

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

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**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
November 5, 2017**

“Do and observe all things whatsoever the scribes and Pharisees tell you, but do not follow their example. For they preach but do not practice. They tie up heavy burdens hard to carry and lay them on people’s shoulders... “The greatest among you must be your servant.”

Matthew 23: 1-12

A miracle worked

Robertson and Muriel McQuilkin were married for 55 years. They had a wonderful life together: he was a minister and president of a seminary; she was an artist, counselor and teacher. Then, in 1979, Alzheimer’s disease began taking hold of Muriel. As the disease progressed, Robertson resigned from the seminary in order to care for Muriel full-time. For 25 years, Robertson stood by his beloved Muriel as her condition deteriorated. Muriel died in September 2003 at the age of 81. As he cared for Muriel, Robertson McQuilkin chronicled this last chapter of their life

together in three articles published in the magazine Christianity Today. The articles are real but touching reflection on the mystery of love and marriage.

To those well-meaning friends who wondered how he could walk away from the work he loved, who urged him to accept his wife’s fate and move on with his own life, Robertson responds:

“When the time came (to resign), the decision was firm. It took no great calculation. It was a matter of integrity. Had I not promised 42 years before ‘in sickness and in health... Til death do us part’? This was no grim duty to which I stoically resigned. It was only fair. She had, after all, cared for me for almost four decades with marvelous devotion; now it was my turn. And such a partner she was! If I took care of her for 40 years, I would never be out of her debt.

“She is a delight to me. I don’t have to care for her, I get to. One blessing is the way she is teaching me so much – about love, for example, God’s love... I’ve learned to ‘go with the flow’ and not correct irrational behavior... Memories help, too. Muriel stocked the cupboard of my mind with the best of them. I often live again a special moment of love she planned or laugh at some remembered outburst of her irrepressible approach to life. Sometimes the happy doesn’t bubble up with joy but rains down gently with tears.

“As I watch her brave descent into oblivion, Muriel is the joy of my life. Daily I discern new manifestations of the kind of person she is, the wife I’ve always loved. I also see fresh manifestations of God’s love – the God I long to love more fully. “We (trusted) in the Lord to work a miracle in Muriel if he so desired, or work a miracle in me if he did not.”

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There are many stories like the McQuilkins – stories of such devoted love and faithfulness here in our own parish, in our own community. Their quiet lives teach us what it means to be a disciple of the Gospel of Jesus whose entire life is a parable of humble and selfless service to others. Christ-like service begins with a sense of gratitude for the blessings we have received and integrity to live lives worthy of those blessings. Jesus, who welcomed to his side the rejected and scorned of society, who washed the feet of his friends and taught them to do the same, leaves the legacy of such “greatness” to us, his Church.

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’s at 8:15 am. All women and men!

MASS INTENTIONS November 4 - 10

Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Martina Durham

**Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Leslie R. Olsen
+ Judith Ann Hammond**

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Martina Durham

Thursday 9:00 a.m. + Patrick Mahoney

Friday 8:00 a.m. + Judith Ann Hammond

Stewardship of Treasury

Report Sunday October 28 & 29, 2017

Total Plate	\$ 886.00
EFT	\$ 629.00
TOTAL	\$1,515.00

**Second Collection for Maintenance was \$380.00
May God bless your generosity; you make the difference in the life of the Parish, Thank You!**

14th Annual Giving at Greenfield

It is a holiday tradition for the Christ Child parish to adopt 58 families from the Greenfield community. We will have the family information available after Mass on Nov 4 & 5, 11 & 12, 18 & 19. **We will deliver gifts on Saturday, December 9th.** For information contact Karen at 408- 353-2020 Or kjoesten@scusd.net

Men’s Club Meeting - Our next meeting and dinner will be at 6:30 PM. on Wednesday, November 8th, 2017

“Together, supporting each other, we can do great things!”

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN! Please remember to return your filled Baby Bottles for the Respect Life Collection for Birthright of San Jose by next weekend. God bless and thank you for your generosity!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

**Please bring your children!
Classes for Grades 1 to 8 – Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.**

The 2017 Christ Child Coat Drive

Please look around the house for any gently used coats and jackets that you would like to donate for our friends at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Greenfield, CA. Ask your neighbors and family if they have unused coats and jackets taking up space in the closet. All sizes are accepted.

**Please contact Andrea Bruna at 408 353-3101 with any questions.
Thank you.**

Women’s Club/Prayer Group

We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month, **November 22nd from 1 to 2:30 pm.** Our focus is social and spiritual; at the same time. Please contact Ruth McCormick ruthmcc@flash.net