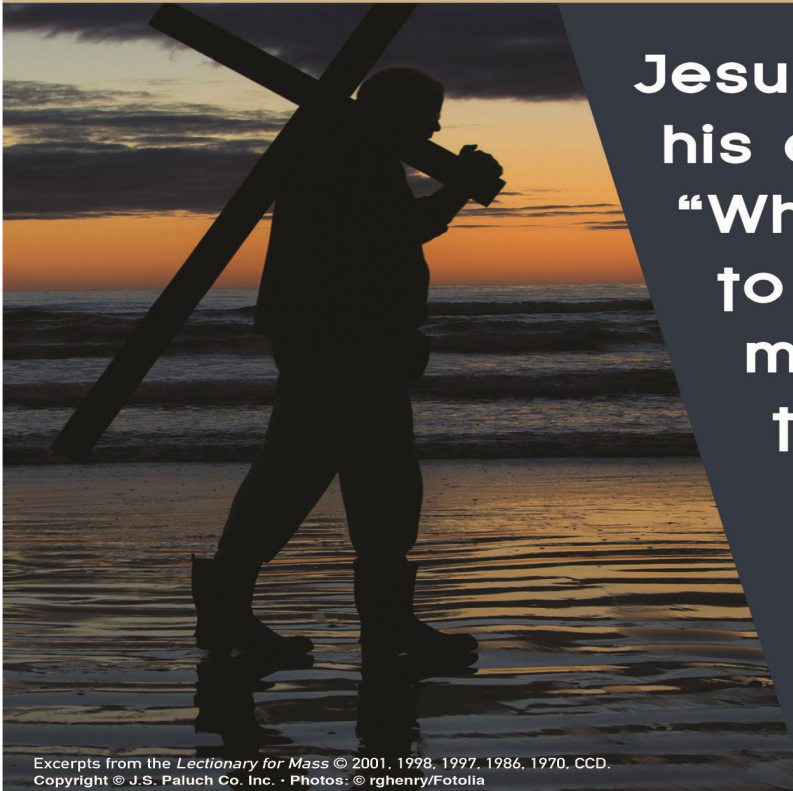


# Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

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## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus said to  
his disciples,  
“Whoever wishes  
to come after me  
must deny himself,  
take up his cross,  
and follow me.”

Matthew 16:24

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.  
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AUGUST 30, 2020

### SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

Aug. 30 9:30 am Paul Des Rosiers †  
Sept. 3 9 am Mariza Kim (for hope, healing  
and strength)  
Sept. 6 9:30 am Madeline Gomes †

All CTK Masses streamed live with videos  
available to watch later

Masses: Drive-in / lawn: schedule inside

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

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

### CTK UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

Aug. 31 9 am Mary Tierney †  
Sept. 1 9 am Karen Savignano †  
Violet Adorable †  
Sept. 2 9 am Juvenal Figueira †  
Amalraj Augustine †  
Sept. 3 9 am Virgil Lawrence †  
Sept. 4 9 am Paul Sbragia & J.P. Sbragia-Zoricic †  
6 pm Salvio & Teresita Edmilao †

#### Saturday, September 5

9 am Alice Garcia & Family  
5 pm Vic Remorini †

#### Sunday, September 6

7 am Jane Comandao †  
8 am Mary Taggart †  
9:15 am CTK & SS Parishioners  
10:45 am Ricardo Garcia †  
12:15 pm Carmelita Isberto †  
6 pm Jaime Ladao †

Dear Friends,

The **California fires** rage on with little hope of easy containment. There are no easy answers to the suffering and destruction wrought by fires and hurricanes, that seems to escalate year after year. In times of tragedy such as this, we understand how much our fire fighters and law enforcement put their lives in harm's way for the sake of the communities that they serve. Race, religion, resources – none of this matters. The officers take on their job of protecting lives as if that is the only thing that matters at the moment. They deserve our appreciation and love, after a summer of protests and rallies that have sometimes shaken the very foundation of these departments.

**This Monday, we celebrated the feast of St. Bartholomew**, described in the Gospel as Nathanael. I would like to share what I have personally learned from this encounter. When Nathanael first hears from Phillip about Jesus of Nazareth he responds with cynicism and makes a disparaging comment “*Can anything good come from Nazareth?*” There is a certain aspect of disdain in this statement both for the city as well as its citizens.

Nazareth was an isolated border town that finds no mention in the Old Testament and none of the ancient literature including the Talmud or the rabbinic writings refer to this place in any way. According to Marcus Borges, Nazareth is the site of occupation forces of a Roman legion. The hostility, chaos and the incessant uprisings that often define the landscape of an occupied territory is one that Nathanael thinks about when he hears about Jesus of Nazareth for the first time. What good can come from a border town anyway? And what about the radical political and religious ideologies often associated with the people of such towns? And what about the petty prejudices and biases that are quite often deeply entrenched into their daily pronouncements and demeanor? The Gospels are reticent about Nazareth – they mention a synagogue and a precipice. It could mean a people of faith on the precipice of life. So, when Phillip tells Nathanael that he has been impressed by Jesus of Nazareth, anyone would have responded as Nathanael- Jesus of WHERE?

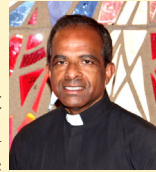
Unfortunately, there are so many opportunities for us to disregard another person based on where they might be from, what degree they have earned, an accent we are not familiar with, the amount of money they have. Sadly, the list goes on and on. And many times, we can fall into the trap that Nathanael does of sharing the comment with another person. I challenge myself to become aware of the trap of negative attribution.

Jesus welcomes Nathanael wholeheartedly and says, “*Here is a true child of Israel. There is no guile or duplicity in him.*” Rather than defending Nazareth or trying to prove that Nathanael's opinion was wrong, Jesus focused on the good in Nathanael and invited him to come along. Jesus inspires me to pause when I hear something hurtful. This lesson is particularly poignant in the challenging times in which we are currently living.

I have to say Phillip is my Hero in this story. He is filled with love for Jesus and knows He is the Messiah. He enthusiastically invites Nathanael to meet Jesus. Phillip does not fall into the trap of gossip about someone from Nazareth. He does not dismiss Nathanael for his biases and prejudices or racist tendencies.

I know I am an imperfect human being. I know there are prejudices and biases in my heart. Phillip helps me appreciate people in my life who know I am not perfect, but have helped me become a better person, those who have seen gifts in me that I had not yet recognized. I am particularly grateful for people who have made the effort to introduce me to others who have helped me develop my faith and commitment to service.

Fr. Paulson



## Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time August 30, 2020

### First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Jeremiah often anguished over the difficulty in being a prophet. Proclaiming God's message made him very unpopular. Today we hear why he still felt compelled to keep on doing it.

### Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Toward the end of Paul's letter to the Romans, he deals with the moral demands made on those who follow Christ. In today's reading, Paul reminds us that living a Christian life - which so often includes sacrifice - is like an act of liturgical worship in which we offer ourselves to God.

### 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](mailto:prayerline@ctkph.org)



## 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 ~ 7:30 am outside on patio in front of church**

**9 am, 10:30 am and 6 pm drive-in/lawn mass**

**12:00 noon Spanish drive-in/lawn mass**

**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 Outdoor Mass**

**Communion only - please arrive at the end of mass, approximately 10:10 am.**

## St. Stephen Updates

### THE CUPBOARD IS BARE!

Thank you to all St. Stephen parishioners for the support and donations you have given St. Vincent de Paul over the years. You have been very gracious with your response to our requests in the past. We are blessed to be able to help those who are in need and thankful for your generosity. **Our pantry is in need of some food items.** Please help us restock our pantry with non-perishable, unopened, and unexpired items like canned fruit, chili, refried beans, tomato/spaghetti sauce, pasta and jelly. Please bring your donations to the Sunday Mass and there will be a basket available to place your donation at the entry or exit. **THE NEED IS ONGOING!**

This weekend is also the **fifth Sunday St. Vincent de Paul collection.** Please include your SVdP 2nd collection envelopes when you drop your regular envelopes in the collection basket.

**Because of poor air quality, Mass had to be cancelled last Sunday.** A number of people came expecting Mass. If you are not on our email list for special announcements, please provide the St. Stephen office with your email address. If you had gone to our <https://saintstephenparish.org/> website last Saturday and Sunday, you would have seen a pop-up notice advising you of the cancellation. If you are ever unsure, go to our website. If there is an important message that you need to know immediately, such as the cancellation of a mass, you will find it there. Just keep our website bookmarked for quick and easy access.



## Contribution Envelopes are here!!

For those parishioners using contribution envelopes, they are in our office! Please, please come by and pick yours up or have someone pick up for you. Just give us a call M-F 9 am to 1 pm (925-682-2486) and we can have your boxed set ready at the front desk. If you know you are attending one of our outdoor masses, call us and we can leave your boxed set of envelopes on the porch outside our ministry center office. **PLEASE pick up your box!**



## CTK Registration Update Continues

If you haven't already, please go to our website - [ctkph.org](http://ctkph.org) and update your parish records. You can also use the link in our weekly staying connected e-mail. We are also conducting phone calls, so you may be receiving a call from one of our staff members to update your information and to see if you need any information on any of our programs. As always, if you have questions, give us a call at 925-682-2486, Mon-Fri 9 am to 1 pm.

### Faith in Action Update:

**Our immigrant family** is holding up well in the pandemic. Luis and Carmen, with their four children, one year old Emily, seven year old Valeria, nine year old Jonathan and 13 year old Franklin are still in residence at the Oakland Catholic Worker along with four other families. A generous parishioner gave an SUV to Luis. He has been practicing driving and studying for the written test. He is on the long DMV waiting list. This will help him to commute to work much faster whenever he is called. He had been riding on BART and buses. The work thus far has been part time and low pay. Luis holds on to the hope that he will be able to work full time as the economy improves. In the meantime, the children are being schooled at home with laptops that were given to them by the Oakland School District. Carmen is also slowly learning English. They look forward to the day when they can have an affordable place of their own and rebuild their lives. Their hope for their children is to have the opportunities they did not have in Honduras. Normally migrants are housed for about 4 months due to the high demand. This family has been in residence more than a year. Finding an affordable place is a daunting task. **Please join in prayer for a full time job for Luis and an adequate affordable place for the family to live.** If you know of available homes or apartments, please call Anne Daniele at 925-642-7954.

**An unforgettable "break" for your marriage!** Want something more lasting than a weekend vacation in Bahamas, Bermuda or the Mountains? Give your marriage the "best vacation break" by making Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The **next Marriage Encounter Weekends** include: **Nov 20-22, 2020 in DANVILLE, CA** and **Feb 19-21, 2021 in DANVILLE, CA**. For more information and/or to apply for a Weekend, visit our website at: [oaklandwwme.org](http://oaklandwwme.org) or contact **Chuck & Annie** at [applications@oaklandwwme.org](mailto:applications@oaklandwwme.org) or **925-849-5466**.

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.

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### PARISH STAFF CONTACTS

**Fr. Paulson Mundanmani,**  
682-2486

[paulson.ctl@gmail.com](mailto:paulson.ctl@gmail.com)

**Sr. Dominic Bonnici OP,**  
246-1122

[sisterdominic.marie@gmail.com](mailto:sisterdominic.marie@gmail.com)

**Joe Silveira, Principal**  
685-1109

[jsilveira@ctkschool.org](mailto:jsilveira@ctkschool.org)

**Deacon John,**

Dir. Faith Formation

[faithformation@ctkph.org](mailto:faithformation@ctkph.org) 686-1017

**Phyllis Gurnett, Music Director**  
[pgurnett6@aol.com](mailto:pgurnett6@aol.com)

**Robin Morley, Office Mgr**  
682-2486

[ctl.robin@gmail.com](mailto:ctl.robin@gmail.com)

**Helen Christian, Office**  
682-2486

[hchristian326@gmail.com](mailto:hchristian326@gmail.com)

**Kathy Ridgway, Office**  
682-2486

[kridgway02@gmail.com](mailto:kridgway02@gmail.com)

**Nelson Gonzales, Youth Minister**  
[ngonzales@ctkph.org](mailto:ngonzales@ctkph.org)  
686-1017

**Rosa Panelli, RE Office Staff**

[Rpanellictkre@gmail.com](mailto:Rpanellictkre@gmail.com)

**CTK Office:** [office@ctkph.org](mailto:office@ctkph.org)

### ADDITIONAL ST. STEPHEN

#### CONTACTS

**SS Office:**

[saintstephenwc@gmail.com](mailto:saintstephenwc@gmail.com)

**Chris Lang, Bulletin Info.**

274-1341

**Joann Kurpinsky/Nancy Gizdich**

[Bookkeepersp@gmail.com](mailto:Bookkeepersp@gmail.com)

**Maria Calderazzo, Music Director**  
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