

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

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
March 18, 2018

Today's readings on the approaching death of Jesus which Paul considers a priestly and John considers the moment of Jesus' "exaltation" and "glorification." The readings offer us a challenge. Just as Jesus became the "Promised Messiah of Glory" and the "Conquering Son of Man" by offerings his life for others, we, too, must possess Heaven by dying to self and by spending our lives in self-giving, sacrificial service.

Dying for Another

The story of **Maximilian Kolbe** is well-known. He was a Franciscan priest in Poland, and he was in a concentration camp during the Second World War. Some prisoners had escaped, and the authorities were determined that this should not happen again. For every prisoner that escaped they picked a prisoner in the group, and that prisoner was condemned to die. After one young man was picked, someone who had a wife and young family back home, Maximilian stepped forward and offered to take his place. The

soldiers were shocked at this, but they took him up on his offer, and the young man returned to the group. Maximilian died in a horrible fashion, as they were all locked in cages and left there to starve to death. All during that time he encouraged others and inspired them with his prayers. He was canonized some years later and the prisoner whose place Maximilian took, wept through the entire ceremony. I like to think that he understood what real love is, and that death would no longer have any fear for him. (Jack McArdle in *And That's the Gospel Truth*; quoted by Fr. Botelho).

Life messages: New life and eternal life are made attainable for us only by the death of the self through suffering and service. Salt delivers its taste by dissolving in water; a candle gives light by burning its wick and melting its wax. The oyster produces a priceless pearl by a long and painful process. Loving parents sacrifice themselves so that their children can enjoy a better life than they themselves have. Let us pray for this self-sacrificial spirit, especially during Lent. **Only a life spent for others will be glorified here in this world and in Heaven.** We know that the world owes everything to people who have spent their time and talents for God and for their fellow human beings. Mother Teresa, for instance, gave up her comfortable teaching career and, with just 17 cents in her pocket, began her challenging life for the "poorest of the poor" in the crowded streets of Calcutta. Thus, she became, in the words of the Secretary General of the U.N., "the most powerful woman in the world." We see similar cases in the history of great saints, scientists and benefactors of mankind in all walks of life.

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 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 17 - 23

Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Toñita Vilanova
Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Harold M Hoyt
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. Mark Walsh
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Brandon Durham
Thursday 9:00 a.m. Murphy - Dwyer
Friday 8:00 a.m. + Toñita Vilanova

TREASURY REPORT SUNDAY

March 10 & 11, 2018

Plate..... \$ 1,053.00
EFT..... \$ 581.00
Total \$ 1,534.00

Thank you and May God the Father bless you!

Stations of the Cross

Friday's of Lent at 6:30 p.m. – Soup followed by the prayers of the Stations of the Cross.

Women's Club/Prayer Group

We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month from **1 to 2:30 pm. in the Community Center.** **Our next meeting is Wednesday March 28th!** 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

Pre-Easter Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday and Tuesday March 26 & 27 at 7:00 pm. in the Church!!!

Christ Child Men's Club

Our next meeting and dinner will be at 6:30 pm. On Wednesday **April 11th 2018**
"Together, supporting each other, we can do great things."

Dear Parishioners,

After a week of struggling to live **Harold Hoyt** died March 14th Please join me in holding them in your prayers. Please pray for the family, especially for **Shirley**. Thank you for being part of such a loving and prayerful community.
Fr. Eugenio

Prayer requests: can be emailed to christchildchurchprayerline@gmail.com OR written and placed in the box provided in the Church foyer!

Parish Retreat

Walking the Way With Open Eyes and a Burning Heart. Friday, April 6 (7:00 pm – 8:30 pm) Saturday, April 7 (9:00 am – 3:30 pm). Join us for our parish Easter retreat with master retreat leader, **Fr. Michael Fish, OSB, Cam.** **Holy Cross Parish Hall. To Register: call 831 430.6207**

HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday March 29th

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7 pm

Good Friday March 30th

Stations of the Cross at 12:00 p.m. around the Parish with the Mountain Bible Church

The Passion of Our Lord – 7pm

Holy Saturday Night March 31

Solemn Easter Vigil – 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday April 1st

Sunrise Service with Mountain Bible Church at the Gazebo – 7 am

Mass Resurrection of the Lord at 10 am

After Mass there will be an Egg Hunt on the Church grounds!