

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

Thursday
5:40pm Rosary, 6pm Mass

Every First Friday
5pm to 6pm Exposition
6pm Mass

Weekend Mass Times
Saturday: 4pm Vigil

Sunday
7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, & 4pm

Private Confessions
Saturday 3pm to 3:30pm

Drive-Thru Communion
Sunday 11:30am to 12 noon
In front of the church

Office Hours
Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm

St. Stephen Church

Daily Mass Times
Monday - Friday 8am

Weekend Mass Times
Saturday: 5pm Vigil
Sunday: 9:30am

Private Confessions
Saturday Before 5pm Mass

Drive-Thru Communion
Upon Request

Office Hours
Monday & Wednesday 11am to 2pm

August 20, 2023



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:28

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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TO LIVE AND TO LOVE IN CHRIST

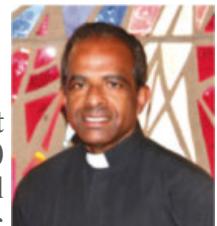
TO HEAR THE GOSPEL AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Dear Friends,



We have watched with great sadness the devastating fire that ravaged the town of Lahaina. The fires claimed nearly 100 lives and reduced to gray ash entire neighborhoods that had been a vibrant vision of color and island life. The Catholic Church in Lahaina, has survived the wildfire. "In God's Miraculous way our church Our Lady Of Victory standing tall," the Maria Lanakila Church posted on its Facebook page. It reminds us that in the midst of destruction and pain, God is here to stay for the people of Hawaii. He loves them. This is absolutely not a punishment from God. Catholic Charities of Hawaii is establishing shelters and providing food relief.



We will be taking a second collection for Hawaii next weekend, August 26 & 27 and this would be sent directly to Catholic Charities or to an organization recommended by Bishop Silva. I thank you for your generosity.

On August 12th, Pope Francis condemned the assassination of Ecuadorean presidential candidate, Fernando Villavicencio and called for an end to political violence in the South American country. "In the face of the suffering caused by unjustifiable violence, which he condemns unreservedly, His Holiness calls upon all citizens and political forces to unite in a common effort for peace," the Vatican said in a telegram of condolence sent to Archbishop Alfredo José Espinoza Mateus of Quito.

Political landscape is changing across the world including our nation. Major political parties used to disagree on policies – that's normal, useful tension that drives the engine of democracy. But today, each opposing side fears the other will destroy the nation if they come into power. Partisanship is equated with patriotism. The question is how can we, people of faith heal our country's toxic polarization and propensity for violence?

Jesus never promoted violence, rather he asked for peace. His answer to today's problems is the same as He gave 2000 years ago. "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you." "For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly." (1 Peter 2: 21-23).

Saint Maximilian Kolbe whose feast day we celebrated on August 14th shows us how we should continue to live our faith in the darkest moments when Governments become a force for evil and good people stay silent. What we call civilization today is a rather thin veneer and what lies beneath this surface is a terrifying heart of darkness. The larger story behind Maximilian's witness is this: It was in the heart of civilized Europe, among probably fading Christian culture, the death camps were built and millions of innocent men, women and children were put to death for no other reason than that their very existence challenged the oppressors. Christians should be realistic and not naïve.

In the midst of this world's darkness, we are called to be a light. Maximilian is one such light, his life and death stands as a testimony to Christ, who forgave his enemies from the cross and laid down his life.

Miroslav Volf, in "Christianity and Violence," states, "The contemporary resurgence of religion seems to go hand in hand with the resurgence of religiously legitimized violence.... Hence, the argument goes, it is necessary to weaken, neutralize, or outright eliminate religion as a factor in public life." If we Christians fail to live Jesus message of love, then religion will definitely lose its relevance. We are to usher in peace, not war. May St. Maximilian intercede for us. May we imitate his selfless courage. **Christianity is love, that overcomes all fear, it is light that brightens a shadowy world.**

Fr. Paulson



UPCOMING CTK MASS INTENTIONS

Aug. 21	Mon.	9:00am	Michael Del Rosario
Aug. 22	Tues.	9:00am	Adriano Peralta † Luzviminda Mirabel † Ruth Ellen Carlsen †
Aug. 23	Wed.	9:00am	Mary Lou Zabala † Tomas Guevara † Francisco Laurel †
Aug. 24	Thurs.	9:00am	Esther Deocarza † Joseph Frank Almeida † Spencer Swann
Aug. 25	Fri.	9:00am	Marie Del Rosario † Roche Family
Aug. 26	Sat.	9:00am	Peter Sheaff †
Aug. 26	Sat.	4:00pm	Anna Fe Alcantara † Inge Noble †
Aug. 27	Sun.	7:30am	Jack Cardoza †
Aug. 27	Sun.	9:00am	Betty Brenkle Cargo †
Aug. 27	Sun.	10:30am	Janet Dickson † Luis Sini-Ning † Tina Frial & Family
Aug. 27	Sun.	4:00pm	Josefa P. Lozano † Noel Rivera †

UPCOMING SS MASS INTENTIONS

Aug. 19	Sat.	5:00pm	Patricia White †
Aug. 20	Sun.	9:30am	Johanna Pauplis †
Aug. 21	Mon.	8:00am	Fran McCormick, Healing
Aug. 22	Tues.	8:00am	Loretta Holmes, Healing
Aug. 23	Weds.	8:00am	Jared Bergamini, Healing
Aug. 24	Thur.	8:00am	Leonard Pauplis †
Aug. 25	Fri.	8:00am	Pasqualina Mammola †
Aug. 26	Sat.	5:00pm	St. Stephen Parishioners
Aug. 27	Sun.	9:30am	Yvette Cormier †


REGISTER NOW!

SEPTEMBER 8-9, 2023
SPANISH LANGUAGE TRACK

SEPTEMBER 15-16, 2023
ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRACK

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Parish Picnic



Scan the QR
Code to RSVP

You're Invited to our First Annual CTK-St. Stephen Parish Picnic

For the Entire Family!

Sunday, September 17th - 1pm to 3pm

The picnic will be on the Large Lawn at CTK

BBQ Food, Fun, and Yard Games!

The cost is Free! But please rsvp at ctkph.org,
call the CTK office or scan the QR Code.



9am Mass Cancelled for CTK
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
(August 21, 22 & 23)

We are beginning Phase I of
installing our carpets
in the church.



CTK Flower Lovers

Would you enjoy arranging flowers for our church - perhaps once every six weeks? We would be grateful for your help. The flowers in church are done by volunteers on a rotating basis. If you have little experience we can offer some training. Questions? Or if interested, please contact Sr. Dominic Marie at 925-246-1122 or sisterdominic.marie@gmail.com



Join the CTK Family Choir!

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday at CTK, singing is a family affair! Last year, we launched a Family Choir at our 9:00 mass, and we'd love to invite more families to join in the fun.

The Family Choir is open to children of all ages and their families (children must come with at least one adult), and is focused on familiar and learnable music. No formal musical training is necessary - just a love of music and the ability to either attend a bi-weekly rehearsal or learn music at home. Additional training is available for any children or adults who are interested in learning how to cantor.

If you have any questions or would like to sign up, please e-mail Jennifer Bennett at: jenniferbennett1011@gmail.com. Thanks and hope to see you in the choir loft this fall!



Youth Ministry Registration OPEN!

School Year 2023-2024

Registration Deadline is August 24

Youth Ministry Offerings for
CTK-St. Stephen

Register for:

Middle School Youth Group (Grades 7 & 8)

High School Youth Group (Grades 9 and up)

High School Confirmation Program (Grades 10-12)

Confirmation begins Sunday, September 10th.

Register online at ctkph.org

Register Today!



Faith Formation Registration

For the School Year 2023-2024

Registration is open for

Kindergarten to 6th grade

Please visit our website at ctkph.org to register.

Registration deadline is September 7



CTK Eucharistic Minister Training
Monday, September 11

Would you like to participate in parish ministry without an extra time commitment? Join our ministers of the Eucharist – by helping to distribute Holy Communion during the weekend Mass of your choice. What a privilege it is to serve God and the community in this way!

Eucharistic Minister training on Monday, September 11, 7:00 pm in the Church with a greeting from Fr. Paulson and an introduction to the Eucharist by Sr. Dominic. Contact Kieran Chan, kierankc@pacbell.net with questions.



Our Special Second Collection next weekend

August 26 and 27

Funds will go to Catholic Charities in Hawaii to help with relief efforts in Maui.
Thank you for your generosity!



Italian Catholic Federation

Parishioners of CTK and St. Stephen's are invited to join our Christ the King branch of the Italian Catholic Federation. We meet one Sunday afternoon a month and enjoy fellowship, food and have fun together!

We are meeting this coming Sunday, August 20 at 1 pm in the parish hall and you are invited to join us for a pot luck Italian lunch. All are welcome and you don't have to be Italian to join! If you have other questions, contact our membership chairperson, Teri Hurlbut at 707-315-1902, or tmhurlbut@sbcglobal.net.



CTK/St. Stephen- CYO Cross Country Team For Grades 2 to 8 begins Monday, August 21

No experience necessary. Unlike track and field, in cross country we run longer distances and on dirt trails in parks rather than on a track. If you think your child might like this sport please join us and have them try it out. If they do not like it after the first week or two you can drop out and we will refund the \$60/runner participation fee.

Practice Schedule: Monday - Wednesday - Friday
5:30pm to 7:00pm

Practice location: Hidden Lakes Park, Morello and Chilpancingo (we meet at the picnic tables between the soccer field and the baseball fields). We will hold our first practice and take signups on **Monday, August 21**. If you cannot attend on the first day, no worries, we can take signups for the next week or so.

Contact info@ctktrack.org with questions.



CTK CYO Basketball 2023/24 Winter Season Registration

We look forward to seeing everyone out on the hardwood this season!

Please see our website at ctkph.org to register and for more updates and information.

Be sure to follow us on Instagram @cyoctlph, Facebook @CYOCTK Pleasant Hill and Twitter @CTKYOhoops.

CTK STAFF CONTACTS

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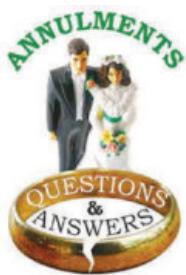
ADULT Faith FORMATION



**Jesus the teacher par excellence:
Discovering the wealth of the
Matthean Gospel.**

**Continues on Thursdays:
August 24, 31, & Sept. 7 & 14**

St. Stephen Church - Chapel
Thursday mornings at 10:00am
CTK Ministry Center Chapel
Thursday evenings at 6:30pm



Special Teaching Class on Annulments

Wednesday, August 23rd
in CTK's Ministry Center at 6pm.
If interested, please sign up at
ctkph.org or by calling CTK's parish
office at 925-682-2486.



"Wonderful Women of the Word"

**Mondays: September 18 - November 6
7:00-8:30 pm - CTK Parish Hall**

Kathy Roberts will present an eight-week study centered on some of the wonderful, wise, and even wicked women of the Scriptures. The format will include questions, discussion, and teaching.

Register at ctkph.org or by scanning the QR code.



Scan the QR code
to register

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

All who keep the sabbath free from profanation
and hold to my covenant,
them I will bring to my holy mountain
and make joyful in my house of prayer (Is 56:6-7)

Psalm:

O God, let all the nations praise you! (Ps 67)

Second Reading:

For God delivered all to disobedience,
that he might have mercy upon all. (Rom 11:32)

Gospel:

Then Jesus said to her in reply,
"O woman, great is your faith!
Let it be done for you as you wish." (Mt 15:28)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"O woman, great is your faith!" The Canaanite woman stood firm in her belief that God would answer her — even when those closest to him tried to send her away, and even when Christ himself challenged her. She never wavered.

Observances for the week of August 20, 2023

Sunday: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Pius X, Pope

Tuesday: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday: St. Rose of Lima, Virgin

Thursday: St. Bartholomew, Apostle

Friday: St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest

Next Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

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