

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

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TWENTIETH-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
October 15, 2017

The Image of God

We've probably all heard the story of the little girl we call Angelica, whose whole name is Michelle Angelica. She's aspiring to become a great artist. One day, Angelica spread out all her crayons and bent over a large piece of paper. For a long time, she worked and concentrated as hard as she could. When her older brother came by and asked what she was doing, she replied, "I'm drawing a picture of God." The brother smirked and said, "Nobody knows what God looks like!" Angelica simply replied, "They will when I'm finished!" While we may have never tried to draw God's picture, we all have implicit images of God, some of which we have articulated, some of which are all the more powerful for not having been brought to consciousness. Our hymns, religious art and the prayers we've learned have all subtly shaped our theology from the time we could focus or understand the words we heard. One way we might uncover our implicit theology is by asking what we pray for and what we expect from prayer. We can learn a lot by questioning our theology in the mode of a 5-year-old. What do we think God does all day, what do we ask God to do?

When we demand punishment for crime or strive in someone else's language, we are unconsciously putting our theology on display. Our day-to-day activities and choices demonstrate what we see as the meaning of life and indicate what we think God is concerned about.

That's the idea behind what Paul told the Philippian community when he said to them: "Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus." Paul went on to quote a well-known hymn that proclaimed the scandalously new image of God that they had encountered in Christ. The very first line proclaimed the essence of Christian faith. Christ Jesus was in the form of God. That is to say: "If you want to know what God looks like, look to this man." The next line gets to the scandal of the Christian revelation: He "did not regard equality with God something to be grasped." That means that Christ was unconcerned about looking like what people thought God should look like. His mode of portraying God in human form had nothing to do with displays of power or imposing dignity. In fact, it was the very opposite.

Paul says, "He humbled himself becoming obedient to the point of death." This indicates that to be divine is to be humble. It also explains Jesus' obedience as full communion with the Father whose desire was simply to share life with humanity. Jesus was divine and human, and his life portrayed self-giving as God's constant activity and humanity's greatest possibility. The last part of the hymn is the confirmation. Christ's way of giving himself, of remaining true even through the most degrading maltreatment humanity could invent, was the most perfect portrait of the self-giving God that history will ever know. Because of that Paul says, God exalted him.

That's exactly what Paul was telling the Philippians. You know what Christ was like. You know how he revealed that God's activity is an eternal self-giving, no matter the response. Therefore, go and do likewise! Let that love come alive in you! Forget your petty egoism and vanity.

Show the world what divinity looks like! In the process, you will become all you were created to be. (cf. Philippians 2:1-11)
(Mary M. McGlone, a Sister of St. Joseph, is currently writing the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph in the U.S.)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By request or appointment

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Call the office for an appointment

Anointing of the Sick

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually call for an appointment

For Pregnancy Support

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

Prayer Group in the Parish

Every Tuesday at 8:15 a.m. all Women
And all Men!

MASS INTENTIONS October 14 - 20

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Adolph Donato Jr.

Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Martina Durham

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Mike Lloyd

Thursday 9:00 a.m. Adolph Donato Jr.

Friday 8:00 a.m. Communion Services

Mountain Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Become a volunteer or contribute

MNHN95033@gmail.com

Patricia Wood 316-2938

Men's Club Meeting

Our next meeting and dinner will be at 6:30 PM. on Wednesday, **November 8, 2017**

"Together, supporting each other, we can do great things."

Women's Club/Prayer Group

We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month, from 1 to 2:30 PM. **October 25th, 2017**

Our focus is social and spiritual at their same time.

Please contact Ruth McCormick
rithmcc@flash.net

Are you an Adult?

And would you like to be Catholic or be confirmed or receive the Eucharist. Please call at 408.353.2210. We will be very happy to help you! Fr. Eugenio

**ATTENTION FAITH
FORMATION CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

We would like to remind you that Faith Formation classes have begun.

Please bring your children!

The classes for Grades 1 to 8 every Sunday @ 9:00 a.m. Please contact Chris Magnin and Herb Curran after Mass!

**It's time to clean out the closet for the
ANNUAL CHRIST CHILD COAT DRIVE**

Collection box will be in the Church foyer starting on **October 14, 2017**. Please ask friends, family, and neighbors to donate gently used coats, jackets, winter hats, gloves and scarves. We'll gladly accept all sizes and gender. Infant and toddler sizes are always needed. Our friends at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Greenfield, California greatly appreciate this kind act of giving. Thank you. **Need information - Contact Andrea Bruna 408 353-3101**

**Santa Clara Faith Formation Conference:
God is Always With Us**

Register for the **November 3-4, 2017**

Santa Clara Faith Formation Conference!

Join thousands of clergy, religious, catechists, liturgists, and lay ministers from parishes and Catholic schools for two days of formation, prayer, inspiration and networking.

Workshops in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese will focus on the Word, Worship and Witness as key components to our ongoing faith formation.

Registration and other pertinent information are available online at **www.SCFFC.org** and on-site registration will be available. We look forward to seeing you at #SCFFC2017.