

Christ the King Church

199 Brandon Road, Pleasant Hill, CA 925-682-2486



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SECOND SUNDAY OF

Easter

(OR OF DIVINE MERCY)

APRIL 8, 2018

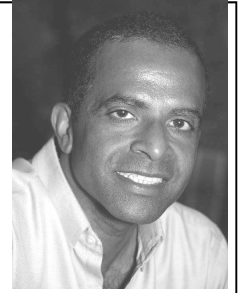
Jesus said to Thomas,
 “Have you come to believe
 because you have seen me?
 Blessed are those who
 have not seen
 and have believed.”

John 20:29

Week At A Glance	Upcoming Mass Intentions	Schedule of Masses
<p>Sunday, 4/8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Clow/No RE ICF, Hall 2 pm Confirmation, Parish Hall 7 pm <p>Monday, 4/9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RCIA, Room C 7 pm RE Grades 1-5, Older Sacraments <p>Tuesday, 4/10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RE Grades 1-5 & Grades 7-8 Perpetual Help/Rosary, Church 7 pm <p>Wednesday, 4/11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RE Grades 1-5 & Grade 6 Young Adults, Room D 7 pm <p>Thursday, 4/12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centering Prayer, Knights Hse 10am 2nd Gr. Comm. Prac., Church Youth Group, Parish Hall 7:30 pm <p>Friday, 4/13</p> <p>Saturday, 4/14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2nd Grade First Euch, 10 am, 12 pm <p>Sunday, 4/15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CLOW, RE 3yr., Pre-K, K sessions 	<p>4/9 8 am - Albert Kuchins+</p> <p>4/10 8 am - John & Gerald McGhee+</p> <p>4/11 8 am - Mary Ellen Kanther+, Pearl Boland+, Robert Franc+</p> <p>4/12 8 am - Deserie Staperberg+</p> <p>4/13 8 am - Bob Mimiaga+</p> <p>Saturday, 4/14</p> <p>8 am - James Gentile+</p> <p>5 pm - Don Waksdale+</p> <p>Sunday, 4/15</p> <p>7 am - Bill Sutherland+</p> <p>8 am - John Bellecci+</p> <p>9:15 am - Larry Menke+</p> <p>10:45 am - Joe Cottone+</p> <p>12:15 pm - Katherine Dietrich+</p> <p>6:00 pm - Leonard Keith+</p>	<p>Monday - Friday, 8:00 am</p> <p>Saturday - 8:00 am, 5:00 pm</p> <p>Sunday Masses: 7 am, 8 am, 9:15 am, 10:45 am, 12:15 pm, 6 pm</p> <p>Confessions: Saturday, 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm</p> <p>Parish Office: 682-2486/www.ctkph.org</p> <p>Religious Ed: 686-1017 www.ctkreliouseducation.org</p> <p>Youth Ministry: 676-0979 www.ctkym.org</p> <p>Facebook: Christ the King Catholic Community of Pleasant Hill</p>

Dear Friends,

This week, the universal church celebrates Mercy Sunday. The opening prayer addresses the Father as "God of Mercy." In the Psalm we will pray several times, "His mercy endures forever." Our English word, mercy, goes back to the Latin: misericordia, which is composed of two words. "Cordia" which means heart. The first part, "miseri" refers to suffering. Mercy, then, means to have a heart for those who suffer or, more precisely, to have a heart willing to suffer for others. Many of us tend purely to focus on God's Mercy and forget about our call to translate that into our personal lives. I would like to address a couple of things that our Faith In Action Committee and I personally have been working on during the past weeks.



In March, the Pastors of various denominations from our county gathered together to talk about the **"Poor People's Campaign,"** a platform that describes the unjust economic conditions facing millions of people worldwide. On February 5th, the poor, people without homes, the disenfranchised, clergy, concerned individuals, local community based organizations, and regional community-based organizations, gathered to launch California's the "Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival." I am interested in this movement with my colleagues from other churches and non-profit groups, because of Jesus' own predilection for the poor. The fact is, the homeless are in every community in Contra Costa. The number of children and students who are homeless are very alarming in our community. The 2017 count identified 1,607 homeless people within Contra Costa County. Approximately 85 percent of those are classified as "chronically homeless." The fact that Churches are taking a serious look into this challenge gives us all hope. I am praying that CTK can soon partner with the Knights of Malta to provide medical and legal services to the poor soon from our campus. I will keep you informed in this regard. It has been a joy for me to meet so many wonderful men and women pastors of the area. Often, I find myself the lone voice from the Catholic side.

Another issue that I would like to bring to our attention is one that has to do with undocumented brothers and sisters who are kept in detention centers. Unlike protections afforded to those who break our laws in the criminal system, there aren't any when it comes to those who break our civil laws. The plight of the detainees is left to the deputies who manage the centers. Recently our Contra Costa Sheriff ordered the termination of visitation rights for the Community Initiatives for Visiting Immigrants in Confinement, or CIVIC, a San Francisco group that monitors jails and provides visitation and case review for detainees. CIVIC is the organization that brought to light the alleged abuse of female detainees in the West County Detention Facility (WCDF). I don't know if I should get involved in the politics that is probably at the core of some of the decisions (I leave that to you), but I am concerned for those detained. Jesus said, "I was in prison and you visited me." I do believe in ministering to people in detention centers and prisons, guaranteeing their rights and ensuring that they are treated with respect while their cases are processed. Again, the dedication and commitment of our religious leaders are inspiring, to say the least. Praise the Lord. Amen.

Once again, let us remind ourselves that this is Mercy Sunday. This is a beautiful prayer from Saint Faustina, a humble apostle of Divine Mercy.

"Help me, O Lord,

... that my eyes may be merciful, so that I will never be suspicious or judge by appearances, but always look for what is beautiful in my neighbors' souls and be of help to them;

... that my ears may be merciful, so that I will be attentive to my neighbors' needs, and not indifferent to their pains and complaints;

... that my tongue may be merciful, so that I will never speak badly of others, but have a word of comfort and forgiveness for all;

... that my hands may be merciful and full of good deeds;

... that my feet may be merciful, so that I will hasten to help my neighbor, despite my own fatigue and weariness;

... that my heart may be merciful, so that I myself will share in all the sufferings of my neighbor"

(Diary, 163).

Paulson

Rossmoor/Tice Valley Friends of Christ the King Potluck Dinner - Do you live in the Rossmoor/Tice Valley (94595) area of Walnut Creek? There are nearly 90 of us! On Wednesday, April 25, at 5 pm, our CTK group will host another dinner gathering this year in Rossmoor with Fr. Paulson Mundanmani. Bring a dish and a beverage to share! We will do dessert! RSVP by 4/21 to Chris & Dick Bertrand at 925-963-3991 or Chris@Bertrandonline.com.

Please join **Cancer Support Community** for its 4th Annual Hope Walk scheduled for **Saturday, May 19 at Heather Farm from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm.** The registration fee is \$25 and includes an event t-shirt. Register at hopewalkbayarea.net. Questions about the walk or the FREE services CSC provides to people who face cancer? Please call Carol at CSC [925-953-1209](tel:925-953-1209).

Summer @ Carondelet! Whether your child is looking for educational, enrichment or sports programs this summer, Carondelet High School has it all! Our co-ed programs for students ages 7-17 include: middle school classes, high school advancement and remediation, sports clinics, ID tech courses and a leadership camp. Visit CarondeletHS.org/Summer for more details and register today!

From the finance committee: Tax Planning - If you have an IRA and are over the age of 70 1/2, you are faced with a required minimum distribution from your IRA. The IRS has a qualified charitable donation rule that allows you to exempt your distribution from taxes. The significant advantage of this is that it lowers your adjusted gross income. The main rules are: donation must be paid directly from the IRA to the charity; the donor must be over 70 1/2; the amount is limited to \$100k. If you are in this situation, check and see if it makes sense for you to apply this IRS rule and direct your distribution to Christ the King Parish.

Website Assistance Needed - CTK's Faith in Action committee is in need of a volunteer who can maintain the committee's webpage on the parish website. After an initial update, ongoing work would likely only involve a few hours per month. If you'd be interested in helping, please contact Pat at pstevens6604@sbcglobal.net.

SVDP membership has dropped from 63 to 50. Consequently, it's becoming difficult to staff the coverage necessary to adequately serve our clients. Please contact Steve Paris at 925-825-3687 or by email at smparis1@comcast.net if you are interested in seeing whether this ministry is a good fit for you.

Shopping for First Communion? The Gift Shop at San Damiano Retreat is the place! We have many sacramental items and gifts for all occasions: Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation and more. The shop is open daily. San Damiano Retreat, 710 Highland Dr., Danville. Call 925-837-9141 or sandamiano.org.

Thank you for participating in CRS **Rice Bowl** this Lent! Please turn in your rice bowl to the ushers. **Thanks for your support of Catholic Relief Services.** We hope that the prayer, fasting and learning of the Rice Bowl program has made your almsgiving a meaningful expression of practicing Lent this year.

Tour to Ireland and Scotland! - Back by popular demand, Sr. Joanne Gallagher will be leading another enjoyable tour in August 2018. More details soon. Call Sr. Joanne at 925-989-3862 for more information.

This year's **Quo Vadis Camp** is scheduled on July 15-18 at the Diocese of Oakland Youth Retreat Center in Lafayette. The three day camp aims to assist young men in discerning their vocation as they grow in relationship with Christ. Camp is open to young men ages 13-18. Call the vocations office at 510-267-8356.

**Second Sunday of Easter
(Sunday of Divine Mercy)
April 8, 2018**

First Reading: Acts:4:32-35

Luke wrote a two-volume work: Volume One was his Gospel; volume Two was the Acts of the Apostles which describes the life of the Church after the Resurrection of Jesus. Every year, during the seven weeks of the Easter season, the first reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles. In today's passage, Luke gives an idealized description of early Christian community life.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

Today and for the remaining Sundays for the Easter season, our second reading will be taken from the first letter of John. It was written about 100 AD and is one of the last New Testament books to be composed. This letter was written in the tradition of the apostle John and thus bears his name. Today's passage from near the end of this brief letter treats the fundamentals of Christian life: Faith, love, and the commandments.

Pray for Our Sick

May you be wrapped up in God's love, Found deep in His everlasting wings, carried and kept, safe and cherished. May the healing power of Christ breathe across your being now.

**Ryan Joseph, Violet DeBorja,
Rich Cotter**

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TIME TO GET EXCITED! FESTIVAL IS MAY 18/19

Festival Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, April 9 at 7 pm in the media room. Join us, we'd love to hear your ideas! **All are welcome!**

We are in need of **'like new' stuffed animals and glass-ware** (glasses, cups, small dishes). Please bring your donations to the school office lobby in a box labeled 'Festival'.

Calling all bakers! We are in need of baked goods for both the cakewalk and for bingo desserts. If you love to bake and can help us out we would be most appreciative. We would love to accept your delicious cookies, cakes, cupcakes, bars, banana bread, etc. Please contact Nancy Molina at mrsmk@icloud.com if you are able to help.

CTK Festival Talent Show - Saturday, May 19th 12 - 2:00 pm! **All school and parish families are invited to perform** at our annual talent show - kids and parents alike! Sing, dance, play - individually or in a group. A mandatory rehearsal will be held on Thursday, May 3rd in the school amphitheater at 3:00. Must be a CTK parishioner or school family to participate. Please email christthekingfestival@gmail.com for more information.

Starbooks is Back!! We are accepting books for the Starbooks room. We accept **clean and gently used books for adults and children** - fiction, non-fiction, religion, travel, cooking, etc. Please no textbooks, magazines, VHS/cassettes or encyclopedias! If you have questions or would like to help, contact Suellen at snnoland@hotmail.com. We especially need sturdy copy paper boxes with lids. Drop off your donations outside the gym doors by May 17. (doors off small lot - please don't block the doors).

Spring Cleaning anyone? Perfect timing as the **Country Store is BACK!** We will accept donations of all new, or gently used items, but please no furniture, clothing or computers. Please No Junk and remember that these items will be resold. New this year - set drop off dates and times. Stay tuned for times and dates. Questions? Contact Stephanie at jullienkids@gmail.com or 925-708-2422.

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