

Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

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TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Whoever receives
one child such as
this in my name,
receives me;
and whoever
receives me,
receives not me
but the One
who sent me.

Mark 9:37



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CTK WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Monday - Saturday:

9 am Mass

(9 am Mass is also Live streamed on Facebook and YouTube)

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

Christ The King Weekends:

Saturdays ~ 3 pm - 3:30 pm Private Confessions are available.
Please meet inside the church.

Saturdays ~ 4 pm Vigil Mass (live-streamed)

Sundays ~ 7:30 am, 9 am, 10:30 am (live-streamed), and 4 pm Mass.

We also offer Drive Through Communion from
11:30 am - 12 pm Sundays in front of the church.

Per Contra Costa Health Orders, face coverings are now mandatory in all indoor areas regardless of vaccination status. Thank you for your cooperation.

Dear Friends,

This week Pope Francis visited Slovakia and met with civil and religious leaders including poor communities and their people. Addressing government authorities on the first full day of his visit, the pope said the traditional custom of welcoming guests is a powerful message of love, especially toward migrants and vulnerable people. "No one should be stigmatized or suffer discrimination. Our Christian way of looking at others refuses to see them as a burden or a problem, but rather as brothers and sisters to be helped and protected."



The pope had a message for the country's bishops, priests and religious in Bratislava's St. Martin's Cathedral. "The church is not a fortress, a stronghold, a lofty castle, self-sufficient and looking out upon the world below," he said. Instead, he told the historically traditionalist Catholic community to adopt a posture of humility and a readiness to engage the world around it, especially its young people and those on the margins. "How great is the beauty of a humble church, a church that does not stand aloof from the world, viewing life with a detached gaze, but lives her life within the world," he said. "Living within the world means being willing to share and to understand people's problems, hopes and expectations." "This will help us to escape from our self-absorption, for the center of the church is not the church!" Pope Francis continued.

Pope Francis also paid tribute to the 105,000 Slovak Jews killed during the Holocaust, and Francis again reiterated his condemnation of anti-Semitism. "Let us unite in condemning all violence and every form of anti-Semitism, and in working to ensure that God's image, present in the humanity he created, will never be profaned," he pleaded. "Our world needs open doors," Francis said, as he lauded the interfaith efforts between Christians and Jews in recent years and urged continued collaboration. "The blessing of the Most High is poured out upon us, whenever he sees a family of brothers and sisters who respect and love each other and work together," he concluded.

I would like to give a shout out to our Scout Troop 221 who commenced their service project here at Christ the King, taking upon themselves the task of cleaning up our beautiful gardens around the campus. Scouts together with their parents were here for a number of hours removing weeds, cleaning up the leaves around the church and much more. I know they will be back again to do more work, and on behalf of our community, I say "Thank You."



I would like to thank you for the many donations that have already been sent to the parish for the poor people of Haiti and the suffering citizens of Louisiana. Two weeks after the earthquake, about two dozen members of a church dressed in their Sunday best, sat on whatever suitable objects they could pull out of the wreckage of the Catholic Church that once stood nearby. The magnitude 7.2 earthquake destroyed hundreds of churches, including the main Catholic church in the small town of Marceline. Louisiana is right now on the path of another destructive hurricane, and according to the weather service, "Soils have not yet recovered from Hurricane Ida a couple weeks ago in eastern Louisiana. These areas are currently receiving heavy rainfall which is expected to continue ... priming soils for flooding, and Beaumont/Port Arthur/Lake Charles can be particularly sensitive to flash flooding, thus the High Risk." Let us support our brothers and sisters with our prayers and generosity.

Fr. Paulson

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 19, 2021

First Reading: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

The book of Wisdom was written about 50 years before Christ, and was addressed to a group of Jews living in Alexandria, Egypt. In this pagan environment, some were tempted to abandon their religious beliefs and practices. In today's passage, an unidentified person, referred to as the "just one," challenges them to remain faithful to their traditional values. Early Christians thought this person sounded a lot like Jesus.

Second Reading: James 3:16-4:3

Today we continue a series of successive readings from the letter of James. This part of the letter deals with sins that threaten harmony in a Christian community.



September 22nd

CTK UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

Sept. 20 Florentino Gopez †
 Sept. 21 Steven Feeley †
 Sept. 22 James Thelen †
 Sept. 23 Steve Allen †
 Sept. 24 Frank O'Neill †
 Sept. 25 Robert Radding †

Saturday, Sept. 25 and Sunday, Sept. 26:
 Terese Connolly †
 Paddy Connolly †
 Damiano & Lina Serafini †



Rite of Christian Initiation
for Adults

**This year's RCIA process begins this week,
on September 23.**

If you or someone you know isn't Catholic, but just wants a better understanding of what the Church believes and teaches, you are invited to join us. Hopefully we'll answer your questions and, who knows, you might decide that you want to join the Church. If you are a Baptized Catholic who has not received the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion, you are also invited to join us. We are eager to support you on your faith journey.

If you are a fully initiated Catholic who would like to share your faith with others, or perhaps serve as a Baptism or Confirmation Sponsor for new candidates and catechumens, we welcome you to become a part of the RCIA Team. There's no better way to grow in one's faith than by sharing your faith and walking with someone who is searching for answers. Please contact us at faithformation@ctkph.org, or call us at (925) 686-1174.

**Blessing of the Animals
("Drive-Thru")
Monday - October 4th
3:15pm to 4pm**



Join us at Christ the King Church from 3:15pm to 4:00pm on Monday, October 4th (The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi), for a "Drive Thru" Blessing of the Animals. You are invited to bring your pets from home to receive a special blessing from the clergy.

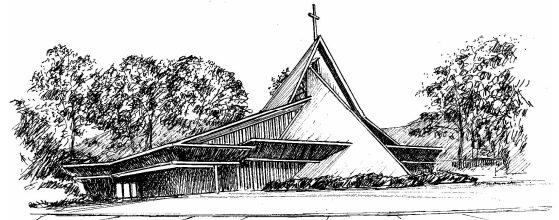
Come through the large parking lot and drive in front of the church. For the blessing, you may get out of your car with your pet. Be sure your pet is on a leash or in a cage.

ST. STEPHEN CORNER

St. Stephen Church - Mass Times

Saturday - 5pm

Sunday - 9:30am



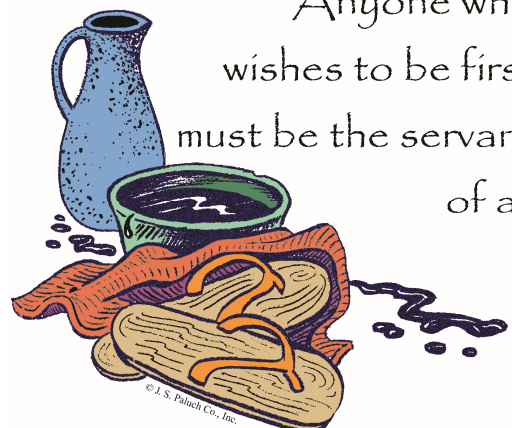
SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

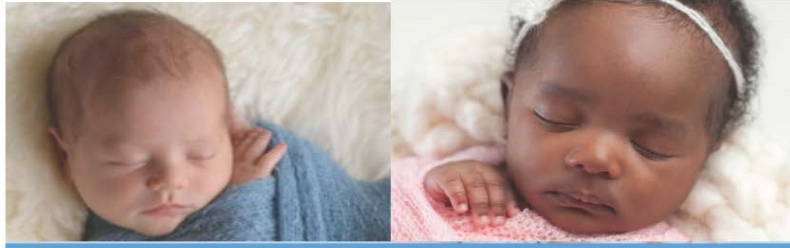
Sept. 18 St. Stephen Parishioners
 Sept. 19 Nick & Pasqualina Mammola †
 Sept. 25 St. Stephen Parishioners †
 Sept. 26 Vince Mooney, Healing

Starting the week of October 4, we will be resuming our weekday Mass at St. Stephen. The time is changed to 8:00 am (Mon-Fri) and we will be meeting in the church instead of the chapel to allow more room for social distancing. This Mass will not be live-streamed.

This weekend's special collection is for Haiti/Louisiana Relief. Since you have no donation envelopes for this collection, we will be having a separate pass of the basket after the regular collection.

Anyone who
wishes to be first
must be the servant
of all





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- **Vigil hours:**
7 am to 7 pm daily, except Sundays
- **Local contact:**
friendsforlifeconcord@gmail.com
(925) 595-0401
- **Learn more:** Get involved and sign up
for prayer times by visiting our campaign
at the web address shown below!

40daysforlife.com/CONCORDCA

Here's how to take part in

WALNUT CREEK:

- **Vigil location:**
Outside Planned Parenthood
1357 Oakland Blvd., Walnut Creek
- **Vigil hours:**
7 am to 7 pm daily, except Sundays
- **Local contact:**
friendsforlifeftrivalley@gmail.com
(925) 322-0544
- **Learn more:** Get involved and sign up
for prayer times by visiting our campaign
at the web address shown below!

40daysforlife.com/WALNUTCREEK



St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County The 2021 Friends of the Poor Walks

On September 25 The Friends of the Poor Walks gather Vincentian volunteers from across the Country in a day of unity. The purpose is to raise funds for assistance programs that help our neighbors in need! To register to walk, or to support a walker near you - please visit: FOBWalk.org!

Sewing Ministry



Dress A Child Around the World / Sewing Ministry Cancelled Until Further Notice.

Due to the rise in Covid cases and with an abundance of caution, we are cancelling the sewing ministry at this time. We will let you know when we will start up again. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Vogl at 288-0488.

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