

Christ the King and St. Stephen Parishes

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TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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SEPTEMBER

27
2020

Humbly regard others
as more important
than yourselves,
each looking out not
for his own interests,
but also for those of others.

Philippians 2:3-4

SS UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS

Sept. 24 9 am Madeline Gomes †
Sept. 27 9:30 am St. Stephen & CTK Parishioners
Oct. 4 9:30 am Madeline Gomes †

**All CTK 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

Sept. 28 9 am Romm Leal †
Sept. 29 9 am Rowena Badong †
Sept. 30 9 am Eileen Radding †
Oct. 2 9 am Jimmy Ladao †
6 pm Cesar Mendoza†, Luis Zoleta, Sr †
Paz Zoleta †

Saturday, October 3

9 am Juvenal Figueiro †
5 pm Mary Taggart †

Sunday, October 4

7 am CTK & SS Parishioners
8 am Rocco Costanza †
9:15 am Eddie Connell †
10:45 am Paul Sbragia & J.P. Sbragia-Zoricic †
12:15 pm Amando Vasques †
6 pm Benjamin L. Abrantes, Sr. †

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

Dear Friends,

I recently read an article on transformational leadership by Nancy Sylvester, and I was struck by her thrust. **"We are all connected, we just are not awake to it."** I particularly enjoyed a quote from Thomas Merton., a Trappist monk, who famously wrote about his experience at the corner of Fourth and Walnut in Louisville, Kentucky:



"I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization that I loved all those people, that they were mine and I theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers. It was like waking from a dream of separateness, of spurious self-isolation in a special world. ... And if only everybody could realize this! But it cannot be explained. There is no way of telling people that they are all walking around shining like the sun. ... If only they could all see themselves as they really are. If only we could see each other that way all the time. There would be no more war, no more hatred, no more cruelty, no more greed."

Bishop Barber has established a committee on Racial Justice and Equality under the leadership of Fr. Leo Edgerly. Three of us from CTK including myself are part of this group, and we will be meeting on zoom for the first time this evening. Kindly keep our church, especially our diocese and our leaders in your prayer.



Although "church" has often been referred to as a building or organization, the original Greek *ekklesia* meant "a gathering, assembly" that is what God designed the church to be—a group of people, a body of believers defined by love. "For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink." (1Cor 12: 12-13) The future of our church and world depends on transformational leaders who can bring forth in us new ways of addressing the common good amidst difficult choices. We need to remind ourselves constantly that we are all one, we are all connected and we are God's children.

On October 4, people all over the world will be celebrating the feast day of the Patron Saint of Animals, St. Francis of Assisi. It's customary that in remembrance of St. Francis's love for all creatures, animals are brought to churches for a special blessing. Next weekend, October 3rd and 4th, you can attend church outdoors with your animals secured next to you. At the end of all the masses, the priests will go around blessing the animals.

I look forward to celebrating jubilees of the Sisters this Saturday at 5pm, followed by Music on the Lawn. I am also eager to celebrate the confirmation of our youth on Sunday at 6pm. May God bless our communities.

Fr. Paulson

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 27, 2020

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

Ezekiel was an Old Testament prophet who ministered to the Jewish people exiled in Babylon. At that time, the Israelites believed that each person was locked into their history. Because of what their ancestors did, or because of their own past deeds, their course was set toward good or evil. In this passage, God, speaking through Ezekiel, corrects this view and calls each of them to personal responsibility.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Paul wrote from prison to his Christian converts in Philippi, a city in what is today north-eastern Greece. While he was in prison, the Philippians had sent someone to bring money for his support and to stay with him. Paul thanks them by quoting an early Christian hymn which he felt summarized how all Christians should live.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MASSES

CTK: Monday - Saturday:

9 am Mass ~ Live streamed from our chapel on facebook/YouTube

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

Christ The King Weekends

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

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 in front of the church.

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 2nd collection for the weekend of Oct. 3-4 is for **Catholic Voice**. This publication gives us news about our diocese. If you are not currently receiving the Catholic Voice, please contact the office and we will see that you are included in their mailing.

This past Sunday morning turned out to be a beautiful morning. You could tell everyone was enjoying it because we had a record outdoor attendance at our 9:30 am Mass, though there is still room for more cars and people. **Please honor the safety cones** put up to keep cars from driving through the lower parking lot during Mass. This is for everyone's safety as well as cutting down on distractions during Mass. If you come late, please drive to the left to park.

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Upcoming Mass Schedule Highlights

Saturday 9/26 at the 5 pm mass, we will celebrate the 60th Jubilee for Sr. Carmel Garcia, CSJ and Sr. Marietta Fahey, SHF followed by music on the lawn. Make plans to join us!



October 3rd and 4th, we will celebrate St. Francis of Assisi with blessing of our animals! Bring your leashed pets to mass with you and our priests will bless them! Please make sure your pets are well behaved!



Married couples-Enrich your marriage from the comfort of your own home! Join us for a Virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience presented November 20-22, 2020. Please go to oaklandwwme.org or call Joe & Sue @ 925-680-7767 or Ray & Roberta @ 916-806-4601 for more information.

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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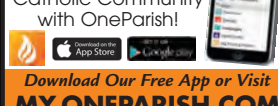
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