

Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

(925) 682-2486 ctkph.org

(925) 274-1341 saintstephenparish.org

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE SEED SOWN ON RICH SOIL

is the one who hears the
word of the kingdom
and understands it,
who indeed bears fruit
and yields a hundred
or sixty or thirtyfold.

Matthew 13:23

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July 12, 2020

SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

July 12 9:30 am Phyllis Pauplis †
July 13 7:30 am Ann Murphy †
July 14 7:30 am Jim McGraw †
July 16 7:30 am Madeline Gomes †
July 18 5:00 pm Bernadette Vevasis †
July 19 9:30 am Joselito Asuncion †

*all weekend intentions prayed for at the
Saturday 5 pm vigil mass

**All Masses streamed live with videos
available to watch later**

Masses: Drive-in / lawn: schedule inside

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

CTK UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

July 13 9 am Jeff Brogan †
July 14 9 am Tony Santos
Dr. Annamari Cabrera
Dr. Lourdes Gozali
July 15 9 am Mike Mullane †
July 16 9 am Mary Plant †
July 17 9 am Eileen Radding †

Saturday, July 18

5 pm Lucille Birmingham †

*Sunday, July 19

7 am Matt Medeiros †
8 am CTK & SS Parishioners
9:15 am Eddie Connell †
10:45 am Cecilia Nguyen †
12:15 pm Anna Quezen

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

Dear Friends,



In his address to the United States Bishops in St. Mathew's Cathedral Pope Francis invited our leaders to be pastors, not cultural warriors. Pope Francis said, "**Harsh and divisive language does not befit the tongue of a pastor, it has no place in his heart**; although it may momentarily seem to win the day, only the enduring allure of goodness and love remains truly convincing." There is in many of us something outside of our faith that propels us to certain ideology to the rejection of others, certain methodology to the exclusion of others, even though the other is also Gospel centered.

In the words of Brian Davis, "Many Christians—I assume with good intentions—take up the cultural warrior sword, a bit like Peter in Gethsemane. When their Christian principles are attacked, they respond in kind, drawing their weapon and striking their opponent. I think Jesus just might shut down their reckless emotionalism like he did Peter: "Put your sword into its sheath" (John 18:11)." We must love our church and country, be willing to give up our selfish interests and seek through dialogue the ways to build peace, unity and justice. **We must reject leaders, religious or political who will continue to tear our church or nation apart, and work with leaders who will endeavor for a culture of peace.**

At CTK, we will be opening our Church after four months to one indoor mass on Sunday morning at 7.30am starting July 12th. We will also offer our Church for funerals. As per Contra Costa County guidelines, only 100 people are allowed on a first come first served basis for worship including clergy and ministers. Another 100 folks can sit or stand outside the Church observing social distance and wearing masks. The following guidelines will apply for indoor services:

- If you think you might be sick, even with just a cold (and don't assume it might just be allergies) - **STAY HOME** and watch an online Mass from CTK.
- **DO NOT CONGREGATE** outside of Church, either before or after Mass. Come directly into Church and leave immediately after.
- Participants will be instructed to bring their own masks and to wear them throughout the service and while they are on the campus.
- Our ushers will be available to direct the participants to their seating such that family units living together will be able to sit together while those from different households will maintain proper distancing in the seating process.
- Once you have been given a spot, **DO NOT CHANGE SEATS**. If you move to a different spot, nobody else will be able to sit there because it will now be considered "contaminated".
- The usher at the church entrance will remind those arriving of the mask and hand sanitizing requirements and the social distancing regimen.
- The distribution of communion will take place at the end of mass. Ushers will indicate which row should proceed in single file with proper spacing to the waiting Eucharistic minister. Once the person receives, she/he will proceed out of the church to their waiting car.
- There will be no gathering in the vestibule or outside after the service.
- Restrooms will be available, but we will ask that participants avoid their use unless it is essential and that only one person at a time use the restroom. Restrooms will be cleaned and sanitized along with the rest of the church both before and after each service. If you do use the restroom, please wash your hands when you enter and again when you exit. Use hand sanitizer when you enter back into Church.

The county has issued ordinances with regard to worship for indoor services. All liturgical materials will be removed from the pews and the vestibule of the church. The Governor has banned singing in the Church, which means for funerals our cantor will sing a couple of hymns from another room adjacent to the choir area. There will be no singing for Sunday Liturgies. Responses to the Mass parts should be said softly or internally. **Collection baskets will be placed at the entrance and the two side exits.** Please drop your envelopes into them as you enter or exit. I want to thank you for your understanding and patience.

We will continue to celebrate mass outdoors as usual. We have made adjustments to our sound system, so as to minimize disturbance to our neighbors. If you are in your cars, kindly tune into **FM 106.7**. If you decide to turn on your air conditioners, kindly circulate inside air. We have improved our radio transmission after our last Sunday experience. The sound quality has definitely improved for those who will be sitting on the grass.

I want to thank our wonderful staff and volunteers who make these services possible for us. If you are willing to assist us with our services, kindly get in touch with Sr. Dominic as we need more volunteers. Our new associate Fr. Lee Chompoochan will join us this week or the next. He is trying to bid farewell to his beloved parishioners. I don't know how???? I know Fr. Lee and I love his spirit and unassuming demeanor.

Fr. Paulson

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

CTK: Monday - Saturday:

9 am Mass ~ Live streamed from our chapel on facebook.

**6 pm Thursday Outdoor Mass includes devotion to
Our Mother of Perpetual Help.**

Christ The King Weekends

Saturdays ~ 5 pm Vigil Mass Drive-In/Lawn

**Sundays ~ New! Beginning July 12 Indoor Mass 7:30 am
(first 100 parishioners)**

Masses Drive-In/Lawn at 9 am, 10:30 am and 6 pm

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

Saint Stephen Weekends

Sunday Mass ~ 9:30 am Indoor Mass

Communion only 10:20 am - 10:45 am Sundays

Lenten Rice Bowls

Due to Lent having been interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, **we did not collect the donations for CRS Rice Bowl** at the end of Lent as we normally do. If you have not already done so, we ask that you count up the money in your Rice Bowl box and write a check to the parish, with **"Rice Bowl"** written in the memo line. Drop the check in the Sunday collection basket, bring it by the parish office or mail it in. You can also return your rice bowl to the parish office. Remember that when you give to Rice Bowl, *25% stays locally, most of which goes to feed those in need in our diocese, through groups like St. Vincent de Paul.* **Thank you for participating in CRS Rice Bowl this past Lent!**



Fall 2020 Backpack Drive: Would you like to bring a smile to a child's face this fall? Join us in the Annual Backpack Drive. Help equip formerly homeless and low-income students for a successful 2020-2021 school year. This year we have partnered with Sydney Paige, a nonprofit organization that helps bring backpacks and supplies to children and families in need. With your support we plan on delivering over 400 backpacks to the children in our program. Please visit the following link to support our backpack drive: <https://give.sydney Paige.org/hope2020>. If you have any questions about this year's backpack drive, please contact Sandibel Arnold at sarnold@hopesolutions.org.

**Fifteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
July 12, 2020**

**First Reading:
Isaiah 55:10-11**

When the Israelites were exiled in Babylon, the assuring words that God had previously spoken to them now seemed empty. In today's passage, the prophet Isaiah will use an image from nature to describe how God's work always bears fruit and comes true no matter how unlikely it may seem.

**Second Reading:
Romans 8:18-23**

As we continue reading from the eighth chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans, he tells us that sin affected not only human beings but also the whole created world. The coming of Christ had a healing effect on both. We will see that Paul is not a pessimist about this world.

Prayer Works!



Do you have a need that requires Divine intervention? Let us add our prayers to yours. Send confidential prayer requests to:

prayerline@ctkph.org

Virtual Faith Sharing!

You are invited to join a **"virtual" Faith sharing group on Zoom**. We meet every Friday morning at 9:30 am to share our faith through reading and praying with the readings for the following Sunday. Everyone in the parish is welcome to participate in this opportunity to deepen your faith and increase your understanding of scripture. To try it out, email Diana Mackinson at dijoed@comcast.net and she will send you the Zoom invitation to enable you to join us on Friday morning.

Married couples!

Enrich your marriage from the comfort of your own home! Join us for a **Virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience** presented over the course of 8 sessions on Saturdays August 1, 8, 15, 22 @ 2:00 pm and Wednesdays August 5, 12, 19, 26 @ 7:00 pm. Please go to oaklandwwme.org or call 650-521-4368 for more information.

Couples who 'live' a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend (WWME), not only rediscover the joy, intimacy and romance in their relationships but also take a more active role within their church community. **Together, we are making marriages, families and our Church stronger and more vibrant!**

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
- Option to make your gifts recurring

**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!



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Bookkeepersp@gmail.com

Maria Calderazzo, Music Director
274-1341

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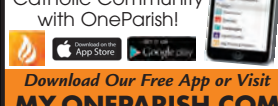
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