

Christ Child Catholic Church

*Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the
Challenges of Loving Service*

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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT **March 12, 2017**

“O Lord, open his eyes so he may see.”

There is a mysterious story in 2 Kings that can help us understand what is happening in the **Transfiguration**, Israel is at war with Aram, and Elisha, the man of God, is using his prophetic powers to reveal the strategic plans of the Aramean army to the Israelites. At first the King of Aram thinks that one of his officers is playing the spy, but when he learns the truth he dispatches troops to go and capture Elisha who is residing in Dothan. The Aramean troops move in under cover of darkness and surround the city. In the morning Elisha's servant is the first to discover that they are surrounded and fears for his master's safety. He runs to Elisha and says, “Oh, my lord, what shall we do?” The prophet answers “Don't be afraid. Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” But who would believe that when the surrounding mountainside is covered with advancing enemy troops? So Elisha prays, “O Lord, open his eyes so he may see.” Then the Lord opens the servant's eyes, and he looks and see the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha (2 Kings 6:8-23).

This vision was all that Elisha's disciple needed to reassure him. At the end of the story, not only was the prophet of God safe, but the invading army was totally humiliated.

The objective and time of the Transfiguration

The primary purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to consult his Heavenly Father in order to ascertain His plan for Our Lord's suffering, death and Resurrection. The secondary aim was to make his chosen disciples aware of His Divine glory, so that they might discard their worldly ambitions about a conquering political Messiah. A third purpose was to strengthen their Faith and hope and to encourage them to persevere through the future ordeal. The Transfiguration took place in late summer, probably in AD 29, just prior to the Feast of Tabernacles. Hence, the Orthodox tradition celebrates the Transfiguration at about the time of the year when it actually occurred in order to connect it with the Old Testament Feast of Tabernacles. Western tradition celebrates the Transfiguration twice, first at the beginning of Lent with the Gospel account and second on August 6 with a full feast day liturgy.

Each Sacrament that we receive Transforms us

Baptism, for example, transforms us into sons and daughters of God and heirs of heaven.

Confirmation makes us the temples of the Holy Spirit. By the Sacrament of

Reconciliation, God brings back the sinner to the path of holiness. By receiving in Faith the Sacrament of the **Anointing of the Sick**, we are spiritually, and if God wills physically, healed and our sins are forgiven.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By request or by appointment

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS:

Call the office for an appointment.

Anointing of the Sick

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually by appointment

For Pregnancy Support:

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

Prayer Group in the Parish

Every Tuesday at 8:15 am. All Women
And All Men.

MASS INTENTIONS March 11 - 17

Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Adeline Laranjo

Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Cecily Olsen

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Roman Kubalski

Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Rebecca Olsen

Thursday 9:00 a.m. + Fr. Thomas Parker

Friday 8:00 a.m. Jesus Plaza Montero

March 17th – Saint Patrick's Day Dinner

Save the date for our annual Saint Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage dinner celebration. The Diocese has a special dispensation for eating corned beef on this Friday of Lent in honor of Saint Patrick so do not worry!

Stations of the Cross Friday's
Soup at 6:30 pm and followed by the prayer of Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm.

Women's Club/Prayer Group

We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month from 7-8:30 p.m., in the Community Center.

Next meeting Wednesday March 22nd

Our focus is social and spiritual at the same time; get to know our faith and each other better so that we can better serve the needs of our community.

Please contact Ruth McCormick
ruthmcc@flash.net to get on our email list or ask any questions.

Men's Club Meeting

Our next meeting will be a 6:30 pm. on Wednesday, April 12th

Great conversation starts at 6:30 pm.

And Dinner at Community Center.

We have very good support for one another.

For more information, contact the Parish.

All men welcome!

2017 Annual Ministry Appeal

Over the next few weeks you'll be hearing about the 2017 Annual Ministry Appeal and how the ministries of the Diocese of Monterey Celebrating 50 Years 1967-2017 serve all of us.

One Faith, One Family! A Community of Faith, Hope & Charity Campus Ministry – Catholic Schools – Catechetical Ministry – Youth and Young Adult Ministry
Our parish goal this year is \$8,000.

Troop Care Packages

As we do each year on the last Sunday in February, Christ Child Church joined together with Mountain Bible Church and other members of the community to prepare boxes of personal goods for our soldiers overseas. We were able to prepare 135 boxes for the troops, and also raised \$425 to help with the shipping of the boxes. Sarah Puckett, who helps ship the boxes, was excited as they were completed in time to coordinate with the Operation Care and Comfort shipping in mid-March.

Car Show Corner:

Our 9th Annual, Blessing of the Hot Rods, is May 20th. Please mark your calendars to include this fund/fun raising event for our Parish. Look in the Bulletin each week to read updates and needs for our event. Currently we are in need of Baskets for our Raffle and jewelry donation for our jewelry sales table. Thanks!