	Sun.	9:00am	Jemma Scocci †
April 28	Sun.	10:30am	Mason Rodriguez † Paul Smith † Living & Deceased Members of the Italian Catholic Federation Ambrosio Capinpin † Joe & Anne Sanzeri
April 28	Sun.	4:00pm	Frank O'Neill †

### UPCOMING SS MASS INTENTIONS

April 20	Sat.	5:00pm	Randall Puchalski †
April 21	Sun.	9:30am	The Walton Family, Living & Deceased
April 24	Wed.	8:00am	Karen Kurpinsky †
April 27	Sat.	5:00pm	Randall Puchalski †
April 28	Sun.	9:30am	Robert Norris †



A prayer for Earth Day — April 22,  
Dear Jesus, We ask for your strength  
to give us wisdom and courage  
to protect our earthly environment  
from destruction and overuse.  
Help us to share the goodness and gen-  
erosity of the earth with every living  
person. Amen



# 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.

**Continues on Thursdays:** April 25, May 2, 9 and 16.

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

## Adult Education Opportunities

Reflections on the upcoming Sunday readings continue on Mondays

**Monday: April 22, 9:45am - 10:30am.**

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

\*\*\*\*\*

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".

**Monday: 10:30am - 11:30am  
April 22 - Chapter 5.**

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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

**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  
May 11-12 - Catholic Charities



**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/adult (\$15/children)

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 using the QR code. Or come by the office to purchase your tickets.

All proceeds will benefit Youth Ministry's Summer Service Trip



**Sunday, April 21 at 1pm  
CTK's Parish Hall's Room A/B**

All are invited to the Italian Catholic Federation's "Spring Fling" potluck lunch and monthly meeting, this Sunday afternoon, April 21 at 1 pm in the CTK parish hall Rooms A and B. Bring salads, sandwiches or desserts to share; drinks will be provided. After lunch, we will play Left-Center-Right so bring a few dollar bills and you just might go home with more in your pocket than you came with! A short meeting will follow.

Our branch of the ICF is part of a nation-wide organization that supports our faith, provides fellowship, and promotes service. We support charities including scholarships for children in our parish who plan to attend catholic high schools, as well as contribute service to our community in other ways. It is not a group only for those of Italian heritage, although our roots are in Italian-American culture. We encourage you to come and see what we do and who we are!



# To Live and to Love in Christ

## HOPE SOLUTIONS

**Special Second Collection  
This 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 unable to donate land, 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/check. Or scan the QR code.

### CTK STAFF CONTACTS

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**Join us for a CTK Knights of Columbus  
Membership Event May 14th - 6:30pm-8:30pm  
in the CTK's Parish Hall.**

Please join our local Council for our monthly meeting to learn more about the Knights. We will be having the Birria Taco guy catering some delicious food and drink, followed by our general meeting. All Catholic gentlemen aged 18 and up are invited to hang out together for the evening over some delicious food/drink to meet our existing and potential new members while catching up on life/family/careers/parish news. Please RSVP to Jay Becker (scooners@comcast.net) or Steve Zalewski (zalewski.steve@gmail.com)

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

"There is no salvation through anyone else,  
nor is there any other name under heaven  
given to the human race by which we are to be saved."  
(Acts 4:12)

### Psalm:

The stone rejected by the builders has become the  
cornerstone. (Ps 118)

Or: Alleluia.

### Second Reading:

Beloved, we are God's children now;  
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.  
We do know that when it is revealed we shall be  
like him,  
for we shall see him as he is. (1 Jn 3:2)

### Gospel:

Jesus said:

"I am the good shepherd.

A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (Jn 10:11)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus the Good Shepherd knows that real love is an action, not an idea. His sacrifice is the proof of his love for his flock. Let us remember to love one another as the Good Shepherd loves us: not just in words but in actions, in choices, in deeds.

## Observances for the week of April 21, 2024

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations  
**Monday:** Earth Day  
**Tuesday:** St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr  
**Wednesday:** St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr; Administrative Professionals' Day  
**Thursday:** St. Mark, Evangelist  
**Friday:** Arbor Day  
**Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Easter



## Saint of the week

St. Paschal Baylón was a devout Spanish monk. In his vocation as a lay brother, he worked as a chef, porter, gardener, and official beggar. He often gave so much to the poor that his brothers tried to limit his generosity. Because of his devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, he is the Patron Saint of Eucharistic Congresses and Societies.

## Prayer of the Good Shepherd

Dear Lord,  
You are my Shepherd, a Good Shepherd, who leads in ways beyond my understanding. Guide me in the paths You would have me go.  
Amen.

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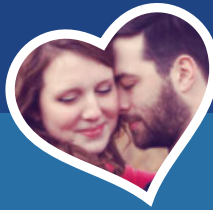
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