

Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

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Thirteenth Sunday

in Ordinary Time

June 28, 2020

Whoever gives only a cup
of cold water to one of
these little ones
to drink because the
little one is a disciple —
amen, I say to you,
he will surely not
lose his reward.

Matthew 10:42



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SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

June 28 9:30 am Pasqualina Mammola †
June 29 7:30 am Jim McGraw †
July 2 7:30 am Michael & Philomena Pauplis †
July 5 9:30 am Jim McGraw †

***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

June 30 9 am Faustina Amalraj
July 1 9 am Cecilia Nguyen †
July 2 9 am William Mark Nieman †
July 3 9 am Michael O'Brian †

Saturday, July 4

9 am Paul Sbragia &
J.P. Sbragia-Zoricic †
5 pm Sophia Bornhym †
Patricia Voth †

***Sunday, July 5**

7 am Kathleen Fowley †
8 am Cynthia Castro †
9:15 am Tranquilino Guinez †
10:45 am Alfredo Quintans †
12:15 pm Craig, Valarie, Tina Frial
6 pm John I. Lawton †

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

Dear Friends,



Last Wednesday, the pastors of Walnut Creek, Concord and Pleasant Hill had a meaningful conversation with the city officials of Walnut Creek, which included the Mayor, City Manager and the Police Captain. Nearly two dozen Pastors from our area held a dialogue, which at times became tense and uncomfortable for many. The meeting ended on a visceral statement from the City Manager rather abruptly, meaning the conversation needed to continue. And it is continuing via email. I was the only Catholic Pastor, which bothers me in terms of our Churches' engagement on the difficult issues facing our society. There appears to be fear or unwillingness to engage with these difficult issues. Having that tough conversation can lead to the kind of real healing in our communities that is necessary for establishing a strong foundation and taking actions that result in more equitable outcomes.

Recent statements and media scrutiny about our own diocese call for healing here at home including our Bishop Barber, priests of the diocese and our communities of faith especially our African American brothers and sisters.

It's critically important to have the moral courage to say sorry. I'm sorry for the shared history. I'm sorry for the role my Church has played in the harm that has been caused to our communities of color. I'm sorry for the days when I didn't have a good day, but I'm going to hold myself accountable for my own actions that have contributed to racism and inequality. As your pastor, I am sorry for the times I have not been the best version of myself, for my silence, and unconstructive demeanor.

I have looked upon Vatican II as a watershed moment in the life of the Catholic similar to what we as a nation are going through right now, opening the doors far and wide to inclusion and outreach. These are two characteristic traits of the historical Jesus as well as the unique experience of the Holy Spirit in the early church, where everyone who listened to the apostles heard the Word of God in their own native language. This unique experience of the Holy Spirit was celebrated as a new Pentecost at Vatican II. In Gaudium et Spes # 60 (Church in the Modern World), the fathers wrote:

It is now possible to remove from most of the human race the curse of ignorance. A duty most appropriate in our times, especially for Christians, is to work untiringly to the end that fundamental economic and political decisions are taken, nationally and internationally, which will ensure the recognition and implementation everywhere of everyone's right to human and civil culture in harmony with personal dignity, without distinction of race, sex, nation, religion, or social circumstances.

Is it possible to be black and Catholic in the United States? In the words of Rev. Bryan N. Massingale, a priest and scholar of black Catholicism, it's still an open question. He believes that as long as the Church continues to operate as "a white institution," full integration of black culture will remain elusive. In remarks to the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress, in 2016, Massingale said the effort "to bring black cultural expression into the Church is met with anxiety and fear and rejection and hostility that doesn't surround Irish or German or Polish" Catholicism in the United States. As Gaudium et Spes #29 further states, ***"Any kind of social or cultural discrimination in basic personal rights on the grounds of sex, race, color, social conditions, language or religion, must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design."***

Our First communions are being celebrated on Saturday mornings outdoors with families exhibiting so much patience and understanding, while accompanying their children on their journey of faith. We have 84 candidates for confirmation, and I am aware that some of you will probably move on to college, making it harder for a communal celebration later. Deacon John Ashmore will be working with you to see how we can celebrate confirmation during this summer, once our first communions are complete.

If you feel the need for reconciliation, please email me and I shall schedule a time for confession. Missing mass during this pandemic is not a sin as our Bishop has extended his dispensation from attending mass.

I would like to promote our Thursday evening 6.00pm mass to our Mother of Perpetual Help. I am happy to see more and more people attending the mass. Our Pope added three new invocations to the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary "Mater misericordiae", the Latin for "Mother of mercy"; "Mater spei", or "**Mother of hope**"; and "Solacium migrantium", or "**Solace** of migrants" are the new invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Litany of Loreto, which is often recited at the end of the Rosary.

Thank you for your continued support to our church, which helps us to minister in creative ways. Online giving or giving by text has been the main source of our income. May God bless us, keep us safe and lead us to love one another.

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 ~ 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 Drive-In/Lawn

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

How Best to Enjoy Mass on the Grass!

- * **First 100 parishioners will be allowed on the grass.**
- * **Choose a marked X for your family unit.**
- * **Bring chairs or blanket, sunglasses, hats ~ dress for the weather!**
- * **Park your cars away from the grass area and walk to the grass.**
- * **For communion, follow the instructions of the priest.**
- * **Wear masks and sanitize your hands!**

Saturday at 5 pm, Sundays at 9 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm.

If you prefer, you can also stay in your car!



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time June 28, 2020

First Reading:

2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16

Elisha, who lived about 800 years before Christ, succeeded the great prophet Elijah, and was noted for his miraculous deeds. Today we hear of one such deed performed in gratitude for the hospitality given to him and his servant Gehazi.

Second Reading:

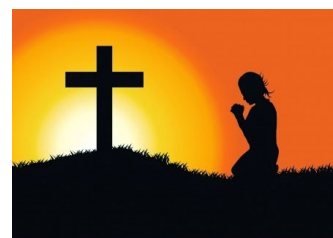
Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

In a previous section of his letter to the Romans, Paul taught that we sinners are reconciled to God through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Now Paul notes that we experience this reconciliation when in the traditional form of baptism, we are symbolically “buried” in the water and emerge to new life.

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



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!**



Eagle Project Food Drive

Supporting Monument Crisis Center In conjunction with Boy Scout Eagle Project Troop 282

Donations of all Non-Perishable Foods as well as paper bags are welcome. The most needed items are canned tuna, canned chicken, cereal and canned dinners (example Ravioli).

Due to Covid 19 the Monument Crisis Center has seen a huge increase of families needing their support. Please consider helping those in our community who are experiencing food insecurity.

Drop Off Food:

**Sunday, June 28th
1:00-2:30 PM**

Christ The King Church Parking Lot
Corner of Brandon and Gregory Lane,
Pleasant Hill
Use Gregory Lane Parking Lot Entrance

**For Questions Please Contact:
dominicminolli@gmail.com**

St. Stephen Update

This weekend's 2nd collection is for **Peters Pence**. The purpose of the Peter's Pence Collection is to provide the Holy Father with the financial means to respond to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease. Please be generous.

One of these weekend's we will finally get the sound right for our Parking Lot Mass! This week it was a battery that went dead in Fr. Vince's microphone. Join us on the lawn and you should have not have any problem hearing the Mass- or very little. As it is getting warmer out, feel free to bring an umbrella to shade your chair. Just be careful not to block anybody behind you. **A reminder, if you arrive after Mass starts, you will need to park on the side away from the lawn.**

If you are not receiving our weekly St. Stephen email updates, email the office and give us your email address.

Save the date - St. Stephen will be having a **Town Hall meeting on Thursday, July 9**. It will take the form of a ZOOM meeting at 11:00 am and repeated again at 7:00 pm. We are limiting the number of people at each ZOOM to keep it manageable. You will need to sign up for your preferred time. If we have a large response we will add a third time.

We are working on details on how those that do not have computer access and cannot attend ZOOM will be able to attend. More details will be coming. Fr. Paulson and John Banker will be updating you at the Town Hall meeting. You are welcome to submit your questions ahead of time. Email

saintstephenwc@gmail.com or call (925-274-1341) to sign up or submit your questions.

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

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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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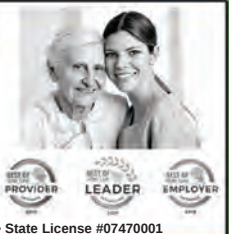
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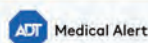
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